

ARMENIAN PROSPECTS.

One of the first duties of the new British Government will be that of declaring its position on the question of Armenian reform, and of taking definite action in putting a stop to the existing condition of lawlessness in that unhappy province. This condition of affairs is not overstated by the Phil-Armenian Association in their resolution of thanks to *The World*. It is truly "a disgrace to the civilization of the century."

Fortunately there is good reason to hope for relief, a reason based on British interests rather than on British philanthropy. In the retirement of Gladstone the persecuted Armenians lost a sincere and unswerving defender. Lord Salisbury on the other hand is notoriously indifferent to the

less important questions of foreign politics. This, however, will not stand in the way of an Armenian settlement such as is demanded by the interests of both Great Britain and Turkey. One reason why such a settlement is easier under a Tory government than under a Liberal one is that the Turk is more easily inclined to trust the Conservatives. The reports that Turkey is prepared to concede the reforms demanded may be accepted with reasonable confidence. It is time for the guarantee of the treaty of Berlin to be observed or enforced.
