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978-1-108-06489-7 - Berlin under the New Empire: Its Institutions, Inhabitants, Industry, Monuments, Museums, Social Life, Manners, and Amusements: Volume 1

Henry Vizetelly

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Berlin under the New Empire

In the wake of German unification in 1871, Berlin became a place of increased interest to the other nations of Europe. The journalist Henry Vizetelly (1820–94) made his first journey to the capital of the new empire in 1872. Based on observations from a series of visits, this two-volume work presents a witty and detailed portrait of the city and its inhabitants. In Volume 1, Vizetelly describes travelling to Berlin and his mixed first impressions. He sketches a brief history of the city and its development from the thirteenth century onwards, and in a series of essay-style chapters he discusses aspects of Berlin culture and society – including dinner-party etiquette – as well as political and military personalities. Illustrated with hundreds of engravings from designs by German artists, the work first appeared in 1879. Vizetelly's *Paris in Peril* (1882) and *Glances Back Through Seventy Years* (1893) are also reissued in this series.

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Berlin

under the New Empire

*Its Institutions, Inhabitants,
Industry, Monuments, Museums,
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VOLUME 1

HENRY VIZETELLY



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University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

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

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It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108064897

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2013

This edition first published 1879

This digitally printed version 2013

ISBN 978-1-108-06489-7 Paperback

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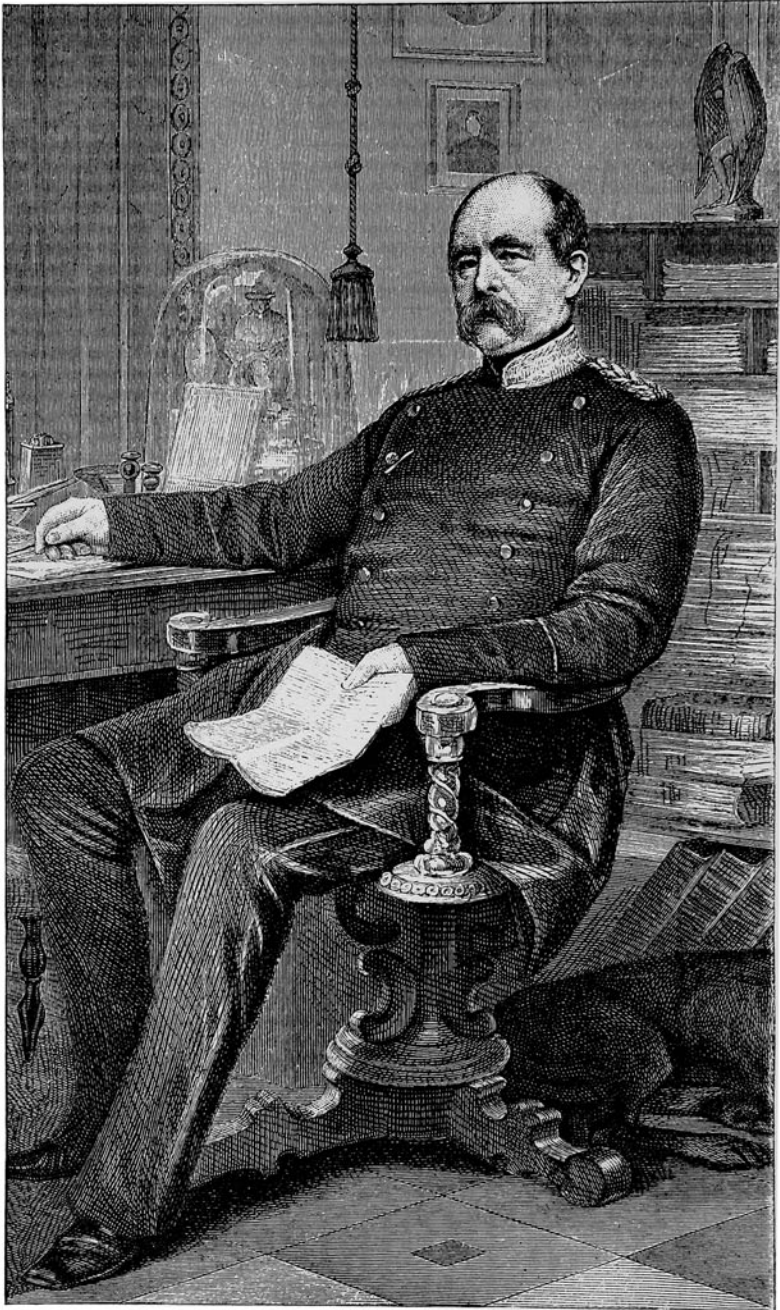
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PRINCE BISMARCK IN HIS STUDY.
From a Photograph.

Frontispiece.

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B E R L I N

UNDER THE NEW EMPIRE,

*ITS INSTITUTIONS, INHABITANTS, INDUSTRY, MONUMENTS,
MUSEUMS, SOCIAL LIFE, MANNERS,
AND AMUSEMENTS.*

BY

HENRY VIZETELLY,

Author of

“THE STORY OF THE DIAMOND NECKLACE, TOLD IN DETAIL FOR THE FIRST TIME,” &c.

“ Why are they proud? Because five milliard francs
The richer than from wars of former years?
Why are they proud? Again we ask aloud,
Why in the name of patience are they proud?”
Keats's “Isabella” paraphrased.

ILLUSTRATED WITH

UPWARDS OF 400 ENGRAVINGS FROM DESIGNS BY GERMAN ARTISTS.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

London :

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1879.

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“The City of Intelligence, the Athens of the Spree!”—*The Berlinese*.

“The Sand-box of Germany!”—*The Viennese*.

· “No, I could not trust myself to this Prussia, this bigoted, gaitered hero, so boastful and gluttonous, with his corporal’s cane, which he steepes in holy water before striking with it. I was sovereignly displeased with this nature—a combination of philosophy, Christianity, and militarism—this mixture of white beer, mendacity, and Brandenburg sand. I found especially repugnant this hypocritical Prussia, with its appearance of holiness, this *Tartuffe* among nations. . . .

“Whilst all the others were boasting of how proudly the Prussian eagle soared towards the sun, I prudently kept my eyes fixed upon his claws.”—HEINRICH HEINE.

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TO
HENRY SUTHERLAND EDWARDS,
IN CORDIAL RECOGNITION OF
THIRTY YEARS OF UNBROKEN FRIENDSHIP,
I DEDICATE THIS BOOK.
H. V.

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P R E F A C E.

THE following pages are the result of several prolonged visits paid to Berlin, the first of which took place in the autumn of the year 1872, at the important epoch of the meeting of the three Emperors, no doubt, to arrange their respective lines of action whenever the struggle, already felt to be inevitable, between Russia and Turkey should survene.

The aim the writer has had in view has been to convey an accurate idea—in small matters as well as great—of a city out of the regular highway of continental travel, and which, as the capital of the new German Empire, is destined to increase in interest to the other nations of Europe as well as to exercise a greatly extended influence over the rest of the Fatherland. There is an old proverb which says, “Who has not seen Cologne has never seen Germany,” but to-day the proverb has lost its significance, as it is no longer the city of the shrines of the Magi, and the eleven thousand martyred virgins, but the whilom capital of the little Mark of Brandenburg and the present chief city of the powerful German Empire which it is necessary a stranger should see. Of the great Germanic body, Berlin is to-day at once the head and the heart, for in all that relates to the new Empire, it is Berlin that thinks, conceives, frames, organizes, and commands.

H. V.

LONDON, *August*, 1879.

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