

INFLUENCE OF THE ROBERT COLLEGE ON THE BULGARIANS. -Instruction is given in English; the library is furnished almost exclusively with English books, for of Bulgarian literature there is practically none, and for three or four years English is the language through which the pupils receive the ideas which are to form their character. It is hardly possible to doubt that such an institution, under the conduct of Dr. Washburn, its present head, must be a thoroughly good influence as far as its activity extends; and it is a matter for sincere congratulation that the college, being presided over by an American, is relieved from any possible charge of political proselytizing which might, however unfairly, be attributed to an English institution. But besides the moral value of the college as an educational establishment its work possesses some features which are of special and unique interest to Englishmen. Both in Philippopolis and in Sophia there are already many young men who have received their education at the college, and who are now occupying posts of importance in their respective countries. The fact is important in itself, but it becomes doubly so when we reflect that this is the first occasion on which a newly formed European State has borrowed its ideas, or any of them, directly from Anglo-Saxon sources. Hitherto young men and coming politicians of the nations who were compelled to seek their education outside their own country have as a rule turned their steps to Paris, Berlin, and Vienna, and in the great universities of those cities have learned much that was of profit to themselves and likely to be of service to their fellow-countrymen. But in none of these capitals—not even in Paris—have they come in contact with what may be called the purely Anglo-Saxon, as opposed to the Continental, method of looking at political questions. It is not necessary to pretend that one attitude of mind is necessarily better than another, though both we and the Americans are somewhat prone to think otherwise. But that a difference of a very marked kind exists is not to be denied. Frequent conversations with men who had devoted the information they had acquired at Robert College to the services of the State in Eastern Roumelia or Bulgaria certainly confirm the impression that there is likely to be an element in the Government of these countries which is Western and not Continental; and that there is a peculiar ring in the tone in which the relations of the governing classes to the governed is discussed by those who view the question from an English or American stand-point, which is never to be heard even in the case of the most educated and well-intentioned students of French or German politics.—*The Contemporary Review*.