

THE GERMAN EMPIRE'S

Empire but also with the members of the Triple Alliance, it has become apparent that the parts which the three Powers will play have been distributed. Great Britain herself is acknowledgedly working to conceal her objects and to lull to sleep the German Michael, but on the other hand presents a stern countenance to Italy. The latter's growing fleet and especially the possession of the Turkish islands in the Ægean Sea, which have remained in her possession since the Turco-Italian War, constitute a very uncomfortable factor for the complete command of the Mediterranean. It even appears that the Porte is quite satisfied and therefore delays the withdrawal of the last of her officers from the Tripoli Hinterland, as meanwhile Italy is justified in retaining the Islands, a circumstance which ensures them against attempts by others to secure them. Now, as Sir Edward Grey has expressed the opinion that the situation in Europe will not become normal so long as a great Power possesses