

afraid to offend too bitterly the brother of the First Consul; and that the affairs of M. Récamiér, whom she consulted, exacted some prudence on her part. Lucien was ardent, impatient; he broke with his "banquière," as he called her, and asked for his letters, which she refused to return. It became more difficult for her to enter into relations with the First Consul after she had interrupted her relations with Lucien. Bonaparte was, besides, informed that she opened her salon more and more to Moreau and Bernadotte, whom he considered as his enemies—her house was open to all foreigners, to the members of the diplomatic body—and she received an official hint which obliged her to give up her weekly receptions. It was at that time that the famous painter David made her portrait, which is now in the museum of the Louvre. She is represented half lying on a couch, with a gown which is a mere tunic, and with her feet bare. The head is of an exquisite purity of feature, but rather expressionless. M. Turquan, whose antipathy to Madame Récamiér is almost amusing, will have it that she had ugly feet. David's portrait is very interesting, and will always be admired, as well as the portrait made afterwards by Gérard, when Madame Récamiér was no longer in the bloom of youth.

After the peace of Amiens, Madame Récamiér made a visit to London, and for several weeks the London papers were full of praise of the handsome Frenchwoman. Wherever she went she wore a veil à l'*Iphigénie*, which fell to the ground and enveloped her with a sort of ideal vapor. The arrest of Moreau caused a real terror among the familiar friends of Madame Récamiér. She was a friend of Madame Moreau, and she had the courage to go to see her every day, to attend her husband's trial, and to salute him. Bonaparte was advised of it, and Cambacérès, by his order, sent her a letter inviting her not to return to the court. She obeyed, but persisted in going every day to console Madame Moreau. She was thus thrown more and more under the influence of her friends, the two Montmorencys. The execution of the Duke d'Enghien was a great shock to their feelings, as well as to hers.

After the proclamation of the Empire, which took place in May, 1804, the Emperor made up his household and his wife's. Fouché, who was an assiduous frequenter of Madame Récamiér's salon, and whose policy at the time was to conciliate the *émigrés*, told her that she did very wrong in maintaining a hostile attitude, and finally offered her the place of lady to the Empress. The same offer was made to her by the Princess Caroline, a sister of the Emperor. These offers were repeated several times, and refused. Récamiér's affairs were in a very bad state, and his wife's refusal did not help to lift him out of his difficulties. There was a great financial crisis at the end of 1805, and many people were ruined; Récamiér's bank was able to weather the storm for a time, but in October, 1806, its failure was announced. An advance of a million or two to Récamiér by the Bank of France would have prevented the failure, but it was not authorized, and when Junot mentioned it to Napoleon, he said, "I am not in love with Madame Récamiér." Madame Récamiér had to change her whole life. As if her ruin did not sat-

isfy the vengeance of Fouché, he denounced her in his police reports as the incorrigible enemy of the Empire. She was not exiled, but when Madame de Staël, who had really been exiled in 1803, and was living at Coppet, on Lake Geneva, asked her to make her a visit, she gladly accepted the offer.

Coppet was always full of distinguished visitors, and among those whom Madame Récamiér found there was Prince Augustus of Prussia, the son of Prince Ferdinand, a nephew of the great Frederick. Prince Augustus had been made a prisoner at Saalfeld, at the beginning of the campaign of 1806; he had been sent to Dijon, to Paris, to Nancy, to Soissons, where he remained till the autumn of 1807. He was then allowed to return to his country. Stopping at Geneva, he saw Madame de Staël at Coppet and accepted her hospitality. There he fell in love with Madame Récamiér at first sight. He was tall, handsome, very shy, yet not so shy that he could not confess his passion. Forgetting that she was married, he offered her his hand. She thanked him for the great honor which he paid her, and told him that she was not free. He spoke of a divorce; she knew better than anybody that she had never had a religious marriage, and that M. Récamiér's relations to her had never been anything but paternal. But could she forget the great kindness which he had always shown her? She could do nothing without his permission. She wrote to him; he answered her that he consented to the annulment of their marriage if such was decidedly her desire, but asked that the rupture should not take place in Paris, but out of France. He added that perhaps she had not sufficiently considered what her position would be in Prussia if she became the morganatic wife of Prince Augustus.

Madame Récamiér was much perturbed on receiving this answer. M. Turquan, on the strength of an unpublished letter which was communicated to him, but which bears no date, and the authenticity of which does not seem to us demonstrated, will have it that for a moment she thought of committing suicide. It is rather curious that Madame de Staël was meditating an essay on suicide, which she published in 1812. Whatever may have been Madame Récamiér's doubts, whatever her conversations with Madame de Staël, the situation ended by her refusing the offer of Prince Augustus. He wept copiously and left Coppet, while Madame Récamiér returned to France. She sent the Prince a portrait of herself made by Gérard. They maintained a correspondence which no events could interrupt. They saw each other again only in Paris, when Prince Augustus came back to France with a victorious army, and afterwards, in 1818, at Aix-la-Chapelle, during the sitting of the Congress which took place there. At his death Gérard's portrait was returned to Madame Récamiér. The Prince wished to be buried with the ring which she, in a moment of imprudence, had given him at Coppet. The long idyll of Madame Récamiér and the Prince of Prussia is a romantic chapter in history. M. Turquan's account of it has no romantic touch; he is determined always to put the worst possible construction on what relates to his heroine. But the facts speak for themselves.

Madame Récamiér returned to Paris at the end of October, 1807; it was at her home that Benjamin Constant gave the first

reading of his novel 'Adolphe,' which is still read by many, as it is a real autobiography, an account of the relations which Benjamin Constant had for several years maintained with Madame de Staël. 'Adolphe' did not please Madame Récamiér, and in his *journal intime* Benjamin Constant wrote, on the evening of the day when he had read his novel, "The character of the hero revolts them. Decidedly, they don't know how to understand me." The hero was himself. The seizure by the imperial police of all the printed copies of a new book by Madame de Staël, 'L'Allemagne,' was a great event in Madame Récamiér's circle. M. de Montmorency was exiled. Madame Récamiér received again an order to leave Paris. She went for a time to Châlons, and later established herself at Lyons, where she made the acquaintance of the philosopher Ballanche, who became one of her admirers and (it may almost be said) slaves. She left Lyons for Italy, stayed some time in Rome, where Ballanche joined her, and in Naples, where she was very well received by Murat and by Queen Caroline. Murat had just signed (January 11, 1814) a treaty with the court of Vienna, in which he engaged himself to detach his cause from that of Napoleon, and to furnish the allies an army of 30,000 men. Madame Récamiér became rather unwillingly the confidante of the treason of Napoleon's sister and of the anxieties of his brother-in-law. She told him that she did not herself like Napoleon, but that he ought not to abandon him. It was too late; Murat showed her from the window the English fleet entering the Gulf of Naples.

Correspondence.

LORD MILNER AND THE DUTCH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: "Manhattan," in the *Evening Post*, criticising my last letter in the *Nation*, sees, in his British fervor, a great deal more in that letter than was really there. He makes me propose "that Great Britain should lead the way to peace by recalling Lord Milner, Lord Kitchener, and all others who are in any way objectionable to the Boers, and, if necessary, humbly suing for peace." I only said that, if peace was desired, it would be wise to withdraw with honor Lord Milner, who has pledged himself in effect to oppose any settlement but that which would enable him to set his foot on the necks of his enemies, the Dutch—an arrangement to which it appears that the Dutch inexorably demur. In Canada, after the rising of 1837, if the British Government had persisted in keeping Sir Francis Bond Head in power, it would have been long before the trouble would have subsided. Lord Durham, a stranger to the quarrel, was sent out to make peace, which he did with the happiest results, not only to the welfare of the colony, but to the interest and honor of the imperial country.

April 8, 1902.

EQUITY.

A BRITISH ACADEMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your issue of April 10, pages

287-8, there is an article by Prof. Ewald Flügel of Leland Stanford University, entitled "A British Academy," which, in my judgment, requires revision or modification in at least one essential feature. Professor Flügel is in error when he assumes that no one has anticipated his excellent and scholarly researches in regard to academies that have been proposed or contemplated in England, notably during the Queen Anne or Augustan era of our language. The subject is indirectly discussed in Prof. Henry Morley's 'First Sketch of English Literature' as well as in his 'English Writers,' and is incidentally referred to in the second part of Skeat's 'Principles of English Etymology,' chapter viii. What seems stranger than all is the fact that, in Dr. J. A. H. Murray's Romanes lecture, delivered at Oxford, June, 1900, and most admirably reviewed in the columns of the *Nation* of July 12 by your Oxford correspondent, there is a concise, lucid, and comprehensive presentation of the subject from the hand of the foremost living student of the evolution of English speech.

The present writer also devoted two chapters of his 'History of the English Language' (xxvi. and xxvii.) to the elucidation of this distinctive characteristic of our Augustan age. Dr. Flügel is "not the first that ever burst into this silent sea," though not even the most malevolent critic can fail to concede the fidelity and the thoroughness of his investigation. I am sure that I need not recall to his consciousness Matthew Arnold's essay upon the "Literary Influence of Academies."

I am, yours sincerely,

H. E. SHEPHERD.

BALTIMORE, April 12, 1902.

Notes.

G. P. Putnam's Sons' most important recent announcement is of an 'Anthology of Russian Literature,' to be edited in two volumes by Prof. Leo Wiener of Harvard University. It will give extracts, but more often complete productions, from writers exemplifying the whole range of Russian letters to the present time. Other works in preparation are 'A Political History of Slavery,' in two volumes, by William Henry Smith, a journalist of large experience; 'Life at West Point,' by H. Irving Hancock; and 'Spanish Life in Town and Country,' by L. Higgin. Add also 'Labor and Capital: A Discussion of the Relations of Employers and Employed,' by labor leaders and master employers, edited by the Rev. John P. Peters. The English translation of Chateaubriand's *Memoirs* which this firm has just commenced bringing out, will be in six volumes.

D. Appleton & Co.'s April output will include 'Prisoners of Russia,' by Dr. Benjamin Howard; 'Practical Forestry,' by Prof. John Gifford; and 'Those Delightful Americans,' by Mrs. Everard Cotes.

'Mosaics from India,' by Margaret B. Denning; 'Village Work in India,' by Norman Russell; and 'Primitive Semitic Religion of To-day,' by Prof. Dr. Samuel Ives Curtiss of the Chicago Theological Seminary, are in the press of Fleming H. Revell Co.

'Samoa 'Uma: Where Life is Different,' by Llewella Pierce Churchill, with illustra-

tions, is to be published "by advance subscription" by Forest and Stream Publishing Company.

Miss Ellen M. Stone's hard experience is to be narrated by herself in a volume entitled 'Six Months among Macedonian Brigands,' to bear the imprint of McClure, Phillips & Co. It can hardly appear before the autumn.

Doubleday, Page & Co. will shortly publish 'The Building of Character,' by Booker T. Washington.

Tennant & Ward, No. 287 Fourth Avenue, New York, will publish in connection with John Murray a translation of the 'Sacrum Commercium Beati Francisci cum Domina Paupertate,' a thirteenth-century allegory. The rendering, biographical introduction, and appendices of 'The Lady Poverty' are from the hand of Montgomery Carmichael.

Following Yale's Centennial example, the University of Chicago will issue from its own Press a series of Decennial Publications in commemoration of that institution's first ten years of corporate existence. Eight of the ten volumes contemplated will represent original research by representative members of the faculty, beginning with 'The Velocity of Light,' by Prof. Albert A. Michelson.

A fresh crop of Baedeker's guide-books for the current year reaches us from Charles Scribner's Sons—"Southern Germany" in a ninth revised edition; and 'Great Britain' and 'Egypt' each in a fifth, the latter after only four years. They are, with all the increase and change of routes and time-tables and inns, which need periodic overhauling for the tourist, permanent books of reference in their framework. The face of a country remains unaltered save by some Manchester ship-canal or Nile dam, and the maps can never become wholly antiquated and worthless.

Doubleday, Page & Co.'s "Little Masterpieces," edited by Bliss Perry, increase by a half-dozen pocket volumes, prose selections from Bacon, from Swift, from Goldsmith, from Johnson, from Emerson; each with a good portrait frontispiece. The choice is excellent for its range; and where opportunity offers, autobiographical matter is included.

The George Newnes "thin-paper edition" of English classics, of which Messrs. Scribner have the American handling, adds Shakspeare in three volumes and Burns in one. This series is for the side-pocket, and very convenient in its oblong shape, with attractive covers of flexible lambskin. The paper is not up to the perfection of the Oxford University Press's thinnest, but it is not too transparent for clear reading. The engraved title-pages and frontispieces are in the best of taste. In short, these are outputs to be commended.

The same Anglo-American publishers send us 'The International Students' Atlas of Modern Geography,' prepared under the direction of J. G. Bartholomew. After the contents, is exhibited a considerable list of foreign words entering into the composition of geographical names as affixes or prefixes; and this is succeeded by a chronological list of the significant world's explorers. An index closes the volume, in whose maps the British Empire is naturally best looked after. There are three and even four maps of the continents—ographical, geological, political, and for vegetation, and this treatment is some-

times extended to smaller divisions. The maps are clear and well executed.

From the Scribners we have also the seventeenth issue of 'Hazell's Annual,' for 1902 (revised to December 6, 1901). The character of this work is established beyond the need of praise or even description, but we observe that purchasers of the present edition are eligible to compete for ten prizes of from one to ten pounds by submitting lists of criticisms, corrections, and suggestions for future betterment. These must reach the Annual at No. 52 Long Acre, London, W. C., by June 30. We select for mention the chronicle of the Boer war for 1900, filling nearly ten pages, including the negotiations for peace with texts in full, and a list of British casualties to date. Under China, likewise, we have the peace protocol: What to call our outlying possessions has been sometimes disputed. Hazell treats of them as "Dependent Territories," beginning with Alaska. They demand a page and a half. The statement, under Wireless Telegraphy, that the electro-magnetic waves "can pass through rock masses and certain other intervening substances," is not one now subscribed to by Marconi, we believe. Important rubrics are Obituary and Literature; and noticeable is the Medical Summary, occupied chiefly with "the pandemic of plague" under which the world is still laboring. Quite new is the survey of the world's navies.

In honor of the Rev. Edward Everett Hale's eightieth birthday, just elapsed, the Outlook Company has published handsomely, in type so bold that it might be thought designed for children, his 'The Man Without a Country.' Though it has received a fresh certificate of beneficence from President Roosevelt, there are some who look upon it as the primer of Jingoism.

By a curious coincidence, the new (fourth) volume of the Transactions of the Mississippi Historical Society (Oxford, Miss.), contains a brief communication from Dr. Hale on "The Real Philip Nolan," a Southerner shown here in business relations with Gen. Wilkinson, Burr's accomplice and agent of Spain. Accompanying it is the translation of the record of the trial of several of Nolan's accomplices by the Spanish authorities in Texas, in 1801, the year in which Nolan met his death—and merited a statue in the Statuary Hall at Washington, according to Dr. Hale. There are several valuable papers relating to the legal status of slaves in Mississippi before the civil war, the war itself, the struggle over secession, and to reconstruction and the legal status of freedmen, in this volume of the Transactions.

The 'Diary and Correspondence of Count Axel Fersen,' translated and edited by Miss Wormeley, with ample explanatory intercalations, for the Versailles Historical Series (Hardy, Pratt & Co.), serves in many passages for the elucidation of the *vie de coulisse* of diplomacy during the wildest years of the French Revolution. The extreme simplicity of the Count's style intensifies, by its abruptness, such passages as the attempted escape of Louis XVI., the arrest at Varennes, and the financial wreck of the Government (p. 81). The introduction of explanatory matter gives continuity to the originally disjointed narrative.

The fifth volume of the 'Remarks and Collections of Thomas Hearne (Dec. 1, 1714