

be isolated and separated from her Austrian ally, and then strangled at leisure.

In this process of reasoning the corresponding occurrences which took place between the rulers of Germany and of Russia and between the rulers of England and of Germany are either discarded or represented as ceremonial visits without political significance or—a more effective course which is more frequently adopted—they are described as a cunning, lying manœuvre, by which the poor Germans were to be lulled into security so that later on they might be all the more easily crushed. The meeting at Potsdam between the monarchs of Germany and Russia in the presence of their leading Ministers is described by the historian Helmolt as “the great Potsdam lie”; according to the other historian, Schiemann, its only consequence “was the *appearance* of an improvement in the relations between Germany and Russia,” notwithstanding the fact that Herr von Bethmann on December 10th, 1910, in summarising the result of the Potsdam interview was able to state that “the two Governments would not enter into any kind of combination which could be directed aggressively against the other party.” According to Helmolt, the agreements bearing on Balkan policy and on Persia were certainly honourably intended by Germany, but not by Russia. Sazonof’s accounts of the Potsdam agreement are described by Schiemann as “conscienceless.” The practical result, however, by virtue of which Russia agreed to place no difficulty in the way of Germany’s Baghdad Railway enterprise, but on the contrary expressed her readiness to encourage its connection with the Russian railway-net in North Persia, is passed over in silence by the Berlin *Kreuzzeitung* professor.

SCHIEMANN “THE GERMAN DÉROULEDE” AND OTHER “PREVENTIVE-WARRIORS.”

This Herr Schiemann, royal Prussian Privy Councillor, professor in the University of Berlin, Director of the Faculty of East European History and Geography, deserves a special chapter. He appears to be unable to sleep in peace unless he produces every month or two a new war