

**HOHENZOLLERN; A  
STORY OF THE TIME OF  
FREDERICK BARBAROSSA**

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Hohenzollern; A Story of the Time of Frederick Barbarossa by Cyrus Townsend Brady & Will Crawford & Mills Thompson

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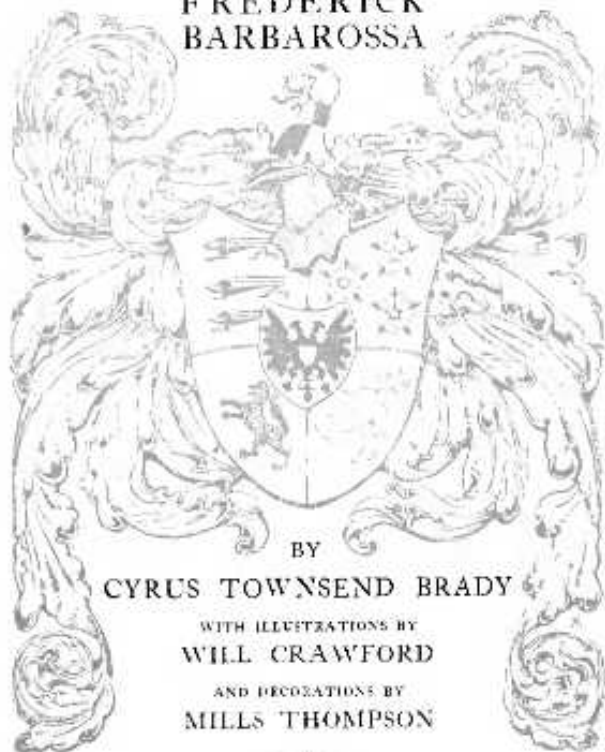
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FREDERICK BARBAROSSA**





"I'll fight ye both for it," he cried.

**HOHENZOLLERN**  
A STORY OF THE TIME OF  
**FREDERICK  
BARBAROSSA**



BY  
**CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY**

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY  
**WILL CRAWFORD**

AND DECORATIONS BY  
**MILLS THOMPSON**



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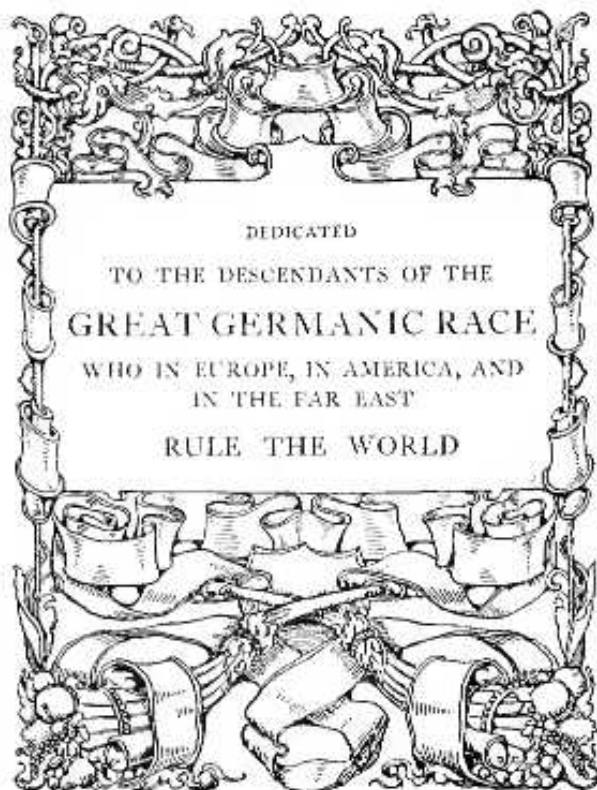
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**I** FIRST laid the scene of this dramatic sketch in Altruria, or Zenda, or some other undiscovered country, that had no existence save in my mind's eye; and the characters were purely imaginary also. Then, as I thought it over, I concluded to put the book back in the days of Barbarossa. For one thing, nobody knows much about the days of Barbarossa, therefore liberties can be taken with impunity; and for another thing, what little I did know of Barbarossa had awakened my admiration for him. I liked him, and, liking him, I wanted to put him in a book! When I began to look him up further, in order that the liberties I took might not be too great, I found — and it is a singular literary coincidence indeed — that the prototypes of the four principal char-

## PREFACE

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acters in the story, the emperor, the duke, the count, and the countess, really did exist, and that they bore some such relationship to one another as might readily have developed the situations I had imagined.

It had been years since I had read anything about Barbarossa or his time. I had no recollection whatever of his political rivalry and subsequent friendship with Henry the Lion, or the fact that Conrad von Hohenzollern, the founder of his house, married the Countess von Vohburg, who was an orphan and a great heiress in her own right. It was a case of imagination and reality fitting together. To add to my interest, I found that these people of the past had a connection with the present, in that their descendants rule the two greatest empires of the world to-day, the British and the German — the United States, being a republic, does not enter into the comparison.