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978-1-107-68428-7 - The Zollverein  
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CAMBRIDGE STUDIES IN ECONOMIC HISTORY

PUBLISHED WITH THE AID OF THE ELLEN MCARTHUR FUND

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# THE ZOLLVEREIN

by

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CAMBRIDGE

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1939

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,  
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press  
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)  
Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781107684287](http://www.cambridge.org/9781107684287)

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First published 1939  
First paperback edition 2013

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

ISBN 978-1-107-68428-7 Paperback

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## EDITOR'S PREFACE

It is in no way necessary for an Editor writing in October 1938 to explain the significance of any study of how nineteenth-century Germany came together out of a loose bundle of states, each with its own economy and fiscal policy, into Bismarck's "Second Reich". The story of the unification, and of the part that the Zollverein took in its attainment, are in general very familiar: no historian has neglected them. There have also been close studies in English of various episodes in Zollverein history; but we have no connected and fully documented account of that history as a whole. This is what Mr Henderson offers.

The material available is almost overwhelming. It is not the least merit of Mr Henderson's study that an—at first sight—unwieldy mass of German work has been mastered and put in order. German archives had already been pretty thoroughly ransacked by his German predecessors; but he has been able to make important contributions to the story of Zollverein—and anti-Zollverein—planning and diplomacy from the archives of Vienna and London. More useful still, he has placed the actors and actions of his story against a lightly but clearly drawn background of nineteenth-century German agriculture, industry and commerce in evolution.

To-day it looks as though the welding of Germany, at least of old Germany, into an economic whole were all but complete. But very recently traces of the old divisions and their imperfect welding were visible. Throughout a great part of Mr Henderson's narrative, for example, Hamburg the Free City, Harburg its Hanoverian neighbour, and Altona the port of Holstein appear as rivals. The last traces of rivalry based on distinct trade policies disappeared just fifty years ago. But the three towns were only united quite recently, by the present German Government, into the one greater Hamburg of a "Third Reich".

J. H. CLAPHAM

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## ABBREVIATIONS

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <i>Beiträge...</i>              | <i>Beiträge zur Beurteilung der Zollvereinsfrage</i><br>(1852).                                     |
| B.T.                            | Board of Trade papers in the Public Record Office.  |
| <i>E.H.R.</i>                   | <i>English Historical Review.</i>   |
| <i>Ec.H.R.</i>                  | <i>Economic History Review.</i>   |
| F.O.                            | Foreign Office Papers in the Public Record Office.  |
| M.Ch.C.                         | MS Proceedings of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.   |
| P.P.                            | Parliamentary Papers.   |
| <i>Stenographische Berichte</i> | <i>Stenographische Berichte über die Verhandlungen des...deutschen Zollparlaments</i><br>(1868–70). |
| <i>Verhandlungen</i>            | <i>Verhandlungen der General-Konferenz in Zollvereinsangelegenheiten</i> (15 volumes, 1836–63).     |
| Vienna Archives                 | Wiener Haus- Hof- und Staats- Archiv.   |
| <i>V.S.W.</i>                   | <i>Vierteljahrschrift für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsgeschichte.</i>                                    |

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-68428-7 - The Zollverein  
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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I desire to thank Dr J. H. Clapham for many valuable suggestions in preparing the manuscript for publication and in seeing the proofs through the press; my brother (Dr G. B. Henderson of the University of Glasgow) for criticising the book chapter by chapter as it was written; my father and mother for assistance in translating German documents, in compiling the index and in correcting proofs; Mr E. Raymond Streat for permission to examine the manuscript records of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce; and Mr H. Butterfield for permission to examine the papers of Mr John Ward in the Perne Library, Peterhouse.

W. O. H.

*November, 1938*

