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Nota di contenuto	Forging an empire: economy, society, culture, and politics, 1866-1890 -- British views of Germany, 1815-1914 -- Digital history anthologies on the Web -- King Johann of Saxony and the German Civil War of 1866 -- Julian Hawthorne's Saxon studies -- Bismark and Engels: The role of force in history -- Heydebrand and Westarp: leaving behind the Second Reich -- Get out the vote! Electioneering without democracy -- The authoritarian state and the political mass market -- Society and democracy in Germany: why Dahrendorf still matters -- Democracy in disappearing ink: suffrage robbery as coup d'etat.
Sommario/riassunto	Retallack reveals the complex and contradictory nature of the Second Reich, presenting Imperial Germany as it was seen by outsiders and insiders as well as by historians, political scientists, and sociologists ever since.