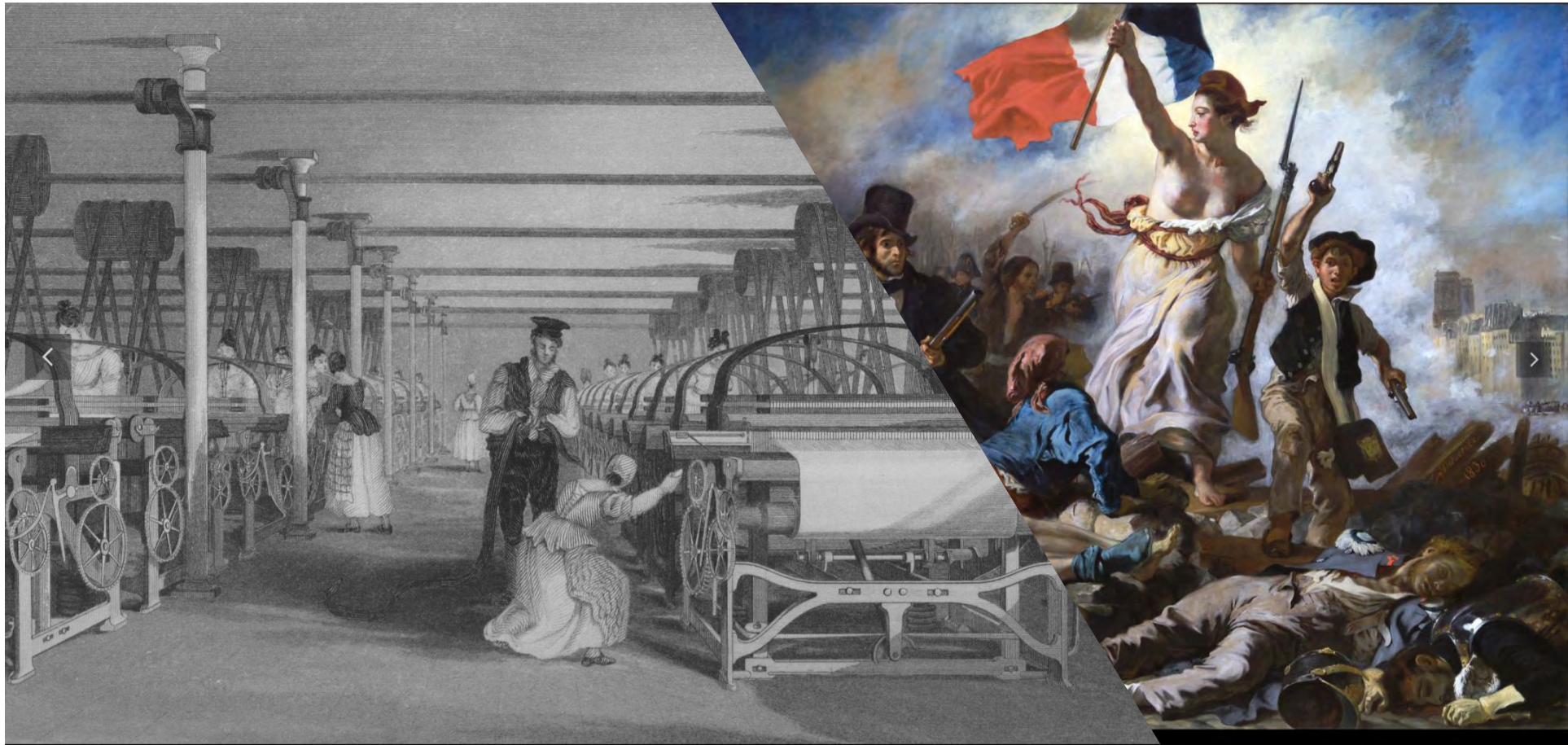


The Century of Peace

VASSAR - Class Three



Russian Rebellion: The Decembrist Revolt of 1825

- Young officers that fought for Czar Alexander after Napoleon invaded had become acquainted with the ideals of Western
- And sought abolition of serfdom and a constitution, as had been allowed in the Russian domains of Finland and Poland after Congress of Vienna
- In 1825, Alexander died unexpectedly; youngest brother Nicholas took the throne rather than brother Constantine
- Nicholas, steeped in military matters, instituted more repressive measures during his reign from 1825-1855



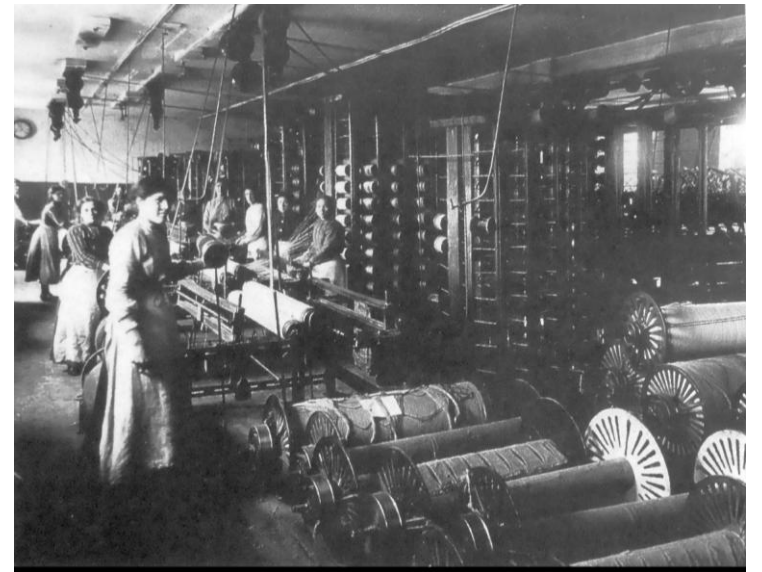
Reign of a Conservative Czar

- Nicholas established committees that studied in detail the challenge of freeing the serf
- Conclusion: any attempt to change the system would lead to a massive revolt; BUT the data collected from a **large, cumbersome bureaucracy** enabled his successor to move faster to its abolition a generation later
- Nicholas pushed a major codification of Russian law; the 1835 code remained the basis of Russian law until 1917



Russian Society Develops

- Colonization of the southern steppe and improved techniques, often brought by German settlers, led to Odessa emerging as a major port, exporting the growing surplus of Russian grain to Europe
- As Nicholas prioritized grain exports, a distinct division appeared between modernizing farmers and the mass of backward serfs; ***the push to export, along with its disruptions would come back to plague the early USSR***
- Industrial capitalism made its first appearance, with textiles produced by machines imported from Britain and often staffed by serfs of noble families
- Also, former serfs began to prosper along with townsmen who began to start small enterprises in and around St. Petersburg, Moscow, and other towns and villages of the Russian interior.



The Role of Count S. S. Uvarov

- A cosmopolitan in education, more comfortable in French than in Russian, appointed by Nicholas as Minister of Education
- In 1832 he sent around a rescript to the ministry's institutions informing them that their task was to encourage "autocracy, Orthodoxy, and nationality," and thus was born the doctrine of official nationality, as it came to be called
- The Imperial court included numerous Baltic Germans, Finns, and even conservative Polish aristocrats, and could hardly advocate a purely Russian state; nationality was still more a vague idea than a strict ethnic principle. The result was a contradictory mix of ideas, a mix that remained until the end of the old regime in 1917
- In his leadership roles, Uvarov set high standards for excellence in education which enormously increased the competence of the new government hires and prepared the government to address the SERF PROBLEM



The Motivation for Dealing with Serfdom

- The disastrous Crimean War upended Russia's position as supreme land power in Europe that seemed guaranteed in 1815
- The largest army in Europe, could not move efficiently around the large border expanse
- Serfdom prevented the army from going over to a reserve system, as no one wanted serfs with military training. Nicholas' army, his navy, and the state that maintained them had failed
- This was the signal for reform, the most basic upheaval in Russian life between the time of Peter the Great and 1917.

Alexander II – Reigned 1855 until Assassinated in 1881



Since the Crimean War

- Russian empire strength recalculated; began renewal under Czar Alexander II
- Britain's economy and an “Empire Overseas” gained in relative importance
- France appears ascendant
- Italian reunification made possible
- Old empires fading
- Germany's opportunity, at last



Germany's Culture

- Land of the poets and thinkers
- German writers, composers and philosophers such as Goethe, Schiller, Bach, Beethoven, Kant and Hegel have strongly influenced cultural epochs and are acclaimed figures the world over



Johann Sebastian BACH

CLARA SCHUMANN



CLARA SCHUMANN - PIANO VARIATIONS

Composition History

The Brothers Grimm



- Collected folk tales to preserve and celebrate German culture during an era of political fragmentation and foreign domination
- Their stories promoted unity and national identity, fostering a shared sense of belonging among German-speaking people
- Folklore became a tool to glorify native traditions and stimulate pride in the German Fatherland
- The Grimms' literary and linguistic scholarship influenced both political leaders and the public, helping define boundaries and character of the emerging German nation

Germany: Innovation and Progress

1835 Bavarian Railroad Line



Aniline Dye Industry and Coal-Tar Derivatives

- 1861: first production of chemical dyes
- German Chemical Industry dominated dyestuffs and fostered investment in eventual mass production of:
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides
- Medicines



The Age of Bismarck

- He united Germany
- Advanced social welfare programs and industry
- Managed a *limited* initial German colonization of overseas territories
- Bismarck himself through clever diplomacy, established an entente with other heads of powerful European states
- With the result of Germany becoming the most advanced and powerful continental power in Europe



Bismarck Uses the Prussian King and Its Army to Unite Germany

- September 1862 - the lower house of the Landtag refused to approve an increase in military spending desired by King William I (pictured left)
- The king then appointed as Minister President and Foreign Minister, Bismarck who next appeared before the House's Budget Committee

~ Bismarck's Iron and Blood Speech ~



Minister President
Bismarck 1862

- His speech to the Budget Committee stressed the need for military preparedness to solve **the German Question:**
 - ***(the best way to achieve a unification of all or most land inhabited by Germans)***
- He concluded his speech with the following statement:
- The position of Prussia in Germany will not be determined by its liberalism but by its power [...] Prussia must concentrate its strength and hold it for the favorable moment, which has already come and gone several times. Since the treaties of Vienna, our frontiers have been ill-designed for a healthy body politic. **Not through speeches and majority decisions will the great questions of the day be decided—that was the great mistake of 1848 and 1849—but by iron and blood (Eisen und Blut).**

German Wars with Denmark

- The Kings of Denmark controlled Schleswig as fiefdoms; these territories had a mixed heritage of Germans and Danish
- 1848-51 - the German Confederation and Denmark fought a war over these fiefdoms; Denmark retained control
- 1863 - Frederick VII, King of Denmark died without an heir acceptable to the German Confederation, Denmark moved to formally integrate the fiefdoms, leading to a diplomatic impasse
- The second war began on 1 February 1864, when Prussian and Austrian forces crossed the border into Schleswig; The war ended on 30 October 1864, with Austria receiving Holstein; Prussia Schleswig





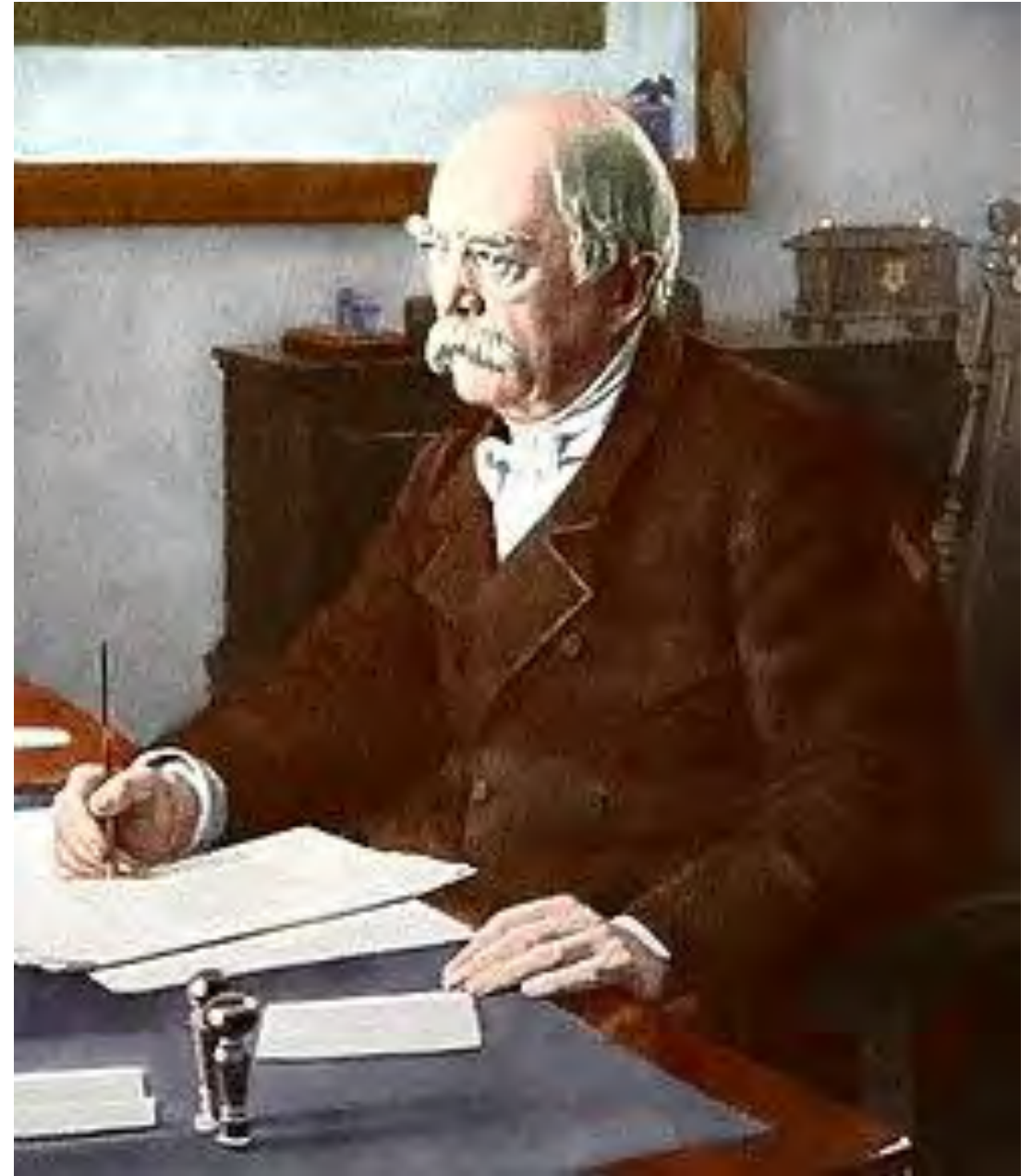
The Prussian lion circling around the Austrian elephant. Illustration by Adolph Menzel 1846.

Solving the German Question

- Bismarck knew that Austria at the head of a proposed Grosse Deutschland was not realistic
- Slavic members of the Austrian Empire could not be integrated into a unified German state
- Austria would have to lose its leadership role to Prussia, forming eventually a Kleine Deutschland

Prussia Isolates Austria

- Bismarck gains Russian neutrality by support of 1863 Polish Revolt
- He met Napoleon III in Biarritz to hint at French territorial gains, should Austria war on Prussia
- Negotiations with Italy revealed her opportunity to seize Venetia





Polish Revolt of 1863

- Anna Pustowojtowna, alias Michael Smok (pictured at left); a Polish activist and soldier, famed for her participation in the revolt
- Poles angry over reforms in Russia not following in Poland
- The former Congress Poland had experienced greater autonomy



An Example of How Events Like the Polish Revolt fed the underlying causes of World War I

- *Ethnic Hatred*
- *Revanchism*

1863 Veterans



Prussia vs. Austria

- Bismarck secures treaty with Italy to aid Prussia if a war with Austria
- Management of Schleswig-Holstein divides German States into pro and anti-Austria
- Prussia Invades Hanover, Saxony and the Electorate of Hesse on 15 June 1866
- Italy declared war on Austria on 20 June 1866
- Technical differences between Prussia and Austria:
 - Prussian “Needle Gun”
 - Railroads



Battle of Koniggratz 1866

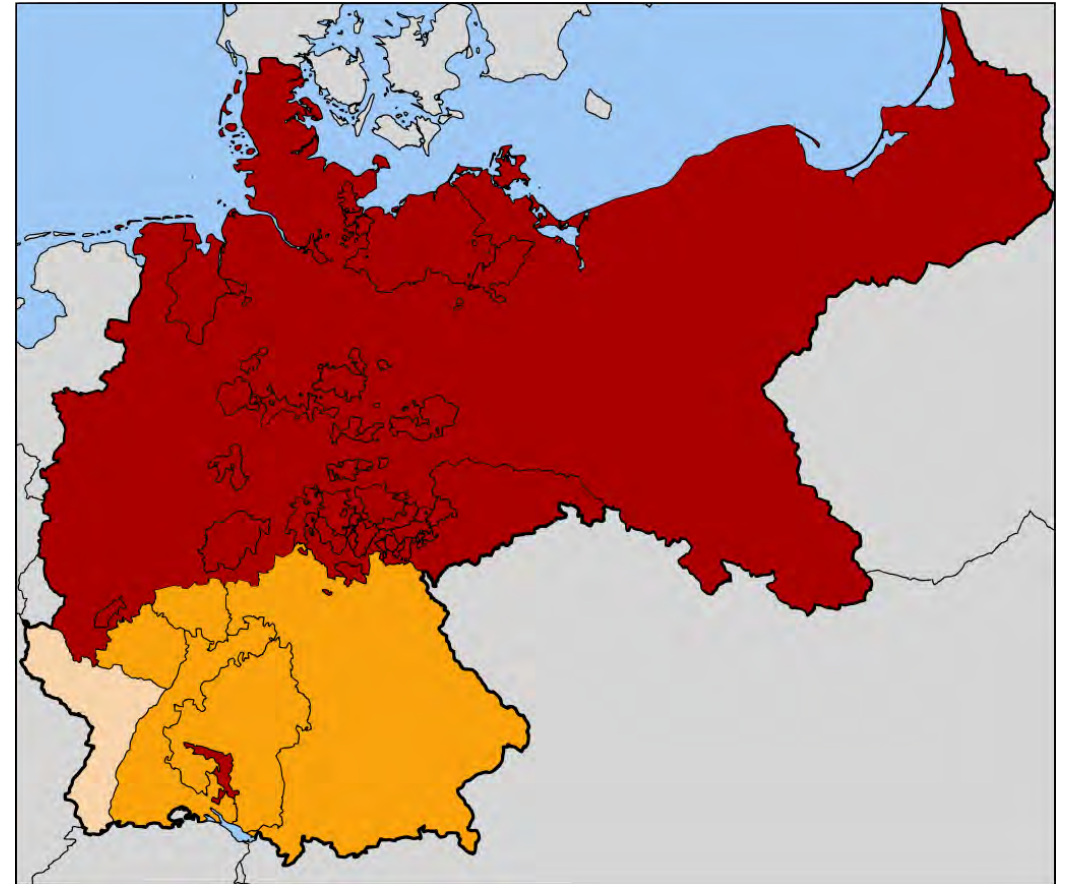


King William on his black horse
with Bismarck, Moltke and other officers

- The decisive battle during the Seven Weeks War between Prussia and Austria
- War ended with the Peace of Prague on 23 August 1866
- Prussia took Holstein from Austria; it and Schleswig merged into the Province of Schleswig-Holstein
- The Prussian victory effected Austria's exclusion from a Prussian-dominated Germany

North German Confederation (in Red)

- End of Austrian-led confederation leads to the new Prussia-led confederation (in red)
- Prussia ALSO annexed Hanover, Hesse-Kassel, Nassau and Frankfurt
- States allied with Austria paid indemnities to Prussia
- Bismarck resisted Prussian King's wishes to dismember Austria and gain territory there
- Bismarck also endeavored to not humiliate Austria and to promote good relations going forwards



Results of Events a Few Years after Crimean War

- Concert of Europe system collapsed
- Suspicion and rivalry replaced cooperation
- Powers pursue nationalist goals and bilateral alliances
- New powers emerge: France, Prussia, Italy
- Britain sits on the sidelines



Third Italian War of Independence

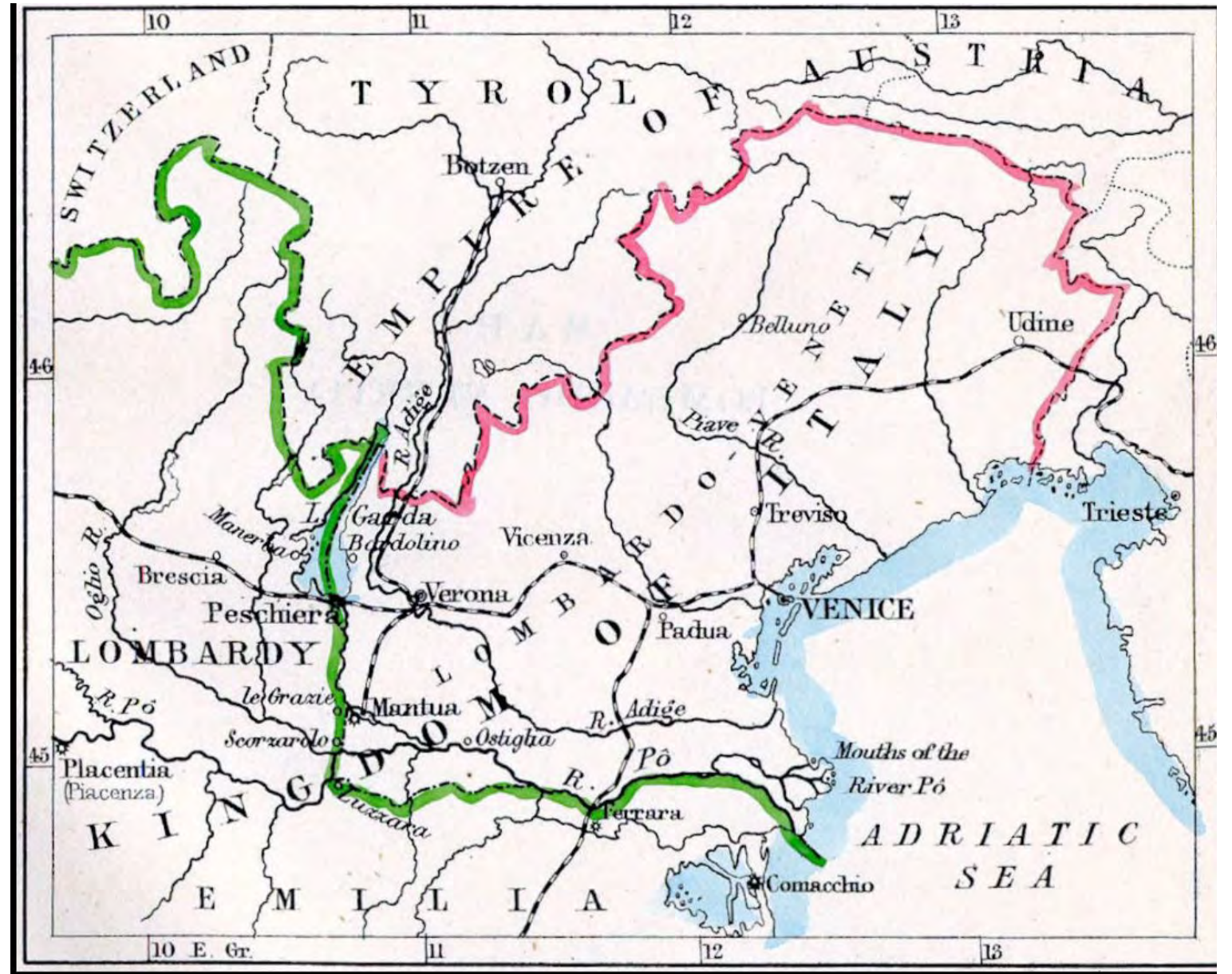


- Fought between the Kingdom of Italy and the Austrian Empire; between June and August 1866
- War ended by the Treaty of Vienna on 3 October 1866
- The conflict paralleled the Austro-Prussian War
- Resulted in Austria giving the region of Venetia to the Second French Empire (acting as intermediary in negotiations), which formally gave it to Italy
- Italy's acquisition of this wealthy and populous territory, annexed with a plebiscite represented a major step in the Unification of Italy

Victor Emannuel II in Venice



Venetia





Territories promised to Italy by the Treaty of London (1915)

- Trentino-Alto Adige the Julian March and Dalmatia (tan)
- Snežnik Plateau area (green)
- Dalmatia, after the WWI, however, was not assigned to Italy but to Yugoslavia.

End of Formal Presentation