

**BRITAIN AFTER THE  
PEACE; REVOLUTION  
OR RECONSTRUCTION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649253869

Britain after the peace; revolution or reconstruction by Brougham Villiers

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**BROUGHAM VILLIERS**

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# BRITAIN AFTER THE PEACE

REVOLUTION OR  
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BY

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*First published in 1918*

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## BRITAIN AFTER THE PEACE

## CHAPTER I

## EUROPE IN REVOLUTION

The possible consequences of the present situation were terrible. If as many as four Great Powers of Europe—let us say Austria, France, Russia, and Germany—were engaged in war, it seemed to me that it must involve the expenditure of so vast a sum of money and such an interference with trade, that a war would be accompanied or followed by a complete collapse of European credit and industry. In these days, in great industrial States, this would mean a state of things worse than that of 1848, and, irrespective of who were the victors in the war, many things might be completely swept away.—*Sir Edward, now Viscount, Grey, to Sir M. de Bunsen, July 23, 1914.*

THESE words of the British Foreign Minister during the crisis of July 1914 stand out from the pages of correspondence published at the beginning of the war as perhaps the only ones showing any insight into the real character of the tremendous events then taking place. Read after three years of carnage there seems indeed