

is clear that if the first principle of German policy—that of world-expansion—brings her into community of interest with Russia in Asia, the second principle of German policy—that of race-federation—brings her, with regard to the future of Austria-Hungary, into the sharpest possible conflict of interest with Russia in Europe. This fact alone should give pause to the rotation of that kaleidoscope of political opinions in St. Petersburg, which, in the grasp of a nerveless and uncertain hand, spasmodically patterns the destinies of All the Russias. For it is evident that while the Russian dream of empire concerns Asia, and threatens principally two distant and inaccessible Powers, the German dream of empire concerns Europe, and threatens principally her neighbour Russia. The great Pan-German Empire is to cut Europe in twain from north to south, and to bar Russia from all the western world. Eastwards it would fence in the Russian frontier with German bayonets for over a thousand miles. Westwards it would give the keys of both the European sea-gates of Russia—in the Baltic to the north and in the Mediterranean to the south—into the keeping of German naval power. For the Pan-German Empire bases its battle-fleets at Wilhelmshaven and Trieste, at Kiel and Salonika.<sup>1</sup> From north to south German ambition purposes to hold all Europe in the grip of German naval and military power which—again be it remembered—masks and dominates Russia almost across the entire line of her ocean and territorial confines to the west. And between these ambitions which, at present, fill Europe with apprehension and unrest, and the possibility of an active policy towards their realisation, there is now interposed one aged and uncertain life. Is it then to be supposed, that Russian statesmen, however keen

<sup>1</sup>This harbour is an objective of the Pan-German policy of expansion. The published maps of the future "Greater Germany" show Salonika as a German possession. Its tactical value is clear, through the fact that the British naval base of Malta commands the entrance to the Adriatic, thereby considerably lessening the value of Trieste as a naval port. At the present time the seeds of German influence are being assiduously sown through a school in this town, partly subsidised by the German Government.