AUSTRALIA AND THE DARDANELLES CAMPAIGN.

The momentous events of the Dardanelles campaign have once again caught the attention of all committed Australians to a deep sense of pride in the fight for freedom. The news of the imminent military forces' dispatch to the Gallipoli Peninsula, the “roll of honour” formed by our gallant and fearless men, and the news that the armistice is already painfully long and that even from the first appearances, the completion of the task undertaken will occupy a considerable time, and make the victory of the Allies.

In his address at Dundee on Saturday Mr. H. H. Asquith, First Lord of the Admiralty, vigorously defended the Imperial authorities for having assumed the offensive against Turkey, without waiting for a decisive triumph against the Germans in France and Flanders. He added that the Allied forces have the advantage of the French and British Armed Forces. The French and British Fleets were prompted by unwarranted optimism, and the Admiralty has not yet had the opportunity to interfere with its plans, and its power is not yet known to the Allies.

Today, it is said, the number of soldiers destined for the Dardanelles has increased to over 11,000, and the British Navy will not allow King Constantine's refusal of co-operation to interfere with its plans, and its power is not yet known to the Allies.

Yet, as Mr. Churchill observed, the British must have carefully studied the situation and counted the cost before he consented to the diversion of large Australian forces to the Gallipoli Peninsula, with Constantinople as their goal. Victory over Turkey, and the opening of the Dardanelles to the Allies, will have far-reaching and enormously beneficial effects upon the great European struggle. The co-operation of the Turks compelled England to give them no chances of success in warfare against Egypt or the Middle East. Strategically, it was better that the Australians should be sent to fight in the Gallipoli Peninsula, than either to resist the Turks or to withdraw from the Suez Canal zone to resist an Ottoman attack. The co-operation of the Gallipoli Peninsula has enabled the Turks to withdraw the most fighting men from Syria and Mesopotamia, and to abandon to their hostilities.
against the Allies' fronts in the West.
For some years the Sultan and the
conservative Constantinople administration
had been fighting largely under the control and tutelage of the mas-
terful Kaiser William and his mil-
tary chiefs. Since the Balkan wars of
1912-13 the Ottoman army had been
virtually a private military service,
and Germany should win in the pro-
cess. Turkey will become one of her
dependencies. Teutonic interests are
Asia, Syria, and Mesopotamia represent
many millions of pounds in capital
alone; and the energy and enterprise
which marked their acquisition clearly
shows the determination of the Em-
ters and resolved upon converting the
Ottoman Empire into a sphere of Ger-
man influence, to the exclusion of all
other Powers. Anglo-Italian military
successes in the Peninsula and Mesopotamia were far more impor-
tant victories to be won, with the aid of the Australians, in Europe, Turkey
will be disastrous to German and British relations, should hasten the
collapse and overthrow of Kaiserism.
The Australian troops are sharing in a task which would have commanded
the whole-sounded approbation of the nation, more closely associated
again a task which, from the stand-
points of humanity and justice, has
been too long delayed. The months of
God's friendliness, but they greed ex-
pressed by the Austrians, the Masons and savages of Turkish officialdom
have for generations been the crying scan-
dal of Western civilization, and the
blood and tears of the infinitely
number of Turko-Germans have been
repeated. It was fitting that the terrible
problem of Ottoman misrule and the
attendant Balkan territories, should have been resolved in a way that
the war history was full of; and that, in
her attitude towards them, she should play a part consistent with her char-
acter. The generations of ardent attachment to Turkey
induced that sedentary Power to pursue
headlong a path to irretrievable ruin. But the impending doom of the Turk
is not the work of a few years. The
Balkans and Bulgaria to free them-
selves from Teutonic folly. There
is a brightening prospect of a renewal of the
Balkan States of that
era which had enabled them recently to defeat their ancient enemy,
was tragically shattered by Austrian intrigues.
The Triple Entente are able to promise that the promises made to
all the States will be satisfied, if they
actively help to win for Europe a last-
ging peace by sharing in the duty of
victoring the Central States to their tradi-
tional foes. During the war, Bulgaria, which has elapsed since the Balkan
war, Bulgaria has much improved its
army, which is now highly efficient.
and capable of fighting and winning the war. The
war acquire Adrianople and Ottoman
territory down to the Eno-Mildha line.
Bosnian and Greece may similarly benefitted, and continue advantageous
Europe, with the idea of applying the
work of the Allies. The results of poor Serbia and Monacito
attitude to special consideration
and the terms of settlement will pro-
bably incorporate and incorporate in the new
union, the provinces of Bosnia and Hercegovina, which Austria
lost in 1908, and a strip of the Dalmatian
coast. 