

## THE SEAMY SIDE OF THE ALLIANCE

**E**NGLAND and Japan have realised the dream of Alexander—the marriage of the East and the West. No event recorded in English history is fraught with graver consequences to the Anglo-Saxon race and to humanity at large than the alliance of England and Japan. Europe, at the instance of Germany, has begun to look on England, the former champion of freedom, as a bad European; and, indeed, the definite contract entered into between King Edward VII. and the Mikado to call on each other's fleets and troops to come to the assistance of either in case of attack by a third Power is partial justification for the charge. Even a dozen years ago it was unthinkable that England could foresake her "splendid isolation" to ally herself with a Buddhist Power against Christendom. To-day an arrangement exists by which Japanese troops may be sent to the Khyber, Candahar, Cabul, or the Persian Gulf if Russia seeks atonement for defeat in China by treading in the footsteps of former invaders of India. This treaty is approved by all sections of the people, and the Liberal Party, by the mouths of Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward Grey, have given their blessing to the diplomacy of Lord Lansdowne in the matter of the Japanese Alliance. Parliament was not even consulted on the subject. Vast and far-reaching obligations have been silently placed upon the