

The second volume contains the texts of seventeen remonstrances of the parlement in the eighteenth century, preceded by an introduction, in which M. Le Moy describes the form and contents of these remonstrances. Under the head of "form", he gives an account of all the steps taken by the parlement in drawing up and presenting a remonstrance; under that of "content", he enumerates the different matters that gave rise to remonstrances. This introduction will prove to be as great an aid to the student of parliamentary remonstrances as the introduction of the first volume will be on the social and economic conditions of the courts. When we shall have as satisfactory a volume on the history of the other parlements of France as those of Flammermont for the Parlement of Paris and Le Moy for the Parlement of Bretagne, it will be possible to write the history of the struggle of the royal power in France with the parlements in the eighteenth century.

FRED MORROW FLING.

*Hungary in the Eighteenth Century.* By HENRY MARCZALI. With an Introductory Essay on the Earlier History of Hungary, by HAROLD W. V. TEMPERLEY, M.A., Fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge. (Cambridge: University Press. 1910. Pp. lxiv, 377.)

THE number of works on Hungarian history accessible to those not conversant with the Magyar language is so limited that it is always a particular pleasure to welcome an addition to the list; and in this case, fortunately, we have presented to us one of the best productions of recent Hungarian historiography.

Dr. Marczali, now professor in the University of Budapest, published in 1881-1888 under the auspices of the Hungarian Academy of Science three volumes (seven books) on *The History of Hungary in the Reign of Joseph II.* It is the first book of this highly reputed work that now lies before us, revised for this purpose by the author and translated with the co-operation of Professor Yolland of the University of Budapest. Mr. Temperley's introductory essay is, in general, concise and adequate, though not always quite accurate in statements of fact.

Professor Marczali's book is not a political history of the country and period in question, but seeks rather to describe the state of Hungary about the time of the accession of Joseph II. The eighteenth century in Hungary has usually been branded by historians as an age of sad decadence in every branch of the national life. The author has set himself to test this verdict by making for the first time a thorough study of the archives, official and private, with the aim of getting to the bottom of the question, of bringing to light the inner forces of the nation, the silent processes going on below the surface, the real nature of, and the organic connections between, the chief factors, political, economic, and intellectual, then at work. The result has been something like a "rehabilitation" of the Hungary of the eighteenth century.

The great interest of this, as of all other periods of Hungarian history, lies in observing to what extent and by what means the Magyar race preserved on the one hand its predominance within the kingdom, and on the other its independence and its national character in the face of Western political influences and Western civilization. As regards the first of these questions, the author's chief contribution consists in bringing out for the first time the historical significance of the colonization of the Alföld after the expulsion of the Turks. By their victory over their Servian and German competitors, who were favored by the Viennese government, the Magyars assured their permanent hegemony in Hungary: this not only because of the intrinsic importance of the Lowlands, but also because of the change already begun, through which the balance of power, economic and political, was to be shifted from the northwestern counties—the seats of the magnates and the Slovaks—to the fertile regions of the Danube and Theiss.

It is the second problem, however, which most attracts the author's attention, and here we come upon the most slippery ground in modern Hungarian history. Professor Marczali exposes in an infinite variety of forms the antagonism between the still essentially medieval Hungarian society and the modern state, represented by the "enlightened", absolutistic, and centralizing government at Vienna. The tragedy of the position of Hungary in the eighteenth century was that the nation had to choose between maintaining its anachronistic form of political and social organization, and accepting the benefits of modern progress at the hands of a foreign government, at the cost of the national independence. Only the nineteenth century, with its liberal, democratic, and nationalistic ideas, could furnish an escape from this *impasse*. With this general conception of the problem we are not disposed to quarrel, but there are certain features of the author's characterization of the situation that seem open to objection. In spite of an obvious desire to be fair, he has not succeeded, in the opinion of the reviewer, in rendering full justice to the government; he has not brought out the fact that practically all that was consciously done to increase the material well-being of the country in this period emanated from Vienna, and was carried out in spite of the indifference or the opposition of "the ruling nation". One hesitates, too, to accept Professor Marczali's very favorable view of the patriotism, high character, and exceptional services of the nobility, for after all there is abundant evidence to show that the members of this caste usually pursued a thoroughly selfish conduct and continually sacrificed the interests of the other classes of the nation and even large parts of the vaunted constitution itself on the altar of their own petty class-interests. Almost the only thing that could arouse these torpid and narrow-minded county-politicians was an attack on their privileges, and especially on their sacred immunity from taxation. The present reviewer is quite unable to follow the author's reasoning that the abolition of this latter exemption "would have involved the renun-

ciation of the separate existence of the country as a sovereign State" (p. 355). There are other objections that might be raised here and there, there are lacunae in more than one of Professor Marczali's arguments, but lack of space forbids adducing them here.

The great merit of the book lies in the wealth of new facts brought to light, especially in the chapters on economic and social conditions, and in the well-rounded description of a fairly typical medieval society lingering on into an age when, with the aid of the reports of an industrious bureaucracy, it could almost be photographed. Really charming are the pictures drawn of the old-fashioned country gentry and their activities in the county courts and "congregations", of the folk-lore and superstitions of the peasants, of life in the Calvinist colleges, etc. It is to be hoped that we may some day receive a translation of the remainder of this work, in which the author describes the conflict of this ancient society with Joseph II.

ROBERT H. LORD.

*Johann Gustav Droysen.* Erster Teil: bis zum Beginn der Frankfurter Tätigkeit. Von G. DROYSEN. (Leipzig and Berlin: B. G. Tuebner. 1910. Pp. vi, 372.)

PROFESSOR J. G. DROYSEN, historian of Hellenism and of Prussian politics, translator of Aeschylus and Aristophanes, political leader in the national rising of 1848—a man of such wide-ranging activity affords a worthy subject-matter of biographical study; in exploring his life, we are carried into the midst of the life of his times and his nation, and at the same time he has the interest of a type and of a strongly individual character. Droysen has found a devoted biographer in his own son, the late Professor Gustav Droysen, himself an historian of honorable standing, who, however, was not allowed to finish his work, the first volume of which has now been edited after his death by Professor Rudolf Hübner. This biography throughout has the happy impress of that loving carefulness that rather strives to understand and explain than to judge the motive forces of a varied career like that of Droysen; and out of the abundance of details from family tradition and from personal letters as well as out of the psychological study of scientific work and political action, we see rising before us the vivid picture of a *man*, passionate and stubborn, artist and fighter, with his powers always strained to the utmost, whether for searching into historical documents or for shaping patriotic ideas.

In this book, Droysen appears as the true Prussian, unswerving in the great aims of life from his earliest youth, working hard to reach them, inwardly earnest, almost austere even in the midst of genial enjoyment, always maintaining his individuality unerased, yet—and that is what makes the attractiveness of the book—incessantly advancing into new fields of ideas, quickly extending his abilities and developing his mind. Although he comparatively early emancipated himself from the