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PREFACE

CONVERSATIONS WITH M. BLOCH

"The Future of War" is the title of M. de Bloch's voluminous cyclopædia on the art of war, past, present, and to come. But that is a mistake. For M. Bloch's thesis is that there is no war to come, that war indeed has already become impossible.

It would really have been clearer therefore to call this translation of the sixth and concluding volume of his immense book "Is War Now Impossible?"—as in the English edition,—for this title gives a much clearer idea of the contents. For M. Bloch contends in all sober seriousness that war—great war in the usual acceptation of the word—has already, by the natural and normal development of the art or science of warfare, become a physical impossibility!

That is what this book was written to prove.