

New York Tribune, Dec. 4, 1895. Editorial, p. 6.

FOREIGN RELATIONS. (Grover Cleveland then President)

. . . The most striking feature of the Message, so far as foreign affairs are concerned, is the discussion of the dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain. Or perhaps, we should not call it a discussion, but merely a statement of this nation's attitude toward that dispute. . . . Our contention has been that the Venezuela-Guiana boundary question was one that should be settled by peaceful survey and arbitration; that both parties ought to consent to such settlement, that neither had a right to draw a line of its own across the disputed territory beyond which arbitration should not extend, and that for Great Britain to refuse arbitration and forcibly to seize a territory to which Venezuela laid claim and on which - on the face of it - she seemed to have a valid claim, would be a flagrant defiance of the Monroe Doctrine which this nation could not afford to let pass unchallenged. . . . Here is what Mr. Cleveland says about it:

That the traditional and established policy of this Government is formally opposed to a forcible increase of any European power of its territorial possessions on this continent; that this policy is as well founded in principle as it is strongly supported by numerous precedents; that as a consequence the United States is bound to protest against the enlargement of the area of British Guiana in derogation of the rights and against the will of Venezuela; that considering the disparity in strength of Great Britain and Venezuela a territorial dispute between them can be reasonably settled only by friendly and impartial arbitration, and that the resort to such arbitration should include the whole controversy, and is not satisfactory if one of the Powers concerned is permitted to draw an arbitrary line through the territory in debate, and to declare that it will submit to arbitration only the portion lying on one side of it.

New York Tribune, Dec. 23, 1895, Editorial note, p. 6.

Nothing is yet known in regard to the composition of the Commission to be appointed by the President to inquire into the Venezuela boundary question, but the latest gossip from Washington is to the effect that no one of the men prominently spoken of in the newspapers as likely to be appointed, has been seriously considered by the President. . . . It is also said that it is Mr. Cleveland's intention to pick out one or more men from each branch of Congress as members of the Commission. This gossip is to be taken for what it is worth.

New York Tribune, Dec. 24, 1895. Editorial, p. 6.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA

The English bankers and their American allies are proclaiming loudly that America has given over Armenia to the vengeance of the Turks. The "Westminster Gazette" grows pathetic because 'President Cleveland has created just that diversion upon which the Sultan has been counting all along,' and a sympathizer in this country echoes back the sentiment, saying: 'Of course England cannot look out for the Armenians while she has a war with us on her hands,' and blames our Government because 'we have turned the Christians over to the Turks.' . . . How absolutely false all this diversion is and how much it ought to be put to shame, is plain to every man who has watched the course of English diplomacy at Constantinople. From the beginning to the end, there has not been one disinterested move for the succor of the Armenians. . . . What have we done to prevent England from looking out for the Armenians? We have not declared war, and neither here nor in England does anybody have the remotest notion that there will be a war. A few silly people on both sides have taken advantage of Mr. Cleveland's unfortunate choice of words to do some senseless talking about guns and invasions, which

every serious thinker knows is nothing but the idle gossip which accompanies the discussion of every public question.

New York Tribune, Dec. 30, 1895.

(News item) : Minister Rosebery wrote a letter to the press saying that the Salisbury Government is solely responsible for the conditions of affairs in Armenia.

Dec. 31, 1895.

(News item): A dispatch from New York printed in the "London Times" is said to have revived excitement in London over the Venezuela dispute.