

- (b) What groups were still denied the vote?  
6. What new themes did art and literature begin to portray in the mid-1800's?

### Critical Thinking

7. How might each of the following people have reacted to one socialist's statement, "Property is theft"? (a) Robert Owen (b) Karl Marx (c) a trade unionist (d) a stockholder in a business  
8. How was the change in socialist ideas from Owen to Marx similar to the change in literary styles during this period?

## Italy and Germany formed nations.

# 3

Many early nationalists had been romantics like Byron and Mazzini. In politics as in art, however, realism was replacing romanticism. During the late 1800's, a new group of national leaders practiced what they called *realpolitik*. This German term meant "the politics of reality." People used the word to describe tough, calculating politics in which idealism played no part.

As nationalism grew in strength, it destroyed the balance of power that Metternich had so carefully set up in 1815. In France, Napoleon III was bent on reviving French glory. In Germany and Italy, people were determined to form united nation-states. Austria wanted to preserve its empire. These conflicting goals touched off five wars among the Great Powers between 1854 and 1871.

### Cavour united Italy.

The Congress of Vienna left Italy divided and almost entirely under foreign control. In the north, Austria ruled Venetia and Lombardy and also dominated the small states of Tuscany, Modena, Parma, and Lucca. In the south, Spain ruled the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies (map, page 556).

During the fateful year of 1848, revolts broke out in eight separate states on the Italian peninsula. Giuseppe Mazzini, the early leader of Italian nationalism (page 532), briefly headed a republican government at Rome. However, the 1848 rebellions failed in Italy just as they did elsewhere

in Europe. Within months, the former rulers of the Italian states returned and drove Mazzini and other nationalist leaders into exile.

After 1848, Italian nationalists looked to the Kingdom of Sardinia for leadership. Sardinia was the only Italian state ruled by an Italian dynasty. This kingdom included the Piedmont, Nice, and Savoy as well as the island of Sardinia. It was the largest and most powerful of the Italian states and had the most liberal government.

In 1852, Sardinia's King, Victor Emmanuel II named Count Camillo di Cavour (kuh-voor) his prime minister. Cavour (1810–1861) was a wealthy aristocrat and a moderate nationalist. He made uniting Italy his highest priority.

Cavour considered Mazzini and the earlier nationalists vague and impractical. He believed that careful diplomacy and well-chosen alliances were more useful than grand proclamations and romantic rebellions. In turn, nationalists such as Mazzini called Cavour a "pale ghost of Machiavelli." They feared his main goal was not to unite Italy but to broaden the power of Sardinia.

**An alliance with Napoleon III** The greatest roadblock to Italian unity was Austria. Cavour knew that Sardinia was going to need help from another Great Power to drive Austria out of northern Italy.





Cavour found an ally in France. Napoleon III hoped to make France Europe's greatest power, as it had been under his uncle, Napoleon I. However, Napoleon III lacked his uncle's brilliance, and most of his schemes backfired.

Napoleon III believed that France could dominate Italy if Austria were out of the way. In 1858, the French emperor and Cavour had a secret meeting at which Napoleon agreed to help drive Austria out of Lombardy and Venetia. In return, Cavour promised to give France the border regions of Nice and Savoy.

Cavour soon provoked a war with Austria. A combined French-Sardinian army won two quick victories against the Austrians. Meanwhile, Italian nationalists staged revolts against Austria all across northern Italy. They demanded that Sardinia take over their lands.

A strong, united Italy was not what Napoleon III had expected. For a time, he considered going to war against Sardinia. However, Cavour had been careful to maintain good relations with the other Great Powers so that France was isolated.

AFRICA

-  Kingdom of Sardinia, 1858
-  Added to Sardinia, 1859-1860
-  Added to Italy, 1866
-  Added to Italy, 1870

Napoleon backed down, accepting Nice and Savoy as Cavour had promised. In 1860, Sardinia annexed all of northern Italy except Venetia.

**Garibaldi and the Red Shirts** While Cavour was uniting the north, he was also secretly helping nationalist rebels in southern Italy. In May 1860, a small army of about 1,100 Italian nationalists sailed from Genoa to Sicily. They were led by a bold and romantic soldier, Giuseppe Garibaldi (GAR-uh-BAHL-dee). In battle, Garibaldi always wore a bright red shirt. Since his followers imitated him, they became known as the "Red Shirts."

Garibaldi was victorious in Sicily and began marching north. Volunteers flocked to his banner. Everywhere he was greeted as a liberator. Garibaldi spoke excitedly of freeing the rest of Italy, especially his beloved birthplace, Nice.

Now it was Cavour's turn to feel that his schemes had backfired. He had given Nice to France as a consolation prize, and he did not want to provoke Napoleon III again. "Garibaldi

### Map Study

*By skillful maneuvers, Cavour (above) led Italy to national unity. What border territories did he give up in 1860? What territory was the last to be added to Italy?*

has become intoxicated with success," Cavour complained to an adviser. "He is planning the wildest schemes."

Knowing that war against France would lead to disaster, Cavour arranged for King Victor Emmanuel II to meet Garibaldi in Naples. "The Red One" willingly agreed to step aside and let the Sardinian king rule the areas he conquered.

In March 1861, an Italian parliament met at Turin and declared Victor Emmanuel II king of Italy. The new nation thus had a government headed by a constitutional monarch and an elected parliament.

### A united Italy faced problems.

Worn out by years of work, Cavour died shortly after Victor Emmanuel II became king. He never saw his country fully united. Venetia did not become part of the new nation until 1866. In 1871, Italy took over the Papal States. Rome became the national capital of a united Italy.

(According to a treaty called the Law of Guarantees, the pope kept the section of Rome known as Vatican City.)

The movement of the capital to Rome was a triumphant moment for Italian nationalists. However, unification did not cure all the country's problems. Many centuries had passed since the peninsula had last been united, and fierce rivalries flared between different provinces. The greatest tension arose between the industrialized north and the agricultural south. The people of these two regions had very different ways of living. They scarcely understood each other's versions of the Italian language.

After Cavour's death, Italy lacked strong national leadership. Garibaldi tried to head a government, but he lacked the political skill. Within the Italian parliament, there were no well-organized parties with clear-cut policies. As a result, prime ministers and cabinets changed frequently.

Italy also faced severe economic problems. There were bloody peasant revolts in the south and strikes and riots in the northern cities. One result of Italy's problems was massive emigration, particularly from the south. Between 1860 and 1910, 4 million Italians moved to the United States and another 1 million went to Argentina. "I had hoped to evoke the soul of Italy," wrote the old patriot Mazzini shortly before his death in 1872, "but all I can see is a corpse."

### *Austria and Prussia were rivals.*

Like Italy, Germany finally achieved unity in the mid-1800's. Since 1815, 39 German states had formed a German Confederation. The two largest states, Austria and Prussia, dominated this loose grouping.

Austria, earlier the home of the Holy Roman emperor, was still considered the natural leader of Germany. Vienna, Austria's capital, was an important cultural center for German music, art, and literature. However, Austria faced serious problems. Most of the people in the Austrian empire were non-Germans who yearned to break away. Austria also lagged behind Prussia in industrial development.

Prussia, on the other hand, had everything to gain from nationalism. It had a mainly German population. As early as 1834, Prussia had taken

the lead by forming the Zollverein (TSOHL-vur-eyn), a free-trade area that included all the major German states except Austria. Prussia was also the most industrial of the German states. Moreover, Prussia's army was by far the most powerful in central Europe.

Prussia was a conservative state. Although most adult men could vote, the Prussian parliament had little control over policies. The king, William I of the Hohenzollern family, had almost unlimited power. His ministers and army officers all came from Prussia's wealthy landlord class, the junkers. Prussia's middle class, although wealthy, had little political influence.

In 1862, William I chose as his prime minister a junker and a staunch conservative named Otto von Bismarck (1815–1898). A master of realpolitik, Bismarck set out to make Prussia the head of a united Germany. He saw Austria as Prussia's major rival. "Germany," he said, "is clearly too small for us both."

Bismarck had only contempt for the liberals who had led the movement for German unity in 1848. In his first speech as prime minister, he told the Prussian parliament, "The great questions of our day cannot be solved by speeches and majority votes—that was the great mistake of 1848 and 1849—but by blood and iron."

### *Bismarck united Germany by blood and iron.*

In 1864, Bismarck took the first step toward increasing Prussian power. He led Prussia into war against Denmark to win two border provinces, Schleswig and Holstein. The quick victory increased national pride among Prussians and won Prussia new respect from other Germans.

**The Seven Weeks' War** In 1866, Bismarck purposely provoked Austria into declaring war on Prussia. This conflict was known as the Seven Weeks' War. As the name suggests, the war was quickly over. Thanks to Prussia's efficient railroad network, Prussian generals could move their troops to the battlefield more quickly than Austrian leaders could. Once there, the Prussians used their superior training and equipment to win one smashing victory after another.

Austria was humiliated. It lost some German lands to Prussia. It also lost Venetia to Italy, which had fought alongside Prussia. Worst of all,

Austria was forced to withdraw from the German Confederation.

Prussia now took control of northern Germany. For the first time, the eastern and western parts of the Prussian kingdom were joined. In 1867, the remaining states in the north joined the North German Confederation, which Prussia dominated completely.

Reeling from this defeat, the Austrian empire set out to rebuild its strength. The empire's biggest problem was the discontent of the many nationalities it ruled. The Hungarians, who had rebelled in 1848, were the largest of these groups. They wanted more independence.

In 1867, Austria agreed to a *dual monarchy*. Austria and Hungary became two independent and equal states with one ruler. Each state had its own parliament and officials. The two states still had a united army, however, and they acted as one in foreign policy. The new empire was known as Austria-Hungary.

**The Franco-Prussian War** By 1867, only a few southern German states remained independent of Prussia. Because most people in southern Germany were Catholics, they did not want to be dominated by Prussia, which was largely Protestant. However, Bismarck felt certain he could win their support if they faced a threat from outside Germany. He believed his best chance was to provoke a war with France.

Napoleon III of France, whose clumsy diplomacy had helped Cavour unite Italy, soon gave Bismarck a chance to win southern Germany. In 1868, Spanish revolutionaries overthrew Spain's Queen Isabella II and offered the throne to Leopold of Hohenzollern, a distant cousin of Prussia's William I. Napoleon III protested, as he did not want France surrounded by Hohenzollern rulers. The Prussian prince turned down the Spanish offer, but tensions remained high.

During this crisis, the French ambassador met with the Prussian king. Bismarck deliberately gave German newspapers a misleading account

of the two men's conversation. Bismarck made it sound as if the king and the ambassador had insulted each other.

As Bismarck hoped, this news story caused an uproar. Soon public opinion in both countries demanded war. On July 19, 1870, France declared war on Prussia.

The Prussian army struck at once. Before most French soldiers had even left their hometowns, Prussian troops poured into northern France. In September 1870, the Prussian army surrounded the main French force at Sedan. Among the 100,000 French prisoners was Napoleon III himself, a beaten and broken man.

Only the city of Paris held out against the Germans. For four months, Parisians withstood a German siege. Finally, hunger forced them to surrender.

France was crushed. It had to pay Prussia the huge sum of 5 billion francs. As an even greater blow to French pride, France had to give Prussia the two border provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, which contained France's richest coal and iron deposits.

The Franco-Prussian War was the final step in German unification. Now people in southern Germany as well as those in the north were caught up in nationalistic fever. Despite their earlier doubts, they accepted Prussian leadership.

**The Second Reich** On January 18, 1871, at the conquered French palace of Versailles, King William I of Prussia was crowned **kaiser** (KYE-zuhr), or emperor, of the newly formed German empire. To Germans, the empire was known as the Second Reich (ryke). (They considered the Holy Roman Empire the First Reich.) Bismarck became the new nation's first prime minister.

The new German nation had a solid economic foundation. By 1870, Germany was the world's third biggest producer of manufactured goods, after Britain and the United States. After unification, German industry grew even faster. Soon it overtook Britain.

### Footnote to History

Food was so scarce in besieged Paris that people ate sawdust, leather, and rats. Even the animals in the Paris zoo were slaughtered for food by starving Parisians.

Germany were clearly the strongest, both economically and militarily. Austria, Russia, and Italy lagged far behind. France struggled along somewhere in between. The balance of power had broken down, and the risk of a major war was increasing.

It is no coincidence that Britain and Germany, the two countries with the greatest military power, were also the industrial leaders. The Industrial Revolution had military as well as economic impact. In war, industrial countries had enormous advantages over nonindustrial countries. Victory usually went to the side with the most advanced weapons and the best transportation network.

As war became industrialized, it also became nationalized. France built a citizen-army during the French Revolution. By the end of the 1800's, all industrial countries relied on such armies...

Germany's military leader, Count Helmuth von Moltke, wrote:

*The days are gone by when, for dynastic ends, small professional armies went to war to conquer a city or a province. The wars of the present day call whole nations to arms. The entire financial resources of the state are appropriated to the purpose. In the interest of humanity, it is to be hoped that wars will become less frequent, as they have become more terrible.*

## Section REVIEW 3

**Define:** (a) realpolitik, (b) junker, (c) dual monarchy, (d) kaiser

**Identify:** (a) Mazzini, (b) Cavour, (c) Victor Emmanuel II, (d) Napoleon III, (e) Garibaldi, (f) Bismarck, (g) Zollverein, (h) Seven Weeks' War, (i) Franco-Prussian War, (j) Second Reich, (k) Third Republic

**Answer:**

1. What made Sardinia the leader in the Italian nationalist movement?
2. (a) Why did Cavour make an agreement with Napoleon III? (b) What were the terms? (c) What were the results?
3. (a) How was the kingdom of Italy established? (b) What additional territories were joined to it later?

4. What problems did the united Italy face?
5. Why did Prussia rather than Austria take the lead in uniting Germany?
6. Briefly describe the major steps that Bismarck took to unify Germany.
7. What lasting effect did the Franco-Prussian War have on relations between France and Germany?
8. What political problems did France face under the Third Republic?
9. How had the balance of power in Europe changed since 1815?

### Critical Thinking

10. (a) In what ways were the unification of Italy and Germany alike? (b) How was the outcome different for the two countries? Explain.

## The United States spread westward.

# 4

Across the Atlantic Ocean from Europe, another country was also establishing itself as a nation. When the United States declared its independence in 1776, all 13 states lay along the Atlantic coast. By the time the nation celebrated its hundredth birthday in 1876, its borders had reached the Pacific. To unite this territory, Americans fought bitter wars with Native Americans and with Mexico. The bloodiest war of all on the path to nationhood, however, was a war the people of the United States fought among themselves. It is known as the Civil War (1861–1865). Within ten years after the war, it was clear that the United States was on its way to becoming a world power to rival Britain and Germany.

### Americans moved westward.

At the end of the Revolutionary War, the Mississippi River marked the western boundary of the United States. Surprisingly, it was Napoleon who gave the United States its first chance to expand west of this river.

**The Louisiana Purchase** Ever since 1763, when Great Britain drove France out of North America, Spain had held the lands west of the Mississippi. Then in 1800, Spain made a secret treaty with

