

**FROM METTERNICH TO
BISMARCK: A
TEXTBOOK OF EUROPEAN
HISTORY, 1815-1878**

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From Metternich to Bismarck: A Textbook of European History, 1815-1878 by L. Cecil Jane

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L. CECIL JANE

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BISMARCK: A
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A TEXTBOOK OF EUROPEAN HISTORY

• 1815-1878 •

BY

L. CECIL JANE

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Alfonso XII, 1874-1886.

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Prussia.

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1861.
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(*German Empire proclaimed,*
1871.)

German Empire.

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Belgium.

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Charles Albert, 1831-1848.
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(Kingdom of Italy formed, 1861.)

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Ferdinand II, 1830-1859.
Francis II, 1859-1861.

(United to Italy, 1861.)

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George I, 1863.

FROM METTERNICH TO BISMARCK, 1815-1878

CHAPTER I

THE METTERNICH SYSTEM

§ 1. The Year 1815. § 2. The Principle of Stability. § 3. Metternich. § 4. Alexander I. § 5. The Restoration in France. § 6. The Conference of Aix-la-Chapelle. § 7. Government of the Moderates in France. § 8. Progress of Reaction in France. § 9. The Spanish Constitution. § 10. Unrest in Italy. § 11. The Conferences of Troppau and Laibach.

IN 1815 ends a period of twenty-five years during ^{§ 1. The} which Europe had been the theatre of almost continuous _{Year 1815.} war. The influence of the French Revolution had not been confined to the country of its origin; the French people had retained the arms, assumed to defend changes in their form of government, in order to confer upon other nations the blessings of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity. But such singleness of purpose early ceased to characterize the armies of the Republic. The traditions of the old monarchy revived and overcame the idealism of the Revolution; the historic struggle for the possession of the 'natural frontiers' was resumed, and the Rhine, Alps, and Pyrenees became the boundaries of France. Still the war continued and still its character gradually changed. The epithet 'natural' had served to reconcile the more ardent revolutionaries to the first annexations of territory, and there was plausibility in the argument that necessity justified the formation of a ring of client states to protect the frontiers. But soon all pretence of high moral justification disappeared. Napoleon, the deadliest enemy of the Revolution, stood forth as the