

THE STORY OF THE HOHENZOLLERN

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The story of the Hohenzollern by C. Sheridan Jones

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C. SHERIDAN JONES

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FREDERICK THE GREAT.

The Story of the
HOHENZOLLERN

By **C. SHERIDAN JONES**

*Author of "The Unspeakable Prussian,"
"Sun Yat Sen and the Awakening of China"*

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The Story of the Hohenzollern.

CHAPTER I.

ONE of the most wearisome and pointless of the many pedantries that the heaviness of German Culture imposed on the free spirit of European literature was the habit of beginning the account of some interesting person or phenomenon *before* and not *at* the beginning. A biographer was supposed to open the life-story of his hero by noticing the leading traits, not of that worthy himself, but of his great-aunt; these, it was confidently assumed, would go far to explain away any paradoxes of character that the subsequent pages might reveal. One had, in fact, to assume that men would cease to be puzzling and contradictory if only we remembered that their ancestors were equally so, and that we were to be reconciled to