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978-0-521-19013-8 - Revisiting Prussia's Wars Against Napoleon: History, Culture and Memory

Karen Hagemann

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Revisiting Prussia's Wars against Napoleon

In 2013, Germany celebrated the bicentennial of the so-called Wars of Liberation of 1813–15. These wars were the culmination of the Prussian and German struggle against Napoleon between 1806 and 1815, which occupied a key position in both German national historiography and memory. Although these conflicts have been analyzed in thousands of books and articles, much of the focus has been on the military campaigns and alliances, emerging sovereign states and reform movements and early articulations of modern nationalism. Karen Hagemann argues that we cannot achieve a comprehensive understanding of these wars and their importance in collective memory without recognizing how the interaction of politics, culture and gender influenced these historical events and continues to shape later recollections of them. She thus explores the highly contested discourses and symbolic practices by which individuals and groups interpreted these wars and made political claims, starting in the period itself and ending with the centenary in 1913.

Karen Hagemann is the James G. Kenan Distinguished Professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has published widely in Modern German and European history and gender history. Her recent co-edited books include *Gendering Modern German History: Rewriting Historiography* (2007); *Representing Masculinity: Male Citizenship in Modern Western Culture* (2007); *Gender, War, and Politics: Transatlantic Perspectives, 1775–1830* (2010); and *War Memories: The Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars in Modern European Culture* (2012).

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History, Culture and Memory

KAREN HAGEMANN

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

(Translations by Pamela Selwyn)



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“It is a dreadful barbarism to which we have forced our enemies, through which they in turn forced us to commit atrocities that would never have happened otherwise.

Oh, my beloved friend, my heart stops when I think of this pernicious circle, which coils itself around millennia of history! Will there never come a time when Man will fully enjoy the privilege of being ennobled above all creatures through the gift of reason; will freely and cheerfully live up to the duties that flow from this highest form of nobility; will be allowed to be human, without inhumanity being demanded of him in the name of familial love, welfare, the fatherland, national honor?”

The French officer Marquis Hypolit Drouot d’Hericourt in a letter to his German fiancé Minna Warburg in the winter of 1812, cited in Friedrich Spielhagen’s novel *Noblesse oblige* (Leipzig, 1888)

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Abbreviations

AB	<i>Amts-Blatt der königlichen kurmärkischen Regierung</i>
ADB	<i>Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie</i>
AFZ	<i>Allgemeine deutsche Frauen-Zeitung</i>
AHR	<i>American Historical Review</i>
ALZ	<i>Allgemeine Literatur Zeitung</i>
AMZ	<i>Allgemeine Militär-Zeitung</i>
BHMW	<i>Beihefte zum Militär-Wochenblatt</i>
BLU	<i>Blätter für Literarische Unterhaltung</i>
BN	<i>Berlinische Nachrichten von Staats- und gelehrten Sachen</i>
CEH	<i>Central European History</i>
DB	<i>Deutsche Blätter</i>
DBO	<i>Deutscher Beobachter</i>
EHQ	<i>European History Quarterly</i>
FB	<i>Freimüthige Blätter für Deutsche, in Beziehung auf Krieg, Politik und Staatswesen</i>
FBPG	<i>Forschungen zur brandenburgischen und preußischen Geschichte</i>
G&H	<i>Gender & History</i>
GB	<i>Die Grenzboten</i>
GG	<i>Geschichte und Gesellschaft</i>
GMP	<i>Gemeinnütziges Magazin für Prediger auf dem Lande und in kleinen Städten</i>
GWU	<i>Geschichte in Wissenschaft und Unterricht</i>
HWJ	<i>History Workshop: A Journal of Feminist and Socialist Historians</i>
HZ	<i>Historische Zeitschrift</i>
IASL	<i>Internationales Archiv für Sozialgeschichte der Literatur</i>
JfP	<i>Journal für Prediger</i>
JMH	<i>The Journal of Modern History</i>

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Abbreviations

JWH	<i>Journal of Women's History</i>
LB	<i>Literaturblatt</i>
MfP	<i>Magazin für Prediger</i>
MGM	<i>Militärgeschichtliche Mitteilungen</i>
MW	<i>Militair-Wochenblatt</i>
ND	<i>Das neue Deutschland</i>
NDB	<i>Neue Deutsche Biographie</i>
NF	<i>Neue Fakkeln</i>
NM	<i>Neuestes Magazin von Fest-, Gelegenheits- und andern Predigten</i>
ÖZG	<i>Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaft</i>
PC	<i>Der Preussische Correspondent</i>
PF	<i>Preußische Feldzeitung</i>
PFB	<i>Politische Flugblätter</i>
PrJb	<i>Preußische Jahrbücher</i>
RDVB	<i>Russisch-Deutsches Volks-Blatt</i>
RM	<i>Rheinischer Merkur</i>
RT	<i>Rußlands Triumph 1812 oder das erwachte Europa</i>
SP	<i>Schlesische Provinzialblätter</i>
SPZ	<i>Schlesische Privilegierte Zeitung</i>
TB	<i>Teutsche Blätter</i>
TG	<i>Tageblatt der Geschichte</i>
UP	<i>University Press</i>
VM	<i>Vaterländisches Museum</i>
VZ	<i>Vossische Zeitung</i>
WiH	<i>War in History</i>
ZaF	<i>Zeitung aus dem Feldlager</i>
ZfeW	<i>Zeitung für die elegante Welt</i>
ZfG	<i>Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaft</i>
ZnG	<i>Zeitschrift für die neueste Geschichte, die Staaten- und Völkerkunde</i>

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