

Saxe, who, by his victories, had obtained great credit at the Court of Versailles. His letters are more amusing than are mere diplomatic documents. For instance, he is describing the French Court to the mother of the young Princess:

"To succeed here," says he, "there must be no superciliousness nor familiarity. The women of the Court all have *esprit* like devils and are correspondingly wicked. They will never be wanting in respect to her [the future Dauphiness], but they will try to involve her in the quarrels which they have perpetually among themselves, and this is far from laughable or amusing. The King does the same. If anything displeases her, let her address herself directly to the King. He is the only person in the Court with whom she must have no reserve. She must look upon him as her asylum, her father, and tell him everything, good or bad, as it comes, without any disguise. With all the rest, I recommend reserve. If she practises that, he will adore her."

The Queen, he continues, "is a good princess, who often has her little whims, but who has never known what to do to get them humored." As for the Dauphin,

"he has much *esprit*, more than he seems to have. The King likes him much more for his docility, I believe, than for any other reason. I noticed that last year people made an estrangement between father and son [this was on account of Madame de Pompadour, the friend of Maurice de Saxe; he does not name her in his letter, but the Queen of Poland probably understood the allusion]. The King did not cease to make advances to the Dauphin till he won him back to him. They now get on well together and it is necessary, for the good of the state and the good of everything, that the Princess should always keep this point in view, and that she should work incessantly to preserve the union between father and son. She will thus obtain the confidence of both and the respect of all."

The Dauphin was attached to the memory of his first wife. He had made a sacrifice to reasons of state in remarrying. M. Strylenski pretends that he was not always faithful to his second wife, and that she had on various occasions a right to complain of him. On this point we find him opposed to the tradition which represents the son of Louis XV. as a prince of almost austere virtue. The intimacy became, however, complete after a great malady of the Dauphin's, during which his wife took the greatest care of him. The Dauphiness had her first son in 1751, and then four others in rapid succession. The names given to these children were the following: Dukes of Burgundy, of Aquitaine, of Berry, Counts of Provence and of Artois. The Duc de Berry became Louis XVI., the Comte de Provence Louis XVIII., the Comte d'Artois Charles X. Then came two princesses, the second of whom was the unfortunate Madame Elisabeth. Marie-Josèphe was entirely engrossed in her maternal cares, and took no part in politics. Her position had been from the beginning very difficult between her husband, the King, the King's sisters, and the favorite, Madame de Pompadour. She always maintained a great attachment for her own country, and took much interest in the incidents of the Seven Years' War. She hoped for a moment that Saxony would receive an increase of territory, but her hopes were disappointed. The humiliations of Saxony during the Seven Years' War were a great blow to her pride and her affections, as they deeply af-

fecting her father and her mother, whom she had never seen since she came to France, and who both died without having the consolation of saying good-bye to her.

She had other troubles and losses very close to her. The eldest of her daughters died very young, as well as her second son, the Duc d'Aquitaine. She lost the Duc de Bourgogne later, when the child was already ten years old. This child seems to have resembled in many respects the pupil of Fénelon who bore also the name of the Duc de Bourgogne; he was naturally very violent and irascible, but gradually became mild and amenable. He was extremely pious, but even when he received religious lessons of humility, he did not forget who he was. When the story of Esau was told him, he was already ill and in bed; he protested that he would never sell his birth-right for a mess of pottage, not even for a return to health. The Dauphin himself fell ill during some military manœuvres at Compiègne, and became consumptive. He had grown very much attached to his wife, for their common sorrows had brought them nearer to each other. They lived together with great simplicity. He called her Pepa; when he felt himself dying, he insisted upon her staying near him, contrary to the rules of royal etiquette.

After his untimely death, Marie-Josèphe wrote to a bishop who was her friend: "I don't know any more what it is to be happy. I come and go, I speak, I even laugh at times, but sorrow never goes out of my heart; all that might give pleasure gives me pain, for it reminds me of my misfortune. All the pleasure I have is to weep over what I have lost, and to speak of him with those who really loved him." She now occupied herself exclusively with the education of her children. When the Duc de Berry was of marriageable age, she was not consulted in the choice of a wife. The King announced to her that, for political reasons, he was inclined to choose an Austrian princess. She merely said that the late Dauphin had other views for his son; she added that the best way to keep the Court of Vienna in a proper state of feeling was to keep it between fear and hope. After some time, however, the marriage with Marie Antoinette was decided on; this marriage was the work of the Duc de Choiseul.

Marie-Josèphe fell ill, and for some time was treated by the famous Genevese doctor, Tronchin. It was of no avail; she died, on the 13th of March, 1767, and was buried next to her husband. Her life had not been a very happy one; what would her thoughts have been if she had been able to prophesy the dramatic, we may say the tragic, destiny of her three sons, who were all fated to wear the French crown? Victor Hugo, in his "Voix Intérieures," speaks of the early days of these three princes, and of Marie-Josèphe, their mother. Alluding to the future, he says:

"Dieu! comme avec terreur leur mère épouvantée
Les eût contre son cœur pressés, pâle et sans
voix,
Si quelque vision, troublant ces jours de fêtes,
Eût jeté tout à coup sur ces fragiles têtes
Ce cri terrible: 'Enfants, vous serez rois tout
trois!'

De vous trois enfans, sur qui pèse
L'antique mesure française,
Le premier sera Louis Seize,
Le dernier sera Charles X."

And, after an allusion to the scaffold on

which fell the head of Louis XVI., speaking of Louis XVIII. and Charles X., he adds:

"Le règne de Louis, roi de quelques bannis,
Commence dans l'exil, celui de Charles y tombe.
L'un n'aura pas de sacre, et l'autre pas de
tombe;
A l'un Reims doit manquer, à l'autre Saint-Denis."

Correspondence.

SIR C. FURNESS'S SHIP-BUILDING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In the *Nation* for December 26, 1901 (p. 484), the statement is made that Sir Christopher Furness "left in American shipyards orders aggregating four million dollars for twelve steamers of an average carrying capacity of eight thousand tons"; and the comment is made that this is an "untimely confirmation of the well-known fact that this is the best place in the world to buy ships."

May I ask whether it is certain that any such order was placed in the United States? My own impression, on reading the item in the daily press, was just the opposite of what you report. I have since been informed, on the authority of *Fairplay*:

"It is reported that Sir Christopher Furness, while in the United States last month, arranged for the building of six oil-tank steamers of about eight thousand tons dead weight each. It is believed that the vessels will be constructed on the North-east Coast."

In this paragraph the reference is, I believe, to the northeast of England, Sir Christopher having a large shipyard at West Hartlepool.

The matter is one of such considerable interest that I should like to be more certain of just what occurred. If it was a sale instead of a purchase, it surely ought not to be used to support the claim that ships can be built more cheaply in the United States than in England.—Yours respectfully,
HENRY RAND HATFIELD.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, February 8, 1902.

[It would appear that we had misread; but we cannot at this moment verify our source.—ED. NATION.]

NEW YORK ANTICIPATED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In this week's publication you say: "An admirable feature of our revised charter is the provision which allows the head of any administrative department to occupy a seat in the Board of Aldermen and authorizes him to participate in its discussions." You close the editorial by saying that, so far as you can recall, this is the first time this principle has been applied in this country.

I would call your attention to the fact that, under the new city charter of Baltimore, all heads of departments have seats in the First Branch of the City Council, which is the popular branch, and have the right to participate in discussions. This system, among the many other very excellent provisions of the new city charter, has been in operation here about two years.

Knowing that you wish to be fair in all matters, except as to Southern ques-

tions, I take the trouble to give you this information.—Very respectfully,

CONWAY W. SAMS.

BALTIMORE, February 13, 1902.

[And we take the trouble to thank our correspondent for jogging our memory, though the matter is municipal, and not Southern.—ED. NATION.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Referring to the editorial note in your issue of the 13th instant, relative to heads of administrative departments occupying seats in legislative bodies, I beg to call your attention to the fact that the city of Cleveland has had this provision in its charter since the present Federal Plan Law went into effect, some nine or ten years ago.

I believe there has never been any question as to the desirability of this feature of the law. Under this provision the Mayor and his Cabinet, who are the heads of the administrative departments, occupy seats in the City Council without vote.

Respectfully, JOE C. BEARDSLEY.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CLEVELAND, O.,
February 13, 1902.

CONTEMPORARY GERMAN LITERATURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Those who would like to know more about recent developments in German literature will be glad of the letters which Prof. Charles Harris is sending to the *Nation* from Berlin. Considering our large German population, it is surprising how little is known in this country about German authors of the present day. Paul Heyse, Rosegger, and Spielhagen belong properly to a past generation. Of those who have become distinguished within the past ten or fifteen years it may be doubted whether any names except Hauptmann's and Sudermann's are at all known in this country. Not long ago Mr. Julian Hawthorne had occasion to review the translation of a novel by the well-known German writer, Richard Voss (I think it was called 'Sigurd Eckdahl's Bride'). Evidently he had never heard of Richard Voss, for he took for granted that the story was written by some Scandinavian.

For some reason our literary journals seldom refer to contemporary German literature. In 1900 occurred the death of a German novelist of some note, Ernst Eckstein, but I did not see any reference to it in the *New York Bookman* or the *Chicago Dial*, both of which I was then taking. On the other hand, *Das Litterarische Echo*, a magazine of the same class published semi-monthly in Berlin, has regular letters from both London and New York, from which we may infer that every new American writer of promise is brought to the notice of the German literary public.

Those who would like to see recent German novelists treated from the view-point of Christian morality would do well to procure a fifty-page pamphlet by Ulrich von Hassell entitled 'Streiflichter auf die Unterhaltungs-Litteratur der letzten 20 Jahre.' He divides recent German novelists into three classes: first, 'Die Jüngst-deutschen' and 'Modernen,' who follow Zola, and, in the frantic desire to be re-

of purity or propriety; second, the distinctly Christian writers, like Emil von Grotthuss and Peter Rosegger. But between the two he puts those whom he calls "independent" and "neutral." Among these an honorable place is given to the subject of Professor Harris's last letter, Georg Freiherr von Ompteda.

HERBERT MORISON CLARKE.

ELDRED, PA., February 13, 1902.

Notes.

Mr. Worthington Chauncey Ford is about to print, in a limited edition for subscribers, the journals of the sessions of the General Court of Massachusetts for May, July, and August, 1715—the year which marked the beginning of a series of printed reports nowhere extant in their entirety. He will follow a copy belonging to Judge Samuel Sewall, the diarist, and will supplement it (in default of any printed original of the November journal—there was none—and of the manuscript, which has been destroyed) with the Minutes of the Governor and Council for that session. These are quite inedited. The volume will, to judge from the prospectus, be elegant and stately, and will be bound in paper boards with cloth back. Mr. Ford's address is No. 11 Prescott Place, Lynn, Mass.

A manuscript work of Martin Luther has been recently discovered in the library of a deceased Russian prince, noted as a scholar and bibliographer, and is now in the possession of his daughter, who prefers to sell it directly to some public or private library, in which it would be permanently preserved. The contents consist of miscellaneous theological treatises, written chiefly in Latin (although a few of the final pages are in German), and not printed in any edition of Luther's writings. The volume has, therefore, not merely an autographic, but also a real literary value. It contains 552 pages of rather heavy paper bound in vellum. On the fly-leaf are the words, "D. Martini Lutheri Autographa Manuscripta Theologia Miscellanea," with the date 2. Aug. Año 1547, and the name Wolfgangus. This would seem to imply that after Luther's death on February 18, 1546, the manuscript became the property of Luther's most enthusiastic friend and supporter, Wolfgang, Prince of Anhalt, who, on account of his zeal in promoting the Reformation, was put under ban and temporarily deprived of his sovereignty by Charles V. The genuineness of the MS. appears to be undisputed. Here is a rare chance for some one to secure it, say, for the Germanic Museum at Harvard.

The latest Clarendon Press publications include editions of 'The Lay of Hayelok the Dane,' by W. W. Skeat; 'The Complete Works of John Gower,' volume four, by G. C. Macaulay; 'Plays and Poems of Robert Greene,' by J. Churton Collins; and 'Elizabethan Critical Essays (1570-1603),' by G. Gregory Smith. Also, 'The Troubadours of Dante,' by H. J. Chaytor; 'A Summary Catalogue of Bodleian MSS.,' volumes five and six, by F. Madan; 'British Colonies and Protectorates,' by the late Sir Henry Jenkyns; the 'Life and Correspondence of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex,' by R. B. Merriman; 'The Memoirs of Bishop Burnet,' by Miss H. C. Foxcroft; 'A History of the

Peninsular-War,' by C. W. C. Oman; the seventh volume of the late J. E. Thorold Rogers's 'History of Agriculture and Prices'; 'An Antiquarian Companion to English History,' by F. P. Barnard; and an authorized translation of Schimper's 'Geography of Plants,' by Percy Groom and W. R. Fisher.

John Lane will shortly publish a second volume of 'Florilegium Latinum,' celebrated passages, mostly from English poets, translated into Latin by the Rev. J. St. John Thackeray and the Rev. E. D. Stone; and 'India's Love Lyrics,' collected by Lawrence Hope.

Directly to be issued by Macmillan Company is A. R. Colquhoun's 'The Mastery of the Pacific,' profusely illustrated.

The Psychical Research Society's publications are to be made to do duty in establishing the marvels of Revelation in a volume announced by Thomas Whittaker, 'Psychic Research and Gospel Miracles,' from the pens of Thomas G. Allen, M.D., and the Rev. Edward M. Duff.

'The Next Great Awakening,' by Dr. Josiah Strong, which Baker & Taylor Co. have in press, is a prophecy of a new religious revival during the present century. The same firm promises 'Parliamentary Usage for Women's Clubs,' by Mrs. Emma A. Fox.

'Bramble Brae,' the collected poems of Robert Bridges ("Droch"), and 'According to the Season,' talks about the flowers in the order of their appearance in the woods and fields, by Mrs. Frances Theodora Parsons, with drawings by Elsie Louise Shaw, are to be published by Charles Scribner's Sons.

A. Wessels Co. will add to the late Grant Allen's series of "Historical Guides" a volume on 'Umbrian Towns,' by J. W. and A. M. Cruickshank. They are also about to bring out a volume of verse, 'The Nameless Hero,' by James Blythe Anderson.

L. C. Page & Co. have nearly ready 'The Best of Balzac,' edited by Alexander Jes-sup.

There must be a scramble for the limited edition of a work on Italian bookplates, 'Gli Ex Libris Italiani' (Milan: Ulrico Hoepli; New York: Lemcke & Büchner), a handsome quarto, to judge from the prospectus, with the usual illustrations, under the joint editorship of Achille Bertarelli and David Henry Prior.

The 'Lectures and Essays' of the late William Kingston Clifford were first published in 1879, the year of his untimely death at the age of thirty-three, and were reviewed by us at considerable length on their appearance. There has been an intermediate edition preceding the third (in two handy volumes, "Globe 8vo") now issued by Macmillan. The literary remains, therefore, of this most promising man of genius have maintained a vital currency for nearly as long a term as was vouchsafed him in living. "Conditions of Mental Development," "On Theories of the Physical Forces," "Aims of Scientific Thought," "Atoms," "The Unseen Universe," "Body and Mind," "Right and Wrong," "The Ethics of Belief," "The Ethics of Religion," "Cosmic Emotions"—such are some of the themes considered by Clifford, whose appeal would seem to be to a select class of minds that reason freely about mathematical, philosophical, and general scientific conceptions. And so it is as a whole, but at the same time the author's