

mondaines—and a jury is found to declare that she did not commit the act to which she openly confesses!

“England has spent about nine centuries in hating and despising France, in crying out on her for atheism and immorality and all the rest of it; Edward VII, one night upon Montmartre, swears the French are jolly good sportsh, bigod, and lo! the Angel of the Entente Cordiale, Mimi Tete-Beche is Sainte-Genevieve, and Jésus-la-Caille becomes the Saviour of Protestant England.

“Is it a nation in which abortion has become a national danger that will freely give her sons to the Republic?

“If so, only because the French people is not corrupted, even by their politicians.

“I love the French—I will not yield precedence to Edward VII, though I prefer Montparnasse to Montmartre, and pay for my own dinner at Lapérouse’s where he accepted £20,000 to dine at the Café Anglais—and I want to see them victorious and prosperous. But I shall not mistake France for Sparta.”

As to the Slavs we find a similar contrast between former British views concerning Russia and those of to-day.

“As to Russia, we have had nothing but whole-hearted abuse since 1850. Even their ridiculous fear of having their children stolen by Jews for the purposes of ritual murder—as they most fixedly believe—has been represented as religious bigotry, when it is at the worst but peasant ignorance like the belief in witchcraft.

“We have received and fêted the would-be assassins of their Czar; we have imagined Red Sunday in St. Petersburg, and fulminated against pogroms, and preached against vodka and brutal Cossacks till any one who has ever been to Russia wants to go away quietly and die; and the next thing is that we hold up our railways and smuggle 150,000 of the brutal Cossacks aforesaid to fling them on the flank of the German armies in Normandy and Picardy. Well, no! it was only a Secret Service lie. But how dearly we all wished it true!

“Have we not wept and yelled over Poland? And has not the Czar promised autonomy to Poland once and again, and tricked?

“My own view of Russia is that it is the freest country in the world; but it is a little sudden for our Nonconformists who have denounced her as a tyrant for the last sixty years, to hail her thus incontinently as the champion of European liberty.”

Mr. Crowley has but little to say on Servia and Montenegro:

“It is disgusting to have to foul clean paper with the name of Servia.