

age, composed of mystics like Rasputin, unscrupulous (a lovely touch this !) Archdukes, creatures in the pay of England, persons jealous of the descendants of immigrant Germans.

"Nothing in national life is so dangerous as the fatalistic thought that an explosion must come, if not to-day, then to-morrow—for many will think better to-day than to-morrow, and end the unrest and suspense . . . then the explosive spark."

Having thus disposed of Russia, the author asks himself on honour and conscience, "Did Germany before the war hate England, France and Russia?" And the answer comes clear and unhesitating: "The overwhelming majority of the German people from Kaiser down treasured for England the most kindly \* sentiments, for France feelings of sympathy, for the Russian people pity . . . with open arms we received English, French, Russian and Japanese like all other peoples . . . of bitterness, enmity, hatred of the foreigner, envy, not a trace."

But the writer cannot keep away from England—a veritable "King Charles' head" to him, as to all his countrymen. He tells us that, as she had conquered Spain with the aid of Holland in the 16th century, Holland with the aid of France in the 17th, France with the aid of Germany in the 18th and 19th, now it was the turn of Germany. "Envy, nothing else, is the root of this war; all else is deception, conscious or unconscious. When we, through sheer necessity, must needs march through Belgium, after we had assured her (along with Luxembourg) an indemnity, England considered that she had to declare war against us; that after she had on the principle 'Might goes before Right' subdued to her own rule one fourth of the population of the earth, she played the part of *Custos morum* † and guardian of virtue . . ." But

\* "Verwandschaftliche,"—"Such as are felt by sympathetic kinsfolk for each other."

† "Sittenrichter,"—"Censor or judge of morality." One can almost see the tear in the eye of the Brandenburger at the very thought of "Macht geht vor Recht" being used as a principle of international conduct.