

**FRENCH AND  
GERMAN SOCIALISM  
IN MODERN TIMES**

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French and German Socialism in Modern Times by Richard T. Ely

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**RICHARD T. ELY**

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FRENCH AND GERMAN  
SOCIALISM IN MODERN TIMES

BY

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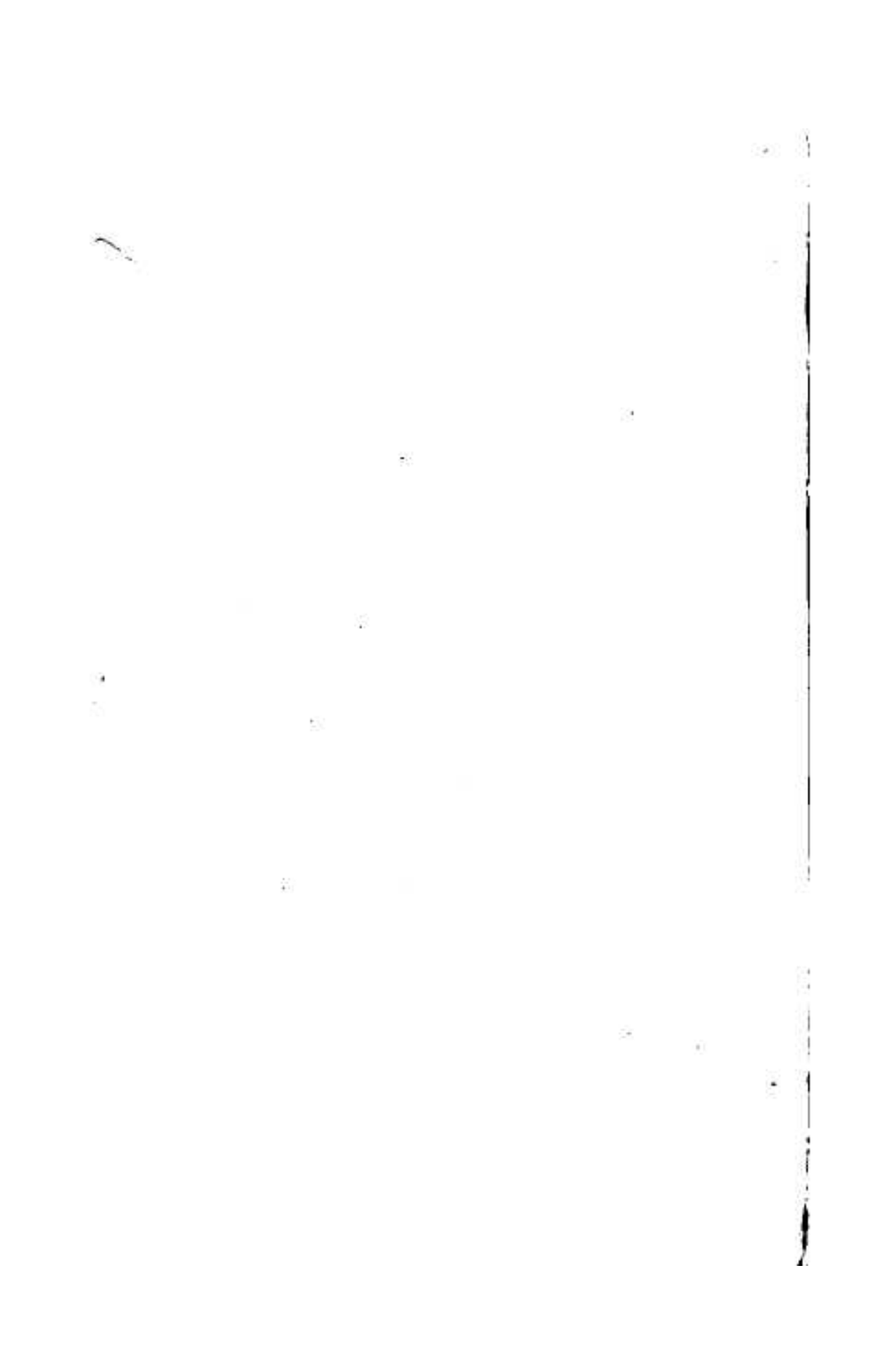
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## PREFATORY NOTE.

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THE publication of this volume is due to the friendly counsel of the Hon. Andrew D. White, president of Cornell University; a gentleman tireless in his efforts to encourage young men, and alive to every opportunity to speak fitting words of hope and cheer. Like many of the younger scholars of our country, I am indebted to him more than I can say.

The present work is based on lectures delivered in Baltimore before the students of the Johns Hopkins University, and in Ithaca before the students of Cornell University. Although these lectures have been thoroughly revised and, in fact, rewritten, traces of this origin will be found in a certain freedom of style and matter, which will, I trust, render the book neither less interesting nor less instructive.

My aim is to give a perfectly fair, impartial presentation of modern communism and socialism in their two strongholds, France and Germany. I believe that, in so doing, I am rendering a service to the friends of law and order.

RICHARD T. ELY.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, BALTIMORE, *August 3, 1883.*



# FRENCH AND GERMAN SOCIALISM

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### CHAPTER I.

#### THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND THE LABORING CLASSES.

COMMUNISM and Socialism represent different and yet allied movements of theory and practice. They aim to improve the common lot of humanity, in particular that of the lower classes, in a radical manner and by the application of thorough-going measures. Now, when we utter the word improvement we indicate a desire to change, and consequently dissatisfaction with the state which is to be changed. This brings us at once to the common standing-ground of politico-economic reformers. They are one and all dissatisfied with the present condition of society. We have, therefore, in the first place, to examine the accusations which are brought against the social *régime* of our time.

Complaints against the methods of producing and distributing wealth are not new; complaints of such a character as we hear at present, however, have originated since the middle of the eighteenth century. Before the French Revolution, dissatisfaction with the then existing order of things had been expressed