

**ORIGINS OF THE
TRIPLE ALLIANCE;
THREE LECTURES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649333943

Origins of the Triple alliance; Three lectures by Archibald Cary Coolidge

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ARCHIBALD CARY COOLIDGE

**ORIGINS OF THE
TRIPLE ALLIANCE;
THREE LECTURES**

University of Virginia
Barbour-Page Foundation

ORIGINS OF THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE

THREE LECTURES

BY

ARCHIBALD CARY COOLIDGE

PROFESSOR OF HISTORY IN HARVARD UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1917

COPYRIGHT, 1917, BY
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

Published July, 1917



D
397
C6

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA BARBARA COLLEGE LIBRARY
76890

PREFACE

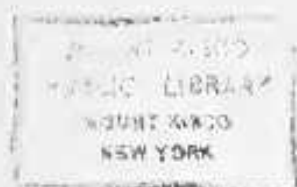
In January, 1916, I had the honor and the pleasure of giving the Barbour-Page lectures for that year at the University of Virginia. The substance of those lectures is reproduced in this little volume, though there have been many changes in the form besides the addition of footnotes. Any one who wishes to understand even in a superficial way the causes that have brought about the present world conflict should familiarize himself with the history of Europe since the Franco-Prussian War, and should try to grasp the interplay of political forces, the aims of statesmen, and the aspirations of peoples during that period. For the greater part of the time the so-called Triple Alliance was the strongest political and military element in the international situation. Its friends declared that it was an element for peace; its enemies regarded

it as a conservative league to protect ill-gotten gains. Although it dissolved when brought to the touchstone of actual war, its importance as an international factor for many years makes it well worth our study. In the following three chapters I have tried to point out the causes, personal as well as international, that led to its formation. I have not made any startling discoveries, nor have I new theories to put forth, but I believe I have made use of the best accessible information. Instead of St. Petersburg I ought perhaps to have used the name Petrograd, and I should have done so in speaking of current affairs, but for those of the past it still seems permissible to keep to the older form. For the sake of brevity and smoothness I have often used the word Austria where Austria-Hungary or the Dual Empire would have been more correct; but this, also, is, I think, condoned by current usage.

June, 1917.

ORIGINS OF THE TRIPLE
ALLIANCE





THE ORIGINS OF THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE

CHAPTER I

On May 10, 1871, the Peace of Frankfurt was signed between the new French republic and the still newer German empire. This date may be regarded as marking, in the conventional way that dates do, the termination not only of a great and dramatic war, but also of a period of European history. With the complete triumph of Germany over France, accompanied by the overthrow of what a few years before had seemed the brilliantly successful government of Napoleon III, with the proclamation at Versailles of William of Prussia as German emperor, with the entry of the Italian troops into Rome, and the ex-