

# FACTS ABOUT THE WAR

## I.

### WHY ARE WE AT WAR?

- (a) *Because of the "swelled head" of the German militarist classes, who have stampeded the country. The ruthless theory of these men considered war to be a blessing and the best means of advancing progress.*

"It has always been the weary, spiritless, and exhausted ages which have played with the dream of perpetual peace.

"The whole development of modern State wisdom tends to crush smaller States, and in this sense Germany has very severe tasks to face, for in the parcelling up and distribution of land outside of Europe Germany has always fallen short. And our very existence as a Great nation depends on the question whether we can become a power across the seas.

**"Germany will be happy when she has received her due, and possesses the Rhine in its entirety."**

(This involves the possession by her of Belgium and Holland.)

"If our Empire has the courage to follow an independent colonial policy with determination, a collision of our interests and those of England is unavoidable. It was natural and logical that the new Great Power of Central Europe had to settle accounts with all great Powers. We have settled our accounts with Austria-