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great powers of the future
Bismarck said some years ago that Germany and Russia were the only countries that had a future. This remark is of greater interest now than when it was made. The utter ance was based on a thorough knowledge of the conditions in Europe and of the policies under which na. ons are developing. Bismarek, b yond any other man of his time anderstands the relations of the past to the present, and he has a states man's prescience as to the future He is a student of character, as well as of peoples and policies. Were he oo speak now he would probably say that Russia in the next hundred years would become the great oriental power, Germany the great European power, and the United States the great American power.
This is not saying that Great Britain and France are to decline, but that Russta, Germany and the United States are to forge ahead, power, as Spnin, Holland and France have been in turn. For a long pe have been in turn. For a long pe riod Spain was the great naval power aizer, the very incarnation of colorenturous and grasping spirit of the world. She swept everything before her. But her aggressive spirit carhecked her progress, colonies, and strips, tore away her
位, and stripped her of power. men of England of both parties bave bent all their energies to limit the Wentuence of the United States in the West and to cripple Russiainn Europe enougi' to drive our commercial lieets from the seas, to prevent the development of Russian manufact ures, and until recently to shut the gates of ocean commerce against the czars, but she has not been strong enough to prevent the phenomena growth of the United States in material wealth, in political influence, and in naval strength. She bas not rapid progress of Russia in rounding out a magnificent empire and in conalidalig her strength. She was unification of the German peoples and the foundation of an empire that has become her rival.
But whatever may be said of Girent Britain or France, it is certain tury the political influence of Ruspla and Germany has been extended and solidified, while the political influence of Great Britain has not increased, if it has not declined. While sermions, Russia and Germany have been aggresoive and deflant; progressive in the use of all the agencie that contribate to national strength and careful in husbanding all resources that look to future develop-

All these things are of greater inshitting power, and because the pos sibilities of war may lead us to such a position that we shall be compelled to eousider our opportunities and righte as the dominan: power of the westers world. If we are to be to the western world what Germany is Vo be to Europe and Rumia to the eign conditions as closely as did the upon us as one of the three great powers of the future.
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\text { cause the colors are ground thoroughly }\end{array}$ \\
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