

the capture of Warsaw in 1831 (the occasion of the famous dispatch 'Order reigns in Warsaw') led the Prussian king, still under Metternich's sway, to tighten still further his hold over his people. Everywhere there was latent rebellion, and particularly amongst the students and professors of the universities. To this period belong several of Germany's national patriotic songs, including Becker's 'German Rhine' and 'The Watch by the Rhine'.

At the same time Prussia prospered considerably during this period from an economic point of view, and her riches increased. An important step in the direction of German unity was the inauguration, between the years 1828 and 1836, of the Zollverein, or German Customs Union. By this means Prussia gradually drew the other states of Germany into commercial alliance with herself, to the detriment of Austria's influence.

On the death of Frederick William III in 1840 great hopes were entertained of the chances of a more liberal *régime* under his successor Frederick William IV. But though he dallied with the idea of a constitution, no real advance was made. Constitutional government, indeed, appears to be as repugnant to the temperament of the Hohenzollerns as it was to our Stuart kings in the seventeenth century. Divine right is an obsession with them as it was with Charles I, and the absence of any real political ability among their people, which they themselves admit, has always prevented the establishment of any real system of representative government.

The new king summoned a United Diet in 1847, but he granted it no legislative powers, and stated clearly that he would never consent to a constitution. His