

## “Dropping the Pilot” (1890)

### Abstract

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Bismarck was forced to resign in 1890, two years into the reign of Wilhelm II. Here, we see a weary Bismarck descending the ladder of the German “ship of state,” which he had steered for almost 20 years as chancellor. A young Wilhelm II looks on from the deck. This famous cartoon, entitled “Dropping the Pilot,” was published in the British magazine *Punch* on March 29, 1890.

### Source

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Source: *Dropping the Pilot*. Cartoon by Sir John Tenniel, *Punch*, 29 March 1890.

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