

THE YELLOW PERIL.—THE "GERMAN MENACE"

Some weeks ago, I read in the newspapers of Canada that the brilliant, eloquent prime Minister of British Columbia claimed that the duty of the Canadian people was to look after the defence of the coasts of British Columbia, because in time of war they might be exposed to a raid from Japan. True; but I fail to know that when the British government made of Japan what she is today, when the British government, hypnotised with the long standing scare of a possible or imaginary aggression from Russia upon India, made of Japan the dominant power of the Pacific Ocean,—I fail to know that the British government ever thought of asking Sir Richard McBride what the results would be for the safety of British Columbia. I fail to know, that, in those days, there was, between British ministers and Canadian politicians, any talk of "solidarity between the Motherland and the daughter States".

We hear much of the German menace, these days. We are called upon to "stand shoulder to shoulder with the Old Country", in repulsing that true or imaginary peril. But if I read my history without any biassed mind, what do I find? I find that, in 1864, Prussia was enabled to accomplish her raid over Denmark, seize the Duchies of Schleswig-Holstein, and become for the first time a possible naval power on the Baltic and the North Sea, thanks to the indulgence given to that act of piracy by British statesmanship and British diplomacy. Two years later, when Prussia, having made an opening to the north, turned to the south and crushed Austria on the battlefield of Sadowa, who prevented any intervention from outside powers to stop the expanding domination of Prussia over the German Confederacy? If I read my history well, it was the French government of Napoleon III, and the English government. Four years later, the Prussian King put on his head the iron crown of Charlemagne in the empty palace of the French Kings at Versailles, and the German Empire was built up on the maimed body of France. Mr. Thiers started on his