“STUDENT OF HISTORY”

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This this Discussion Paper may include extracts from historical documents and the popular press of the day which may contain outdated cultural depictions and racial stereotypes.

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Wikipedia—the free online encyclopedia, created and edited by volunteers around the world and hosted by the Wikimedia Foundation. Wikipedia - Wikipedia

Encyclopædia Britannica—a general knowledge English-language online encyclopaedia, which was formerly published by Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc. Encyclopedia Britannica | Britannica

Trove —an Australian online library database aggregator and service which includes full text documents, digital images, bibliographic and holdings data of items which are not available digitally, and a free faceted-search engine as a discovery tool. Home - Trove (nla.gov.au)

School History —the largest library of history teaching and study resources on the internet; high-quality teaching and revision materials for UK and international history curriculum.

Other online sources: Family Histories and related articles.

German War Medals, a companion paper to the Armand Ranniger 1830-1914 series in Die Mitteilende, 2021, written by Peter Row

A Military Revolution? Prussian Military Reforms before the Wars of German Unification, 2001, by Dierk Waiter

Materialien zu den Aushebungen der preußischen Landwehr 1813-15, Düsseldorf, 2008, written by Dr. Martin Klöffler.

The Kaiser Wilhelm Centenary Medal was established on 22 March 1897 by Wilhelm II on the occasion of the 100th Birthday of his grandfather, Emperor Wilhelm I.

KAISER WILHELM CENTENARY MEDAL

Queensland 1899-1900

Medals were also awarded to the surviving veterans of the First Schleswig War 1848–1851, the Second Schleswig War 1864–1864, the Austro-Prussian War 1866–1866 and the Franco-Prussian War 1870–1871.

KAISER-WILHELM-ERINNERUNGSMEDAILLE ZENTENARMEDAILLE

- The medal was made of bronze gunmetal from captured cannon.





Wilhelm I in military uniform wearing a mantle and Pickelhaube.

German State Crown, an orb, sword, and sceptre placed upon a pillow surrounded by oak leaves

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEINISCHER KRIEG

- The First Schleswig War was fought from 24 March 1848 until 8 May 1851.
- It was the first military conflict fought for control of the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein.
- The belligerents were Denmark together with Swedish and Norwegian volunteers against the German Confederation represented by Prussia, Saxony and Hanover and Mecklenburg-Schwerin together with militia from the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein.
- Under international pressure, the Prussians had to withdraw their forces. As a result, the war ended in a Danish victory over the unsupported Schleswegians and Holsteiners.

Danish victory over the unsupported Schleswegians and Holsteiners!

DEUTSCH-DÄNISCHER KRIEG

- The Second Schleswig War was fought from 1 February 1864 until 30 October 1864. It was the second military conflict fought for the control of the Duchies of Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg.
- The belligerents were Denmark against the German Confederation) represented by Prussia, Austria, Saxony and Hanover.
- The Germans were victorious.
- The King of Denmark renounced all his rights in the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein in favour of the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, and Austria and Prussia took over the respective administration of Schleswig and Holstein in condominium.

The Germans were victorious!

DEUTSCHER KRIEG

- The Austro-Prussian War was fought from 14 June 1866 until 23 August 1866. It was a conflict to determine which German state, Prussia or Austria would exercise dominance over the other German states.
- The belligerents were Austria leading German Confederation states: namely, Saxony, Hanover, Bavaria, Württemberg, Baden, Hessen-Kassel, Hessen-Darmstadt, Nassau, Saxe-Meiningen, Reuss-Greiz, Schaumburg-Lippe, Frankfurt and Liechtenstein against Prussia leading the following German states: namely, Saxe-Lauenburg, Saxe-Coburg & Gotha, Saxe-Altenburg, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Brunswick, Oldenburg, Anhalt, Schwarzburg, Waldeck, Lippe, Free and Hanseatic of Lübeck, Free and Hanseatic of Bremen, Free and Hanseatic of Hamburg and Italy.
- The Prussian-led German states were victorious.
- There was subsequently a shift in power away from Austria and towards Prussian hegemony of the German states.
- The German Confederation was dissolved and replaced by the North German Confederation, which excluded Austria and the other Southern German states. The confederation was known as the Small German Empire.
- Italy annexed the Austrian province of Venetia.

The Prussian-led German states were victorious!

DEUTSCH-FRANZÖSISCHER KRIEG

- The Franco-Prussian War was fought from 19 July 1870 until 10 May 1871. It was a conflict between the Second French Empire (later the Third French Republic) and the North German Confederation led by the Kingdom of Prussia.
- The belligerents were France assisted by foreign volunteers against the North German Confederation represented by Prussia, Saxony, Hesse in alliance with Bavaria, Württemberg and Baden.
- The Prussian-led German states were victorious. German unification hastened. German states proclaimed their union as the German Empire under the Prussian king Wilhelm I. Most parts of Alsace and parts of Lorraine were annexed and the Imperial Territory of Alsace-Lorraine was established.
- With the sole exception of Austria, the vast majority of Germans were united under a nation-state for the first time in history. The balance of power in Europe was significantly altered.
- Imperial rule ended in France and a republican government was established.

The Prussian-led German states were victorious!

WARS OF UNIFICATION

- The Austro-Prussian War 1866 and the Franco-Prussian War 1870-71 were regarded as the Wars of Unification. Prussia surprised the world when she won both wars.
- The tactics of the Prussian army were no better than those of the Austrian and French empires, and they were somehow inferior to the tactics of the French republic in the winter of 1870-71.
- The obvious Prussian advantages were the effective use of railways for mobilization and above all a professional general staff.
- Prussian commanders made mistakes. French and Austrian commanders made outright blunders.
- Due to internal problems, Austria admitted defeat after the battle of Sadova. At that time, its field army was still intact, if shaken.
- The late French empire, on the other hand, was increasingly unpopular and therefore unable to command the unbroken loyalty of its soldiers. Consequently, there were first signs of dissolution already after the battles at the borders.
- The armies of the republic were no real match even for Prussia's young conscripts, since they lacked decent training. As the war dragged on in winter 1870-71, war-weariness overwhelmed most of them and finally the field forces of the republic disintegrated.

Both the war of 1866 and that of 1870-71 were decided by moral and political factors!

PREUßEN MILITARY

- Prussia maintained five tiers of armed forces, each active to a greater or lesser degree in time of peace and in time of war, be it in-country or in another country; each active to a greater or lesser degree in offense, defence, or occupation depending on need.
- The effectiveness of each force varied to a greater or lesser degree depending on the age and fitness of its members; the frequency of training and periodicity of assembly; the quality of arms, small and large; and the calibre of leadership and organisation.
- The standing army was young and fit, better trained, better equipped and better led, better organised and faster to mobilise. The landsturm were intended to render the last level of resistance to an army of occupation, however basic.

Tier	Armed Forces	Literal	Cohort	Ages
1	Heer	Army (standing)	Line regiment	from 20 to 23
2	Kriegsreserve	War reserve	Line regiment reserves	from 24 to 25
3	Landwehr	Country defence	1st levy	from 26 to 32
4	Landwehr	Country defence	2nd levy	from 33 to 39
5	Landsturm	Country storm	Insurgents	up to 50

Military Service Obligation Act of 1814!

PRESENTATION ABOARD THE SENATOR VERSMANN ON 9 AUGUST 1899

- Karl F. Arndt, Yeronga.
- Wm. Altmann, Marburg.
- F. W. Backmann, Brisbane
- John Bestmann, Brisbane.
- A. F. Beutel, Beenleigh.
- F. Bruggemann, Nundah .
- H. Diesing, Marburg.
- Karl Engel, Brisbane.
- Karl F. Freiberg, Hoya.
- H. Heeschen, Brisbane.
- L. A. Hornung, Brisbane.
- F. Janke, Lowood.
- John Fordin, Maryborough.
- M. F. Karl, Hoya.
- August Kliese, Nundah.
- C. F. Kriesch, Logan.
- V. A. Kruger, Toowoomba.
- C. F. Lichterfeld, Woolloongabba.
- G. P. A. Liedl, Woolloongabba.
- J. F. Lubke, Nanango.
- Peter Manthey, Tarampa.
- F. K. Muller, Brisbane.
- F. Muller, Minden.
- August Otto, Cawdor.
- K. F. T. Samtlebe, Beenleigh.
- Gustav Schimming, Marburg.
- C. G. Schmidt, Beenleigh.
- F. O. Schneider, Roma.
- Timm Sothmann, South Kolan
- K. F. W. Strassburg, Rosewood.
- August Tesch, Beenleigh.
- Karl Teske, Rosewood.
- F. J. L. Thiemann, Yangan.
- John Thomas, Boonah.
- G. A. Bahrendorf, Brisbane.
- F. F. W. Wesener, Logan.
- Franz Wiemers, Toowoomba.
- John Wolski, Honrie Flat.
- Wm. Zahnow, Rosevale.
- J. F. K. Alberg, Mackay.
- K. F. Kuhnert, Helidon.
- J. K. Kattenberg, Rosevale.
- K. F. Grewe, Boonah.

The Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld.) Thu 10 Aug 1899 Page 3.

Herr F. Schneider, whose coat bore an array of medals, amongst them the coveted iron cross, was the first recipient ...

FRANZ OSWALD SCHNEIDER 1845-1907

- Franz Oswald Schneider was born in Freiberg, Dresden, Saxony.
- Schneider was a veteran of the Second Schleswig War 1864–1864; the Austro-Prussian War 1866–1866; and the Franco-Prussian War 1870–1871
- Schneider immigrated on the Ship JOHN BERTRAM, which arrived at Brisbane, Queensland on 16 December 1871.
- Schneider was superintendent of Roma gaol for 14 years .
- Schneider was amongst those who volunteered for service in South Africa. His patriotism was acknowledged. However, he was not be released by the Comptroller of Prisons.
- Schneider died after months of suffering at St. Catherine's Private Hospital in 1907. His body was embalmed and forwarded to Germany, to be interred at his native Freiberg.



Provinz
Sachsen

He thanked them for the compliments they had paid him on his military service,
but he had only done his duty as all his comrades had done!

ONE OF QUEENDSLAND"S MOST REMARKABLE MEN SAYS THE "*TRUTH*"

- … fighting as a sergeant in the German Grenadiers at the siege of Paris, where, the one recklessly brave act of that one sergeant and 12 soldiers materially assisted in the taking of the French capital, by the capture of Mount Avron, one of the most formidable forts defending Paris.
- … where the Saxon batteries had strewed the ground with dead, and he, Schneider, and his dozen self-devoted Berserkers, or Wild Jaegers, charged into a dense fog unknowing how many Frenchmen were there, bayoneting some and chasing the rest down the hill, the French under the impression there was a whole German battalion behind them.
- Then the German sappers and miners came up in the rear, spiked or burst the guns with gun-cotton, and Mount Avron was disarmed. For the extraordinary valour and magnificent results of that transaction, too long to be told here, Schneider was awarded the Iron Cross, the most highly coveted distinction in the German Army.



The Brisbane Courier (Qld.) Sat 6 Apr 1907 Page 13

Western Star and Roma Advertiser (Toowoomba, Qld.) Wed 31 Oct 1906

Schneider was awarded the Chevalier of the Iron Cross!

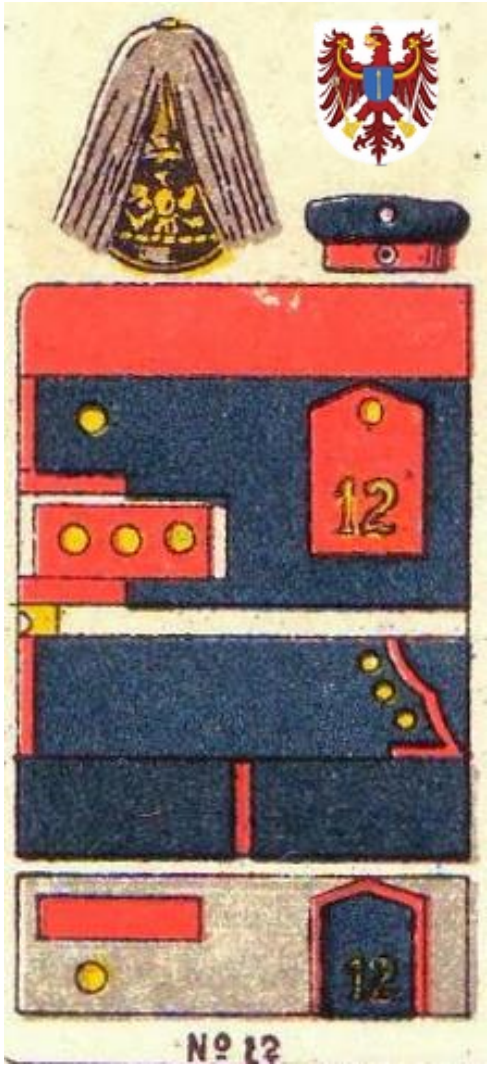
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- L. A. Hornung, Brisbane.
- F. Janke, Lowood.
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- John Wolski, Honrie Flat.
- Wm. Zahnow, Rosevale.
- J. F. K. Alberg, Mackay.
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- J. K. Kattenberg, Rosevale.
- K. F. Grewe, Boonah.

The Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld.) Thu 10 Aug 1899 Page 3.

WILHELM FRIEDRICH ZAHNOW 1841–1920

- Zahnow was born in Wollin, Prenzlau, Brandenburg, Prussia.
- Zahnow was a veteran of the Second Schleswig War 1864–1864; the Austro-Prussian War 1866–1866; and the Franco-Prussian War 1870–1871
- Zahnow served in 2. Brandenburgisches Infanterie-Regiment Nr. 12.
- Zahnow was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He was awarded the 2nd Class of Army Service Medal by order of the Royal 12th Infantry Regiment as of June 17, 1876.
- On 26 June 1871, about six weeks after the war ended, the regiment was redesignated as Grenadier-Regiment *"Prinz Carl von Preußen"* (2. Brandenburgisches) Nr. 12.
- Zahnow immigrated on the ship FRITZ REUTER, which arrived at Rockhampton, Queensland on 6 October 1877. He was accompanied by his wife and three children.



Color scheme of the uniform,
Grenadier Regiment No. 12,

Wilhelm Zahnow was a veteran of the 2nd Schleswig War and both Wars of Unification!

SECOND PRESENTATION ABOARD THE BARQUE OLGA ON 19 MARCH 1900

- Frau Dora Klein, Bundaberg
- Johann Meckelburg, Brisbane
- Carl Spann, Rosevale
- August Wenzlaff, Brisbane
- Wilhelm Schulz, Lowood
- Ferdinand Sommerfeld, Hoya
- Hermann Schleusener, Brisbane
- Johann Roehl, Marburg
- Carl Reinicke, Boonah
- Christian Rietz, Toowoomba
- Johann Pukallus, Douglas
- Wilhelm Pokarier, Engelsburg
- Hermann Naumann, Pinkenba
- Albert Panske, Zillman's Waterholes
- Peter Meyn, Gowrie Junction
- Wilhelm Meissner, Kirchheim
- August Lindner, Coochin, Fassifern
- Friedrich Lankowski, Hoya
- Heinrich Köhnke, Monkey Waterholes
- Christian Jerchow, Templin
- Hermann Kleidon, Gatton
- Carl Hingst, Laidley
- Gustav Herrmann, Geebung
- Ludwig Hansen, Plainland
- Christian Entner, Brisbane
- August Fischer, Gramzow
- Franz Buhle, Dugandan
- Joachim Bunning, Marburg
- Carl Brumm, Pimpama
- Franz Schultz, Hoya
- Christoff Riecke, Upper North Pine
- Christoff Schick, Brisbane

*The Brisbane Courier (*Qld.) Wed 21 Mar 1900 .

Dora Klein (born Harm) was the only woman listed in the press!

DORETHA MARGARETHA CHRISTINE HARM 1848-1923

- Doretha Margaretha Christine Harm was a native of Keil in the Duchy of Holstein.
- Harm was awarded an Iron Cross for meritorious service in nursing and hospital work.
- Harm immigrated on the ship HUMBOLDT, which arrived at Maryborough on 29 October 1873.
- Five months later, Harm married Herman Albert Theodore Klein at Maryborough on 21 March 1874.
- The Kleins then moved to Bundaberg where they lived for 50 years.



Nurse treating a wounded German soldier on the battlefield. Part of a Wood engraving by W. Hollidge from a drawing by Princess Louise, daughter of daughter of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

A painting exhibited in aid of German widows and orphans bereaved in the Franco-Prussian War!

ROBERT GLUCH 1847-1917

- Robert Gluch was a veteran of the Franco-German War.
- Gluch served as a Füsilier in 2. Compagnie, Hannoversches Füsilier-Regiment Nr. 73, 25. Infanterie-Brigade, 13. Division, VII. Armee-Korps, I. Preußische Armee.
- Gluch was wounded in the encirclement of Metz between 14 and 18 August 1870, just prior to the commencement of the Siege of Metz on 19 August.
- "*Robert Gluch often spoke of his harsh experiences in the German army*" according to his grandson, Robert Charles Gluch.



Hannoversches Füsilier-Regiment Nr. 73
Tunic and Helmet



Provinz
Hannover

Gluch's name was not published in the press and it's unknown whether he received a centenary medal!

KAISER WILHELM CENTENARY MEDAL

Queensland 1899-1900

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