

Armenia furnishes a curious illustration of the difference between European diplomacy and American diplomacy as practised by Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Gresham. The Sultan has conceded the demands of Europe and refused those of America. The manner of his refusal is here thought contemptuous. The refusal itself is peremptory enough. It need not be supposed that the Monroe Doctrine had anything to do with it. Grand Viziers do not trouble themselves one way or the other about the Monroe Doctrine. The simple truth is that Mr. Cleveland's request, which he made in a maladroit

way, was made on grounds that could not be sustained, and is rejected in a way which he and Mr. Gresham, if not America, have some right to think a humiliation. Neither of those gentlemen seems to have grasped the elementary fact that there are but two influences which can be brought to bear on the mind of the Turk; his own interest is one, force is the other. Mr. Cleveland had nothing to offer him, and the Sultan knew perfectly well that he would not use force.

As I do not think we have any business on an International Committee of Observation in Armenia, I do not regret that we are out of it, but we might have stayed out from the

beginning, or we might have avoided a rebuff had the negotiations been in practised hands. The alternative does not seem to have presented itself to Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Gresham, neither of whom can be called a practised hand. 'Prentice hand' would come nearer, the melancholy truth.