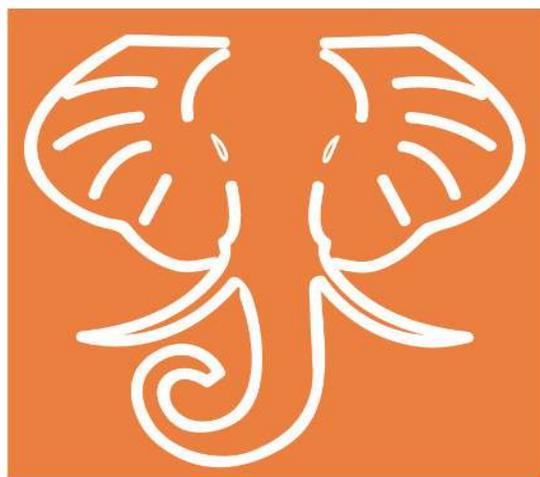


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The Reference Service on International Affairs

DENYS P. MYERS

Acting Director

THE report of the president of the Board of Trustees of the American Library in Paris, dated March 31, 1923, announced that the Trustees intended to enlarge the service then rendered and "to build upon our present foundation a structure that, by reason of its greater usefulness, will enlist a wider and more effective support". The report continued:

"There is a great work to be done and no competent organization exists at present to accomplish it. This work consists of the procuring, classifying, collating, and dissemination of facts relating to the changing political, economic and sociological conditions in the different states of Europe as they affect or interest America and each other, as well as happenings in the New World which bear upon European problems. During the last decade, the word propaganda has deservedly attained disrepute because of the suppression or misrepresentation of facts. People who believe what they read in the public prints have been led to form false opinions and those who perceive the underlying purpose of what they read are at a loss to form any opinion whatever. The urgent need in these days of readjustment is for facts. Without facts, reliably and dispassionately recorded and disseminated, opinions are valueless.

"The place to collect, sift and distribute the enormous amount of data which has accumulated since the Armistice and which continues to pile up in such volume that the publicist, the statesman, the educator, the student, the journalist, can not possibly keep track of it and make use of it, is Paris. The work must be done by an organization, comprising experts in this class of work and competent to deal with it intelligently and accurately. If formed, its first step would have to be the establishment of a library, and modern library methods would necessarily be followed in the obtaining,

classification and distribution of the information secured. Consequently, no better nucleus could be found from which to develop this greatly needed organization than the American Library in Paris, whose chief aim from its inception has always been the improvement of relations between Europe and America, through a better knowledge of each other's history and literature, past and present."

On April 1, 1924, a department of the American Library was inaugurated under the descriptive name of The Reference Service on International Affairs, in order to fulfill this plan of the Board.

The service is intended primarily for Americans at home and abroad. It is planned to have a staff equipped for answering questions from inquirers in person and to afford facilities for independent research by special students. A bulletin will be periodically issued, each number of which will deal with a specific question. Each bulletin will summarize the facts essential to an understanding of the problem dealt with and give adequate bibliographic references to the most authentic material.

The service which is now taking shape aims to accomplish two purposes:

- 1) to give currency to the facts of international relations, as distinguished from opinions concerning them;
- 2) to demonstrate and to apply library reference methods within its field.

A better understanding of the new enterprise will be gained by dealing with these purposes in some detail.

**PRESENT SOURCES OF INFORMATION
IN REGARD TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

The present sources of information upon international affairs are : newspapers, magazine articles and special magazines, books, publications of institutions, and official documents.

The newspaper performs a useful function in reporting happenings from day to day. It is not, and cannot be, part of the editor's business to co-ordinate the facts, nor to separate the facts from the opinions. Indeed, the newspaper reader usually finds himself more enlightened by reading the available opinions rather than by attempting to digest the daily grist of facts.

The magazine article is seldom purely expository. It is more frequently produced by someone with a facility at writing than by one fully qualified to analyze all essentials of the subject. Above all, it must be exceedingly readable to satisfy a public looking to its periodical press for occupation in its leisure hours. Many magazine writers are partisans of the causes with which they deal; others present personal ideas or conclusions. The magazine articles on the Genoa Conference emphasized the personalities of the German and Russian plenipotentiaries more than the substance of the Treaty of Rapallo or the merits of the economic proposals and counter-proposals. The result at the time, and now, is that only specialists can find the real reasons which made that conference a phase of a very complicated international situation.

The special magazine, usually issued by a learned society, is valuable because its articles are written by experts after careful study, and because its editorial features afford guides to much information.

Books are of more permanent value. Those immediately issued on current subjects are likely to deal more with personal experience in the region of historic events or to exhibit a partisan character than to assume a factual and

scientific attitude. Those issued later are valuable as history, but are necessarily post mortems on the events.

Numerous institutions, national and international, have set for themselves the task of following closely specific aspects of modern life. Many of them produce publications of scientific merit and completeness which may be regarded as trustworthy sources. However, not a few such organizations practically produce semi-official material, and frequently provide the only convenient means for the public to secure official documents.

Still, in these days of democracy, there is no dearth of official publication of notes, conference proceedings, statistics, and other information about international affairs. The very mass of this material is a deterrent to its extensive use. The very formal methods of publication too often act as a bar to its proper utilization. The relative smallness of editions and the widely varying conditions of issuance create very real difficulties for the few who seek to procure it. Even the printed matter of the United States Government, which has among its own people a reputation for efficiency, has for years gone to the junkman by the ton because there was no adequate means of placing it in the hands of citizens whom it would benefit. How much more difficult, then, is it for the individual to learn about the publications of foreign Governments which he needs, leaving wholly aside the question of procuring them?

Yet these publications are the most authentic evidence of international action that exist. The facts of international life are the actions of the Governments which make up the present-day world. For the most part such publications, and more particularly those relating to foreign relations, are objective presentations of the different governmental points of view, given in the language of the participants. Whether the results are good or bad in a given case, it is still true that the attitudes assumed by Governments are primary facts in international relations.

It is, therefore, clear that, of the various forms of printed matter dealing with international matters, Government publications are the most authentic and important. The circumstances outlined above have contributed to their relative disuse. It follows that far too often writings, which make public opinion solely because they happen to be the available information upon such subjects, are at variance with the actual decisions. A person like myself who lives among the documents has almost daily occasion to dissipate the illusions of well-informed people who have ideas that weren't true respecting facts that are readily ascertainable, if sought in the right place.

* * *

IMPORTANCE OF THE SERVICE OF
SPECIALISTS IN THE COLLECTION OF
LIBRARY MATERIAL

Everyone who reads these lines will appreciate the purpose of the Board of Trustees in seeking to provide in a separate department a more specific means of winnowing the best wheat from a lush literary crop for the benefit, primarily, of American inquirers.

The Service in its first month has made progress in the collecting and cataloguing of the special material required for its uses. Already some 1500 pieces of printed matter have been classified. These include a full set of the communiqués and other publications of the Reparation Commission, several hundred British Government publications, various publications of other Governments, the publications of the League of Nations, series such as those of the International Chamber of Commerce, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, International Conciliation, World Peace Foundation, etc., etc. The files are being completed as rapidly as possible, and it is hoped that without delay they will be adaptable for the practical purposes of the Service.

However, another element must be introduced in order to round out the plan, for without it the Reference Service might reasonably lie open to the charge that it was a new form of propaganda. And it is precisely propaganda from which people wish to get away. While it is undoubtedly true that official publications are the most authentic sources of information upon international affairs, it is also true that they are too frequently *ex parte* evidence. Communiqués are an official form of special pleading and it is not unnatural that a Government should publish documents with a view to proving rather than to disproving its contention. In all forms of information it is not so much the unreliability of isolated facts as their relation with each other that baffles the inquirer at the time when he wishes to reach his own conclusions. In order to arrive at the ascertainable truth it is desirable to have standards of judgment.

These are provided by the experience of the human race as evidenced in the principles of political science and economics and in the technique of international relations. For instance, whatever the individual may think of the Treaty of Versailles, the principles of both international and constitutional law establish it as law for the nations ratifying it. Until any of them denounces it officially, discussion of its binding character is a waste of time. Application of technical practices for the estimation of material is equally essential. An international treaty goes into force upon the deposit of a *procès-verbal* of ratification. In the case of the Treaty of Lausanne of July 24, 1923, it is stipulated that the *procès-verbal* shall include the ratifications of three of the four inviting powers. As only two of them have ratified at the present writing, it is obvious that that treaty is not in force. The technician does not make the mistake of assuming that the document is law just because it is ten months old.

To sum up the first purpose of the Reference Service on International Affairs, it will collect

and prepare for distribution the most authentic facts available upon international affairs. Official material will be the most ardently sought, but every possible source will be explored and given its due consideration. A purely scientific attitude will be maintained and the staff will work with a maximum of light and a minimum of heat. Its sole object will be to present to its clientele the essential information upon a given subject, leaving to the inquirer or to the reader an unbiassed opportunity to reach his own conclusions and to form his own opinions.

* * *

IMPORTANCE OF THE SERVICE OF
SPECIALISTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT
OF LIBRARY REFERENCE SERVICE

The second purpose of the Service is to demonstrate and apply the best library reference methods. Books are not only the occupants of shelves, they are also compendiums of information. The hopeless feeling that the inquirer used to have in surveying the bindings, led to his being assisted by the reference librarian. This specialist is extraordinarily useful and ingenious in unearthing for the inquirer everything from the names of the ships of Columbus on the second voyage to America and the number of troops at the Battle of Brandywine to the latest turn of the reparation tangle. Beyond the field of the specific question, lies the demand of the client to get an adequate picture of public events or conditions. Here the reference librarian should supplement the showings of the cataloguer, at the same time that he directs the

selection of material to be collected by the purchasing department.

The Reference Service will aim, within a limited library field, to perform the desirable functions of high selectivity and close definition. Maintaining a specialized staff in a center like Paris, it is hoped that the personnel can not only secure the material essential for the Service, but can evaluate it so that both inquirers in Paris and bulletin readers in America may be aided in acquiring an understanding of events. The historian of the past has long made a sharp distinction between primary and secondary sources. The hectic present is not wanting in primary sources, and it is part of the democratic function of a library to bring them into wider use.

From the library point of view the Reference Service is a specialized reference department not only serving its clientele in answering specific questions, but, by the constant collecting, sifting and evaluation of material, directing attention to the best and soundest publications upon the subjects on which its resources will permit it to issue bulletins. It is the ambition of the Service to have as adequate a knowledge of the contents of books as of their titles.

Working with the best available background and perspective the Reference Service intends, by carefully prepared digests, to afford the public an adequate and concrete view of salient features of current international activity. It will direct attention to the publications which give additional details, making use of all forms of printed matter from newspapers to official documents. It will forward no cause and cater to no interest except that of giving out correct information, itself being scrupulously as neutral as the dictionary.

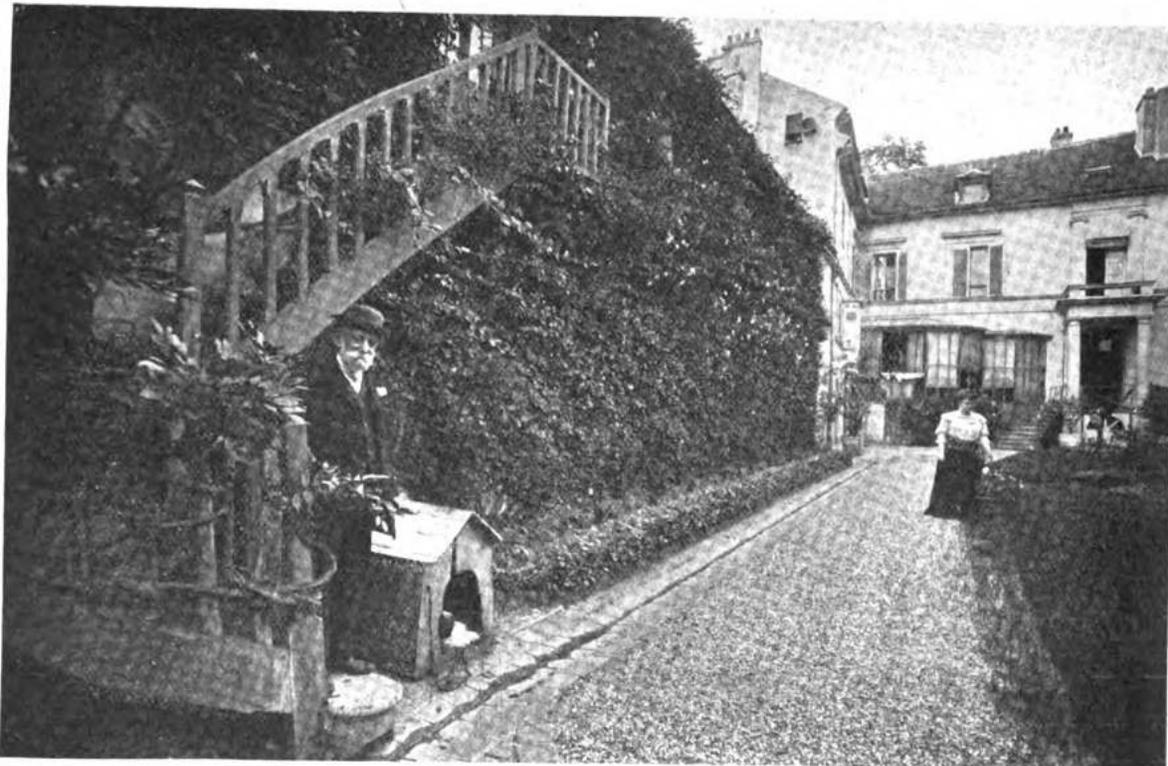


Photo H.C. Ellis, Paris.

HENRY VIGNAUD IN HIS GARDEN AT BAGNEUX, A SUBURB OF PARIS



Photo H.C. Ellis, Paris.

HENRY VIGNAUD IN HIS MONUMENTAL LIBRARY OF AMERICANA AT BAGNEUX

The Historical Work of Henry Vignaud, an American of Louisiana and Paris

(1830 - 1922)

STODDARD DEWEY

THE following notes, condensed and incomplete, are intended to call the attention of students and readers of American history to the very considerable work accomplished by the late Henry Vignaud in the unwearied labor of a long lifetime. It is believed that this work is not sufficiently known and not duly appreciated. By its purchase of his vast library of Americana, the collection of which was also a lifelong work, the University of Michigan has become the sponsor for the United States of this true American who was a very great American historian.

HENRY VIGNAUD was born in New Orleans in the year 1830 (27 Nov.). He was of the fourth generation in America of his father's family, which was originally of Provence in France. His mother's family was represented as early as 1717 in the Louisiana expedition of Bienville. He was thus the heir of the life of Louisiana as a French Colony and as a State of the American Union. From its traditional education he received an equal and accurate literary knowledge of both the French and English languages as well as that working knowledge of Latin, Spanish, and later of Italian which is necessary to the student of early American history.

From 1852 to 1856, Henry Vignaud was a teacher of French in the schools of New Orleans and from that time until the Civil War in 1861 he edited and published various periodicals in the city and state, with the aim of keeping up the use of the French language in the community. He had already written two plays which were produced by the French Theatre in New Orleans—"Jane Grey" in 1851 and "La Vieillesse des Mousquetaires" in 1853. Like those of his kind, he took sides with his state in the Secession of 1861 and was made a Captain in the Louisiana infantry. Before the year was out (April 1862) he was taken prisoner but managed to escape to France

in an English sailing vessel. In 1863 he was attached to the press service of the Confederate States commission in Paris.

With his devouring literary activity, Henry Vignaud at once began over again his career as a journalist,—political articles, theatrical criticism, Paris correspondence with journals of London and New Orleans, and even excursions into the philosophy of the time. He belonged to the circle of Renouvier who later exercised a decisive influence over William James. The fact is worth noting for his own relentless application of logic to parts of history which had been left largely to legend. And this led straight to those complete documentary studies which were to constitute his real lifework.

Like those of his kind, after Louisiana was restored to the Union, he returned home to be civilly "reconstructed". Then he hastened back to his livelihood in Paris. As an American, he helped in the preparation of the Universal Exposition of 1867. In 1869 he was attached to the Roumanian Legation. During the siege of Paris and the Commune in 1871, he was private secretary of the Minister of the United States Washburne, whose part in those stirring events is matter of history. From that time until his death more than fifty years later, he was a part of official America abroad. In

1872, he was attached to the Alabama Claims commission of the United States in Paris and Geneva. In 1873 he was United States Commissioner at the Universal Exposition of Vienna and a little later he was United States Delegate at the 4th International Metric Conference in Paris.

Finally, on the 14th of December 1875, Henry Vignaud was taken into the diplomatic service of the United States, — first as second Secretary of the Paris Legation, then in 1882 as First Secretary, which post he held until the 7th of May 1909, when he retired and was named Honorary Counsellor of the American Embassy. Between 1905 and 1909 he had been several times Chargé d'Affaires. In length of time, in uninterrupted service year after year, this was a unique diplomatic career for an American. President Roosevelt when visiting Paris greeted him : "Mr. Vignaud, you may say : 'I am the Embassy'."

Mr. Vignaud married in Paris. He died 16 September 1922—of an accident, in his ninety-second year. Silently, in his spare time of these years, Henry Vignaud had been working unweariedly at another career. In 1867 he bought at Bagneux near Paris an old and ample house and grounds, known as the *Maison de Justice* and said to have belonged to Cardinal Richelieu. In its spacious halls he began the collection of that very special library with which his historical work was connected. His publications and his library were his chosen lifework and both remain.

Beginning with the year 1900, when he was already seventy years old and ending with his death twenty-two years later, Henry Vignaud published twenty large volumes and substantial pamphlets on the early Discovery of America. Besides these, there was a constant flow of shorter notices addressed to special scholars in the matter or included in the publications of learned societies. In 1895 he had become an active member of the illustrious *Société des Américanistes* of Paris and in 1908 he was made its President, a post which he held until his death.

To the year of his death, he contributed papers on the subjects which he had made his own to the annual volume of the Society's *Journal*. To the volume of 1923, his old associate Henri Cordier, the eminent Orientalist, gave the notice which contains the only bibliography approaching completeness of the writings of Henry Vignaud (*Journal de la Société des Américanistes de Paris*, Nouvelle série, tome XV., 1923, pages 1-17, also printed separately).

It was perhaps an obstacle to the speedy recognition of Henry Vignaud as an authority on Christopher Columbus and the first Discoverers of America that he made his appearance controverting and upsetting traditions which had been accepted without examination from the beginning. At the International Congress of Americanists held in September 1900, he presented a minute study of the "authenticity of Toscanelli's letter of the 25th June 1474 addressed first to the Portuguese Fernam Martins and later to Christopher Columbus". When reprinted two years later, its 31 pages had to be prefaced by 40 pages replying to three such critics as G. Uzielli in Italy, Hermann Wagner in Göttingen, and the geographer L. Gallois in Paris. In that year (1902) he published in English : "Toscanelli and Columbus—the Letter and Chart of Toscanelli on the route to the Indies by way of the West." In 1903 he had to answer Sir Clements R. Markham, Jules Mees of Belgium, and Sophus Ruge of Germany, defenders of the explanation which everybody had always been giving of the first discovery of Columbus. By 1904 the critical Vignaud had to present a Bibliography of the controversy (at the Italian Geographical Congress) and this was reprinted with a kindly introduction and notes from Uzielli, whom patriotism interested equally in Toscanelli and Columbus.

Thus the learned world knew Henry Vignaud, for the first five years after he began publishing the conclusions of his long studies, only as the American of Paris who persisted in denying that Toscanelli ever wrote or could have written

such a letter to Columbus or anybody else. To the old tradition the new one was added that Henry Vignaud was trying at this late day to take the wind out of Columbus's sails. And this new tradition was strengthened when, in his other publications, Vignaud had to treat of the attempts made to obtain the canonisation of Columbus and of the uncertain relations of Columbus with the mother of his latest son Fernando.

Rome has not proceeded with the canonisation, but the past year's novels having Columbus as a hero show no acquaintance with the historical criticism of Henry Vignaud. He died impenitent for having written what he considered the truth, having given his reasons and explained what he thought was the sure greatness of Columbus. When told that religious suspicion might be excited by his frank statement of facts in the life of the Discoverer, he answered simply,—“But I too am a believer.”

On several occasions, the present writer learned how complete an examination of the facts in the case had been made by Henry Vignaud before engaging in these controversies which, after all, form but a small part of his historical work. To the observation that the Latinity of the supposed letter of Toscanelli was not what might be expected of that scholar of the Renaissance and friend of Laurentius Valla, he answered :

“I have had this looked up in Italy but we could find nothing conclusive. You see Toscanelli never wrote elsewhere on a subject of this kind and this might affect his use of Latin.” A list of varying kinds of marital union known in Spain and satisfying the conditions of valid religious marriage but, like the morganatic marriages of Germany, not recognised for the civil and social effects by local laws, was found to have been noted in each case by Henry Vignaud and not to be verified in the case of Columbus who himself never pleaded them. The possibility of a peremptory proof he acknowledged in the

improbable discovery of Fernando Colon's baptismal and ordination register with its mention of “irregularity” for illegitimate birth, if such were the case.

While these notes were being prepared (April 1924), M. Charles de la Roncière has announced to the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres his identification in the collections of the Bibliothèque Nationale of a map which, he argues, must have been drawn before the first voyage of discovery of Columbus. If not from the Discoverer himself, it has been worked at by fellow-navigators and his brother Bartholomew. This map presents plainly the island “Antilia”. It is an instance of the tragedy of a fact slaying the hypothesis implied in opposing Vignaud's “legend of a pilot” to his “Toscanelli's letter a legend”. Posterity will judge—if posterity will subject the facts to Henry Vignaud's scrutiny instead of bolstering up traditions that were made for the facts.

Another reason why the work of Henry Vignaud has remained comparatively unknown to English and American readers of history is its publication in the French language. Besides “Toscanelli”, only a little volume on the various dates assigned to the Birth of Christopher Columbus and a few occasional pamphlets were published by him in English. Those who are at all familiar with the publication of books of minute erudition know that English editions are impossible without the subsidies of some institution or Maecenas. In his later years a few public-minded Americans subscribed together an annual income sufficient to enable Henry Vignaud to continue the preparation of his books. The thick French volumes which form an almost complete repertory of the documents and literature of the Discovery of America and the lives of the discoverers had editions of 550 copies. For America alone, this would not be one copy for each library where scientific studies of American history might be expected—and the majority of the copies did not reach America.

The contents of the more bulky volumes and their uniform method of exposition will show the nature and importance of Henry Vignaud's historical work.

1. "Critical Studies of the life of Columbus before his discoveries" (*Etudes critiques sur la vie de Colomb avant ses découvertes*, Paris, 1905, 560 pages 8vo):—"Origin of the Family; the two Colombos, pretended relations; True Date of Birth; Studies and First Campaigns of Columbus; Arrival in Portugal and Naval Combat of 1476; Voyage to the North; Establishment in Portugal; Marriage; Portuguese family."

2. "Studies of the life of Columbus" (*Etudes sur la vie de Colomb*, 2^e série, Vol. I—834 pages, Vol. II—723 pages, Paris, 1911). The 1st volume comprises the years 1476 to 1490; the second, 1491 to 1493:—"History of the great undertaking of Christopher Columbus; How he conceived and formed his project; Presentation at different Courts; Final acceptance; Execution; its real Character."

4. "Americus Vesputius, 1451-1512" (*Americ Vespuce, 1451-1512*, 430 octavo pages, Paris, 1917):—"Bibliography; Life and Voyages; Giving of Vesputius' Christian name to the New World; his Authentic and Disputed Writings."

In all his books Henry Vignaud followed the same documentary method. First, he numbered and analyzed all known original sources of information and the use made of them by succeeding historians. Second, he related and analyzed in order each event that has been narrated, with particular references reproducing the original testimonies and the various controversies existing on each fact among contemporary witnesses or, as is more commonly the case, among later historians. By way of appendix, he reproduced the texts and translations of important documents, lists of persons, and other details of the facts. And he was too conscientious an historian not to provide an index—"alphabetic, of matters and of works and documents cited".

The minuteness of these analyses of facts and opinions and of the evidence in the case, while it added to Henry Vignaud's reputation for controversy, makes his work a necessity to those who undertake the presentment of ascertained history. Thus the coincidence of names in a family of Jewish Colombos who had been forced to leave Spain for Italy with the names of the Italian family of Columbus himself was made the basis of a claim that the Discoverer was really a Spaniard and a Jew. Something of the kind was also done for his origin in Corsica. A simple reference to the hundred pages given to the Family of Christopher Columbus and the mass of authentic original documents in the case presented by Vignaud in his volume of "Critical Studies of the life of Columbus before his discoveries" (pages 32 to 131, summed up in a genealogical leaf of "Ancestors and Descendants of Christopher Columbus, 1400 to 1900", comprising 56 legally verified names) should have been enough to block the way to such theories spreading into new legends.

It would be a curious task for a student of history to revise and complete the classic English life of Columbus by Washington Irving with the guidance and aid of Henry Vignaud's repertory and analysis. It may be said that it would be easier to write an entirely new life—but the literary ability and historical competence have not yet been found united in the same person. The work of Henry Harrisse, also an American of Paris and of the same age as Vignaud but publishing earlier and in English, is better though not sufficiently known. He was rather a first reader of the contemporary documents, which modern research in every scrap of paper from the past has analyzed, and his work became known in references of the history of American Discovery edited by the painstaking investigator Justin Winsor. The late Professor Bourne of Yale made considerable use of the early volumes of Henry Vignaud—but the life of Columbus and the history of the early discovery

in the light of the documents which Henry Vignaud so completely classified, analyzed, discussed and indexed have not been written.

In a volume on "the William L. Clements Library of Americana at the University of Michigan" (1923) there is the following notice of the second lifework of Henry Vignaud and its fate: "The Board of Regents of the University in December, 1922, purchased the celebrated library of the late Henry Vignaud of Paris. The strongest section of it relates to the Discovery Period of American History. This purchase was effected through the well-known firm of Edouard Champion of Paris, in fulfilment of Mr. Vignaud's wish that his library should be placed in some American university where it would serve to advance the cause of American historical studies.

"Mr. Vignaud made no catalogue of his library, which numbered roughly about seventeen thousand volumes, over twenty-five thousand pamphlets, and nearly three thousand maps. - - - In general it may be said that the part devoted to American History is about two thirds of the library. There are perhaps about a thousand volumes which may properly be described as source material. The rest is a mass of critical studies of later date, ranging from very ordinary books to very uncommon books and brochures on obscure phases of the period of discovery and exploration of the American continent.

"Mr. Vignaud's interest (as shown in his writings and in his library) appears to have been most keenly directed toward the history of geographical discovery. In writing his various books on Columbus and the discovery period

he gathered a mass of minor writings—and many of great moment. His books caused a host of writers to send him their publications. His library, then, gives exactly that critical apparatus which is essential to scholarly study of the sources both printed and manuscript. Moreover, he gathered assiduously the classical and medieval authorities in geography and cosmography, many early atlases, and the records of voyages before and after Columbus. His books are chiefly in Latin, French, Italian, and Spanish. They form, therefore, a most welcome and in many respects a very unusual addition to the resources in the early period of American History."

In unpublished manuscripts contained in his library, Henry Vignaud left completed parts of two works of great erudition: "Precursors of Bartholomew Diaz and Christopher Columbus"—critical studies in chronological order of all voyages in the Atlantic, legendary or veritable, which preceded and prepared the discovery of the route of the Indies in 1487 and that of the New World in 1492; and "Critical catalogue of Ancient Maps of the World—globes and maps showing the progress of geographical knowledge from the most distant times down to Mercator and particularly the series of discoveries in the Atlantic to the Southern extremity of Africa and to the Eastern coasts of America."

At the moment of his death he was planning the translation into English of his latest volume "for the great public which has not access to my special works on Columbus":

"The True Christopher Columbus and the Legend."

"Sarah Bernhardt As I Knew Her: the Memoirs of Mme. Pierre Berton as told to Basil Woon" has been republished with the title "The Real Sarah Bernhardt" by Boni & Liveright, New York. The book is reported to be receiving wide attention in the United States.

Charles Hanson Towne considers Edna Ferber "potentially, the biggest novelist in America". In "So Big" (Doubleday, Page & Co.), her latest novel, she has reached heights of description, he says, that even Willa Cather has scarcely touched.

An American Tribute to Anatole France at a Dinner in Honor of his 80th Birthday

HORATIO S. KRANS, PH. D.

Assistant Director, American University Union

I am glad of the opportunity which this dinner presents to add to the tributes offered by the representatives of several nations to our guest of honor, Monsieur Anatole France, the tribute of his friends in the United States who admire in him the most eminent man of letters of his time and the man to whose genius they owe an incalculable debt. What the nature of this debt is I shall try to suggest in a few words, and, also, to assure Monsieur France of our profound gratitude to him for all the delightful hours, the satisfactions, and the consolations that his unceasing toil and his finished art have brought us. This I cannot do better than by speaking of certain impressions that the long series of his books have made upon me, since in speaking of them I may perhaps venture to regard myself as the mouth-piece of a host of my compatriots.

It is to the *Vie Littéraire* that I owe my first acquaintance with the works of Monsieur France. I can see now, as if it were yesterday, the four yellow volumes that I found at the bookseller's and took home with me. From that moment I contracted the habit of reading everything—or almost everything—that Monsieur France wrote.

When I read for the first time the *Vie Littéraire* my admiration took the form of exclamations of delight. "What a style!" I said to myself. "It is magic, nothing less. What simplicity, what subtlety! What an enchanting voice! What wit! Those little essays that

speak of Flaubert, of Alexandre Dumas Fils, and of Monsieur Renan, of the terrible *Fleurs du Mal*, what delicious critical morsels! Here at last is a literary critic indeed. He brushes at once to one side all that is false, ugly, pretentious, and tedious in an author to dwell upon what there is of beautiful, true, and sincere." I think always with pleasure of the joy with which I read these essays for the first time—and of the delight with which I shall re-read them.

After the *Vie Littéraire*, it was to the short stories and novels that I turned. The reading of them left a thousand souvenirs of which I shall touch only upon a few that seem to me specially significant. First of all my admiration was boundless for the masterly fashion in which Monsieur France resumed in the few pages of a story or in a brief novel—in the *Procurateur de Judée*, in *Thaïs*, in *La Rotisserie de la Reine Pedauque*, in *Les Dieux ont Soif*—the point of view, the sentiment, the psychology of different epochs of the classic or modern past. This faculty of giving imaginative, concrete, concise, and diverting form to the results of long and difficult research seemed to me well nigh miraculous, and the evidence of an incomparable genius in this special field.

I devoured with an insatiable appetite the novels that presented, studied, and analyzed French life of to-day. For me they were a sort of initiation, and, if I can now orient myself a little in France, it is thanks in considerable measure to the imaginary acquaintances that I

made in these novels—to Monsieur Bergeret, to his friends and his enemies, and to many another of the author's creations. Monsieur France's stories have helped me to recognize the great currents of French life and to recognize, and understand in a measure, the different *milieux* in which I have chanced to find myself. This is a service that these works render a foreigner, but perhaps their studies and analyses, so powerful and so penetrating, have given food for reflection to the compatriots of their author as well.

I would gladly pause to speak of the characters of these tales and novels, but dare not, for I should never finish, I shall only say that one is never bored in the society to which Monsieur France presents us, and that many of those we meet there form part of that imaginary circle which is peopled by the creations of the masters of the novel and the drama.

Even before the appearance of *l'Île des Pingouins*, I felt that Monsieur France must be counted the master ironist and the greatest satirist of his century, legitimate successor to Rabelais, Swift, and Voltaire. Incomparable strokes of his irony must remain in the memory of every reader of his books. I think often—and laugh always when I think of it—of the conversation between Monsieur Bergeret and Monsieur Panneton de la Barge, in which Monsieur Bergeret recommends, as a center for the studies of the latter's backward son, that Polynesian dead language of which the green parrot of the German savant remained the sole master. I also think often of the perfect irony of that admirable tale in which Pontius Pilate, just returned to Rome from Jerusalem, speaks of many an experience in Judea, but is ungratefully and totally oblivious of the single incident which has given him an immortal place in the memory of the Christian world.

Those who do not know Monsieur France are apt to regard him as an artist who lives always in his ivory tower. If he dwells in such a tower, he makes frequent sallies from it, where, for

example, the victim of injustice calls him, or when his friends have need of his help. Americans will never forget the courageous role he played in the dangerous days of the *Affaire Dreyfus*, and *Vers les Temps Meilleurs* and the *Universitaire populaire*, of which that book often speaks, is evidence of Monsieur France's readiness to put his art, his fine intelligence, his time and his energy at the disposal of those of his compatriots less favored by fortune than himself.

I spoke of the consolations that Monsieur France brings us. They are many, and among them' the consolations of the intellectual life which his books help us in generous measure to enjoy. A consoling thought, too, comes often to my mind, a reflection explicitly expressed in a memorable passage of the *Jardin d'Epicure* and implicit in many a page of Monsieur France's books—the thought that our planet itself and all it contains, a tiny speck lost in space, is infinitely little, and that, consequently, personal cares and disillusionings are not justified in assuming undue importance in our eyes.

I cannot conclude without a tribute to the great qualities of Monsieur Anatole France, qualities which men are least apt to discount in their estimates of each other, and which are in large measure the inspiration of his books—his tolerance, his passion for truth and for justice (social justice included), his moral courage, his devotion, deep but not blind, to human reason and intelligence, his hatred of all fanaticisms, the perfect good faith and frank sincerity which win, and deserve to win, the confidence of his readers.

Finally, it seems to me that I have said nothing worthy of the occasion. At least let me express to you, Monsieur et Cher Maître, the gratitude of your American friends for all the pleasure and wisdom you have added to their existence. Let me assure you, also, that they offer you their most cordial and sincere wishes for a long, tranquil and happy evening to a long, laborious, and infinitely fruitful life.

A Tribute to the Library Work of the American Committee for Devastated France



The medal voted by the Municipal Council of Paris to the American Committee for the Devastated Regions was presented to the President of the Committee, Mr. A. Murray Dike, at the meeting of the Comité français de la Bibliothèque moderne in the American Library in Paris, March 28. In presenting the medal in behalf of the City, M. Coyecque spoke as follows :

"I have, this evening, the great honor and pleasure to present to you, in the name of the City of Paris, the medal which, at my suggestion, the Municipal Council voted to offer you on July 12, 1923, in recognition of all you have done for the library service of Paris.

"Though only a part of the results of your work is as yet visible, the rest is certain to follow, and no less certain to constitute a lasting monument to your efforts.

"The Belleville Library on the rue Fessart is known not only in France but outside of it, by those interested in library work, and it is greatly appreciated by all its users, whom I gathered together not long ago to tell of the origin and the aims of what they themselves call 'their' library.

"Again, thanks to your Committee, it has been possible to add to the staff of the Central Municipal Library as an assistant, a young French girl trained in America, Mlle Ducaroy, who has even in the

few weeks in which she has been in the service, contributed much to its efficiency.

"Finally, that there might be the fullest evidence of your talent for organization, there are the Library School and the Comité français de la Bibliothèque moderne, sure guarantees of a well trained and well informed library personnel.

"We are already looking forward to other libraries modelled on the plan of that at Belleville. M. Loyau, municipal councillor, has undertaken a similar organization of the library of the Twentieth Arrondissement, and the committee which is studying plans for the library building presented by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace to the town of Fagniers, after a recent visit to Belleville, decided that it would be impossible to improve on a model so perfect.

"I beg you, therefore, Madame, to accept this medal as evidence of the gratitude of Paris,—not only the official Paris, but the Paris of the people, of the users of Belleville, and also of the members of this Committee, who have had the signal honor to come into contact with you and to see and appreciate your generous beneficence.

"In this friendly and hospitable place, which fosters Franco-American union and is likewise an American symbol of the art of a modern library, Paris, Madame, thanks you with all its heart again, and yet again."

The Comtesse de Chambrun and "The Supposed Shakespeare Manuscript"

Editor of *Ex Libris*,

Sir :

A kind friend has forwarded to me a copy of *Ex Libris* for April containing an article by the Comtesse de Chambrun, headed "The Supposed Shakespeare Manuscript", wherein I find some statements so remarkable that perhaps you will allow one who is entirely convinced that the hypothesis with which the lady deals—viz. that the handwriting of the "three-page addition" to the old MS. play of "Sir Thomas More" is identical with that of the six "Shakspere" signatures—is but a fond thing vainly invented, to say a few words in reply.

The Comtesse de Chambrun commences by telling us that in 1844 Alexander Dyce observed that a scene in this old play was "in the same handwriting" as "the Stratford Signatures," of which, by the way, at that date only five were known, the sixth not having been discovered by Dr. Wallace till 1910. But, says Madame la Comtesse, "In those pre-Baconian days such an announcement hardly caused a ripple of curiosity. Shakespeare had written so many 'Comedies, Histories and Tragedies' *over his own signature* (my italics) that it seemed superfluous to dig up one more detached scene merely because it was 'authentic hand-made'."

This is news indeed! One knew that many "Comedies, Histories and Tragedies", and Poems also, had appeared in print, bearing the printed name of "Shakespeare" or, frequently "Shakespeare" (many of which, by the way, have never been accepted as "Shakespearian"), but it is quite new to me that any of these appeared over the autograph signature of either "Shakespeare" or "Shakspere." The fact of course is that there was nothing of the kind. The fact is that all the signatures attributed to William Shakspere of Stratford—greatly differing, the one from the other—are subscribed to legal documents. If, therefore, Dyce expressed the opinion that the handwriting of "a scene" of *Sir Thomas More* was the same as that of the five Shakspere signatures then known, that was obviously an event of the greatest literary importance, demanding the most careful investigation.

Then, says the Comtesse, "The scene bears the marks of rapid *impromptu* writing; the few corrections and crossings out are done *currente calamo*, and the appearance of the MSS. concords exactly with the description given by Shakespeare's fellow actors of the original 'copy' furnished them by the poet. 'His mind and hand went together; and what he thought he uttered with that easiness that we have scarcely received from him a blot upon [the original word is "in"] his papers.'

Now what does that distinguished Shakespearian Scholar, Dr. W. W. Grey, say as to this? I quote from his introduction to the Malone Society's Edition of *Sir Thomas More*, at p. XIII. Speaking of the "astonishing addition by D", which some ascribe to "Shakespeare," he says, "The writer has no respect for, perhaps no knowledge of, the play on which he is working. His characters are unrecognizable. He is indifferent to the personae. He writes 'other' and leaves it to C. (another penman) to assign the speech to whom he pleases. In II. 233 and following he begins by writing a sentence which, in the absence of punctuation, it is almost impossible not to misread, *then alters and interlines it till it becomes impossible to follow his intention*, [my italics] and leaves it to C. to clear up the confusion!"

Precious little evidence here of papers with "scarse a blot" in them! And if the reader will take the trouble to look at the fascimile of the "three-page addition," as published by Sir E. Maunde Thompson, he will find that there were "blots," and alterations, and interlineations galore!

And parenthetically it may be said, with regard to the statement of those "deserving men" Heminge and Condell, in the Folio Preface now recognized by the highest "orthodox" authorities as written by Ben Jonson—that if they really received unblotted MSS. from "Shakespeare", or anybody on his behalf, they were doubtless, as R. L. Stevenson long ago observed, just "fair copies".

Passing on to the "addition" which she at once accepts as undoubtedly written by "Shakespeare"—i.e. William Shakspere of Stratford—Madame la Comtesse informs us that Sir Thomas More's speech begins: "Friends, Masters, Countrymen", which she compares with "the famous opening

of Mark Anthony's oration" in "Julius Caesar".

Now it is not of much importance so far as the argument is concerned, but it shows, I'm afraid, that the lady had not given very attentive consideration to the Manuscript, when we find that those words were *not* spoken by Sir Thomas More, but by the Earl of Surrey, to whom the people refuse to listen! But there are things much more strange than this in the article under consideration. Madame la Comtesse seems to forget that it is only the "three-page addition" which is attributed to Shakespeare by anybody. She wanders over the rest of the MS. as though that also were written by the Stratfordian pen! For instance, she quotes "Lincoln", one of the characters in the play, making use of the "unusual verb 'to jet'." "It is hard that [the word in the original is "when"] Englishmen's patience must thus be jetted on by strangers"; and she compares "Titus Andronicus", "How dangerous it is to jet upon a prince's right". But, in the first place, the overwhelming balance of critical opinion is that "Titus Andronicus" is not Shakespearian at all. I wonder what Mr. J. M. Robertson, who has written a book to establish that fact, would say to such a comparison!

And, secondly, the words in question do not occur in the "Addition", but in the first scene, of the play! [See the Malone Society Edition, edited by Greg. p. 2. "Original Text (S)".] (1)

Then the Comtesse, waxing enthusiastic, speaks of "the crowning piece of corroborative evidence" viz: the proverbial sayings found in the old play, in view of the fact that "there is no trait more distinctive of Shakespeare's style than his constant use—almost an abuse—of the proverbial aphorism or popular saying".

Thereupon, we are triumphantly referred to the exclamation of John Lincoln in the old play, when about to die:—

"This the old proverb now complete doth make
That Lincoln should be hanged for London's
sake."

and, again, "The clown gets off an English version of *C'est le premier pas qui coûte*. "The first stretch is the worst methinks." But as neither of these "proverbial aphorisms" appear in that part of

(1) Similarly of a portion of the play which nobody attributes to Shakespeare, the Comtesse writes; "The difficult episode is treated by the young playwright with consummate art!"

the play which is attributed to Shakespeare, this "crowning piece of corroborative evidence" seems to fall rather flat! (See the Malone Society Edition pp. 21, 22.) And there are other examples of the same kind upon which it is not worth while to dwell.

But here I would make a point which does not seem to have entered into the contemplation of the "orthodox" critics. It is nothing to us unbelievers even if it could be shown (which, however, it *cannot*) that certain passages in the "three-page addition" must have been written by the same pen as wrote, let us say, *Coriolanus*. The question would still remain, who wrote *Coriolanus*? As we do not for a moment admit that William Shakspeare of Stratford was the author of that play, the argument is pointless so far as we are concerned. It leaves matters *in statu quo*. "Our withers are unwrung."

No, the sole question—and let it not be camouflaged by other arguments and considerations—is this:—*Is the handwriting of the "Addition" identical with that of the six signatures ascribed to Shakspeare of Stratford?* That, for us, is the sole issue, and I hope very shortly to publish a book—now in the publisher's hands—to prove that "that hypothesis of theirs," at once embraced, and "cried in the streets" as the truth and nothing but the truth, by some enthusiastic "Stratfordians", after having devoted to it no more consideration than that which I fear I must say the Comtesse de Chambrun appears to have bestowed upon it, is, after all, but "a fond thing vainly invented".

One word more in conclusion. Upwards of four years ago it became my disagreeable duty to criticise, rather severely, certain inaccuracies which appeared in Mme. de Chambrun's book called "Une Autobiographie de Shakespeare" (*The Anglo-French Review*, March, 1920). In that work I found that the Comtesse had coupled me with Donnelly, Durning Lawrence, and others, "qui prétendent que Bacon était l'auteur des poèmes et drames signés Shakespeare," thereby showing that, although she was ready to criticise my books, she had not taken the trouble to read them. Probably she has not done so yet, an omission of which I should, of course, have no right to complain, only let me beg of her, in common fairness, not to animadvert upon them further until she has done so, irksome though the operation may be.

George Greenwood,
Author of "The Shakespeare Problem Restated"

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The primary aim of Ex Libris is to give its readers information in regard to the best American and English books of general interest. The primary aim of the American Library is to make these books available to its members throughout Europe

THE report of the American Library for the last month shows gifts of books amounting to two hundred and twenty. Among these were gifts from Mrs. Beverly MacMonagle, Mrs. Alice Howard, Mrs. T. Henry Dewey, and the Macmillan Co., the last including a complete set of the Blue Guides.

The total number of subscribers registered was 220. This included the following new members: The American Library in Brussels and Madame Sonia Oranie.

The book circulation for the month was 9,526, or twelve per cent more than during the corresponding month last year.

The Department of International Affairs.

The establishment of the Department of International Affairs of the American Library, made possible by the generosity of Professor and Mrs. William Emerson, and by a grant from the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial, and discussed by Mr. Myers in this number of *Ex Libris*, is an important event in the history of the Library, as well as in the history of the relations between Europe and the United States.

In the development of the organization of the Library it means the employment of specialists

in the selection of library material as well as in the service of readers. In the ordinary library it is sufficient to have the most popular and most useful books in different branches of literature and on different subjects; the books which the librarian may become more or less familiar with by means of reviews, or through conversation with his patrons; in a special library like this, on the other hand, it is necessary to have the sources of information on those subjects which are within its province, and to have on its staff specialists having an intimate acquaintance with the content of these sources—a more intimate acquaintance than that which can be secured from title pages and catalogue cards, or even from scholarly book reviews.

Such specialization enables a library to render more expert local service, and at the same time places an obligation upon it to extend its service to other libraries and to students in other communities. It is safe to say that in the publication of a periodical bulletin upon European international affairs of current interest the new department will render a service to students, writers and journalists elsewhere immeasurably more valuable than a service of merely local character could ever be.

Book Reviews

REVOLUTIONARY NEW ENGLAND, 1691-1776, by James Truslow Adams. Atlantic Monthly Press. Boston. 1923. 469 pages.

Ever since Mr. Adams published his first volume, "The Founding of New England," three years ago, the continuation of his work has been eagerly awaited. The second volume amply justifies the reputation which the earlier work created for its author as one of the most original, thoughtful, and stimulating of American historians. Indeed in the present volume there is readily discernible a growth in intellectual power which holds out the most brilliant promise for the future, for fortunately Mr. Adams is still a young man. What we have here is far from being the traditional history, of an anecdotal or annalistic character, of a more or less interesting and important part (depending on one's birthplace) of the American continent; it is really a philosophical essay on the eighteenth century as a period, "the key note of which is not placid dulness, but... expansion and explosion".

For Mr. Adams the eighteenth century is a "period of titanic struggle, of nations for commercial supremacy, and of peoples for power and self-expression"; his task is to trace the origin and the operation of the forces which "fatally and inevitably moved toward and ended in revolution", a revolution which he sees as "a movement wrought by the whole thought and condition of one period of the world's advance", and which should be studied "not from the narrow eighteenth century standpoint of either Englishman or colonial, but from that of a citizen of a newer and wider world who seeks to learn the truth from the past in order that he may live wisely in the present and build enduringly for the future". This point of view is far from that of the filio-pietistic or "patriotic" school of American historians which flourished during the middle years of the nineteenth century and which politically minded school boards are still endeavoring to perpetuate.

It is not surprising to learn that Mr. Adams is already in bad odor with those who insist that history shall be perverted to suit certain political needs or to inculcate a spirit of chauvinistic nationalism. For example he very justly describes the secret societies organized after 1765 for terroristic purposes under the name of "Sons of Liberty", as "composed for the most part of the least educated, least responsible and most unruly elements among the people". Of the so-called "Boston massacre",

he writes, "the mob, led by a half-breed negro, had been the aggressor. Whatever the larger aspects of the case the immediate blame must be laid at the door of these radicals who in newspapers and speeches had been doing their utmost to kindle resentment and ill-feeling... and to bring on just such a clash as occurred."

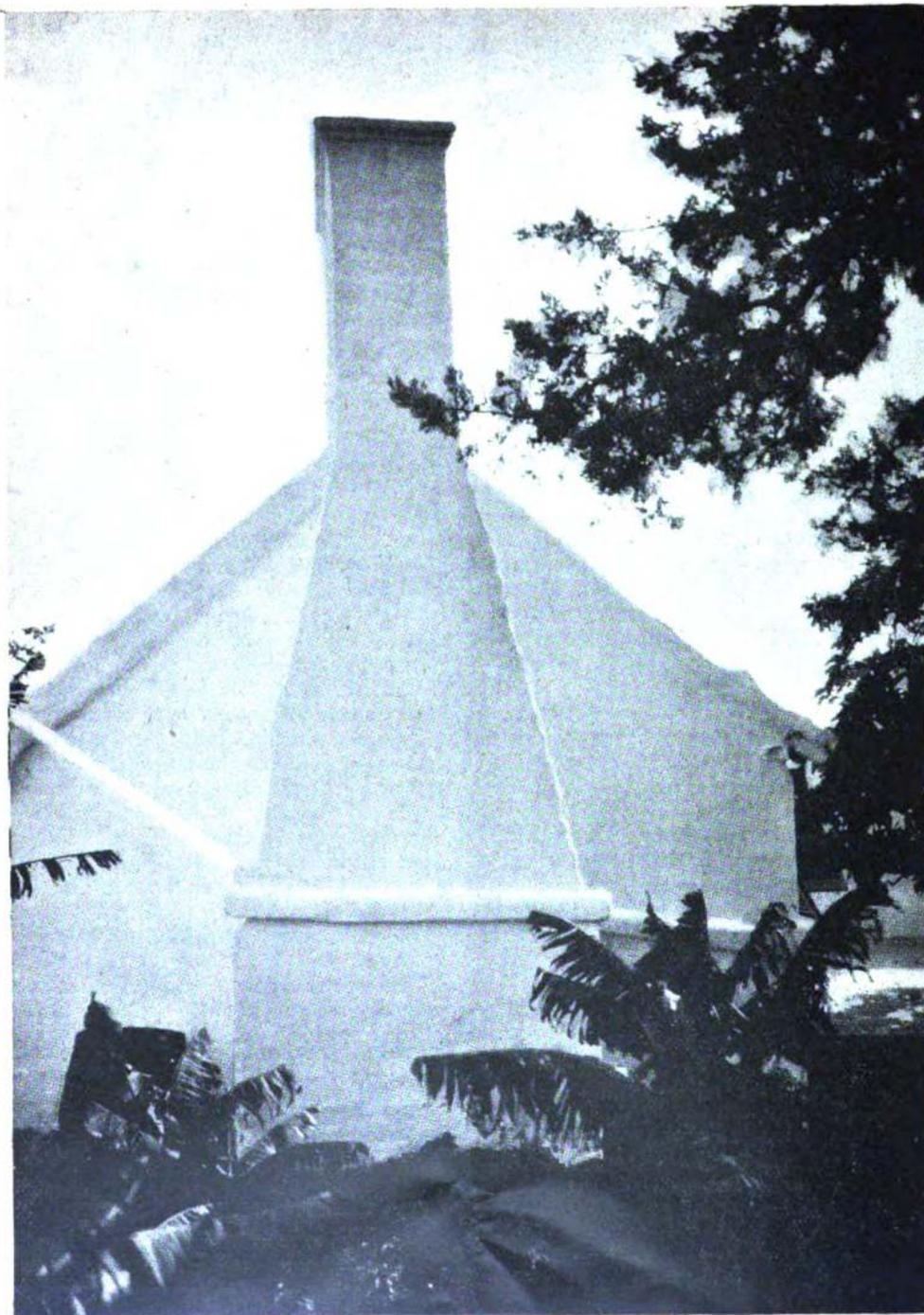
But such judgments as these do not by any means indicate a bias upon Mr. Adams's part against the revolution; rather they are incidental to his effort to regard and to characterize men and measures and events from the detached point of view of the impartial historian. His estimate of the state of mind in America and in England on the eve of the revolution impresses one as being just and well founded. "It is probable", he says, "that the great majority of the colonists... wished their grievances redressed, but by some method that would not involve a break with England... This majority was flanked on either side by smaller parties, one of which wished to precipitate a crisis and risk all for independence, regardless of any English concessions, and the other which feared the social revolution so greatly as to prefer, in the worst of cases, failure to obtain redress rather than the risk of revolution incident to war." At the same time there was in England, as he points out, an almost complete failure to "grasp the fact that under new conditions a new nation was arising in the West, the relations of which to the mother country could not be decided by cheap wit or legal quibbling". "On the whole it must be admitted that... the coercionists were in the majority."

Mr. Adams's work is bound to exercise a large influence on the popular conception of American colonial history. His literary style is animated and vigorous. His books, already widely read, will be read still more widely. It is well that they should be.

Waldo G. Leland

OUR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, A STUDY IN NATIONAL INTEREST AND THE NEW DIPLOMACY, by Paul Scott Mowrer. New York. E. P. Dutton & Company. 1924. 348 pages.

Mr. Mowrer has written an excellent and courageous book in "Our Foreign Affairs". It is not the pleasantest task to tell one's own countrymen that they are sulking and pouting in the face of a crisis of their own, and larger, affairs, when



AN ILLUSTRATION IN "BERMUDAN HOUSES"
Marshall Jones Co. Boston, 1923. (Reviewed pages 374, 376)

a large and very vocal percentage of them assume that both their action and attitude are beyond criticism. Mr. Mowrer has essayed this task. Writing as a result of deep thinking and much study, expressing himself vigorously, but without vitriol in his ink, he relentlessly analyzes the American position in the world of states. His analytic chapters may not be pleasing, but they are salutary reading.

Criticism is not, however, the object of his book, which is a constructive plea for a sound policy in the conduct of our foreign relations, emphasizing especially the need of understanding on the part of people in general, to whom his pages are specifically addressed. Having told the truth about our position in the world, he devotes the bulk of a good book to pointing the way by which the average man can perform his duty as a citizen and acquire for himself the necessary orientation to wield his requisite influence on the sound conduct of American foreign relations.

Mr. Mowrer does not pretend to be a political scientist, but his book is probably the better for that. He is entirely free to assert the truth that there is no essential distinction justifying the definition of one move as political and another as non-political. He is free to say that the justiciable case is one which the parties "choose to consider justiciable". He is free to tell a self-sufficient public that, in applying the ignorance for which his book points the remedy, each people, if it wants peace, "wants it on its own terms". No American can fail to be a better citizen after reading Mr. Mowrer's book, and he will improve both himself and his country, if he follows the author's advice as to further study.

Denys P. Myers

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE, 1823-1923, by David Y. Thomas, Ph. D. New York. The Macmillan Company. 1923. 580 pages.

Professor Thomas has given a very complete review of the Monroe Doctrine's history within these covers. While events of the last 25 years take up well over half of the book, the reader is impressed with the fact that it is during that period when the Monroe doctrine as a policy has been chiefly under discussion. Professor Thomas has written history, not argument. His own opinion on specific events is usually indicated. But, aside from whether one does or does not agree with the author, the purely historical account of action under the doctrine must create varying emotions in the American reader. Some incidents of policy which he relates are pleasing, others distinctly unpleasing. In his final summary Professor Thomas implies that the interpretation

of this national policy has not changed sufficiently with the changing conditions of the world in which it exists. He examines frankly Latin-American attitudes toward the Doctrine and finds, in a dispassionate analysis, that the chief difficulty connected with it at present is due to the comparatively recent insistence that the Doctrine, regardless of its soundness in principle, would lose its character if not interpreted solely by the United States.

Denys P. Myers

FROM AN AMERICAN LEGATION, by Ira Nelson Morris. New York. Alfred A. Knopf. 1923. 287 pages.

It was Mr. Morris's fortune, as he says in the foreword to this book, to spend all the years of the War at Stockholm as the American Minister to Sweden, and few if any other neutral countries afforded a closer view of what was happening during all that troubled period. Mr. Morris took full advantage of his opportunities as an eye witness of current events and has in consequence been able to write an interesting account of his diplomatic life.

Equally interesting are his expressions of opinion in regard to Swedish politics and in regard to such political questions of a general character as "Open diplomacy" and self determination. "It is probable", he says, "that by the close of the War the predominance of sentiment in Sweden had become pro-Ally."

On the subject of "open diplomacy" he says, "I sympathize fully with the democratic demand for open diplomacy, but this demand, it seems to me, can properly have regard only to final commitments of nations to specified courses of conduct, and cannot reasonably require a disclosure of all negotiations leading up to the final action. Such a disclosure would not only serve no good end, but might even on the contrary tend to disturb the good relations of nations, to say nothing of the personal side of the matter. The reader can, however, console himself with the thought that, while some of these disclosures might interest him and satisfy his curiosity, they would not add greatly to his stock of useful knowledge."

On the subject of "self-determination" he says: "Self-determination is a beautiful and perhaps a natural principle, but at the risk of appearing heretical, I venture to say that it can be overdone. I am not so sure that it has not already been greatly overdone. And that it has its limitations appears to be shown by the fact that we rejected it for ourselves, in one respect at least, in the troublous years of 1861-65. A very considerable part of the ills that today afflict most of Europe is due to the severing of economic

legs and arms from the bodies to which they belonged. Social and economic structures that had been built up with decades of effort until they formed an economic unit have, in too many instances, I am afraid, been ignorantly shattered for the gratification of sentiments which are beautiful and commendable in themselves, but which, if they are to be preserved and cultivated will probably eventually cost a good deal more than they are worth either to separate peoples or to the world at large."

THE STRUGGLE FOR POWER IN MOSLEM ASIA, by E. Alexander Powell. New York. The Century Company. 389 pages.

The author's aim, he tells us, is to give the real truth about the Near East, to "tear aside the veil of falsehood, hypocrisy and exaggeration", to denounce, to challenge, to expose the "intrigue, corruption, deceit and bad faith", the "selfish, insincere and dangerous policies" of France and Britain—particularly Britain, and to relate "a narrative of intrigue, trickery, selfishness, deceit, greed and hypocrisy which has few parallels in history". In spite of these sensational and rather pompous intentions, in spite even of his ambition to employ a "shirt-sleeve style", Mr. Powell's book is interesting and even valuable. It is addressed specifically to those people in America who have swallowed, hook, line and sinker, all anti-Moslem propaganda, and are animated by an ill-informed crusading spirit against the Turks. "Consciously or unconsciously", we are told, "both press and pulpit have systematically concealed the facts whenever the publication of the facts might tend to cast discredit on the Christian nations or redound to the credit of the Turks." Having given vent to his feelings in this matter, Mr. Powell settles down to the writing, in a clear, popular style, of what is really a relatively impartial account of developments in Turkey, Armenia, Syria, Palestine, Arabia and Persia since 1918. "An entirely new chapter", he thinks, is beginning "in the history of Asia and in the relations between East and West."

Mustapha Kemal Pasha he compares to George Washington, and the Turkish Nationalist army to the "ragged rebels" of Valley Forge. His account of Arabian politics is particularly illuminating; but the keystone in his system of Near Eastern reconstruction is a Persia regenerated with the aid of American advisers: "A strong, progressive and prosperous Persia, forming a buffer between British India, Soviet Russia and Nationalist Turkey, could do much toward ending the struggle for power which has so long disrupted Moslem Asia and so frequently threatened the peace of the world."

Paul Scott Mowrer

RACE AND NATIONAL SOLIDARITY, by Charles Conant Josey, assistant professor of Psychology, Dartmouth College. New York. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1923. 227 pages.

The two great problems which confront civilization today, the author says, are the relations between classes and the relations of the European group of nations to the rest of the world. He does not share the general feeling that the best cure for the ills of democracy is more democracy nor the feeling of many others that the best guarantee of proper international relations is in the abolition of racial and national differences. He is in fact pessimistic in regard to present social tendencies, but unlike Rathenau and Spengler for example, he is not hopelessly pessimistic. From his point of view, as soon as the danger is discovered it may be met.

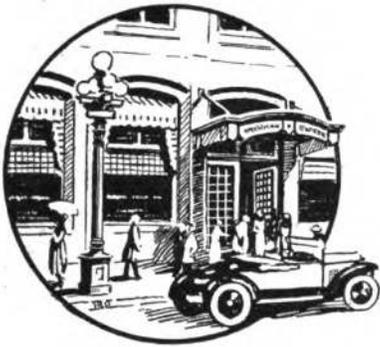
The chapters on "Internationalism and the Maximum Good" and on "Internationalism and our Good" contain especially keen analysis of our current idealism. A homogeneous world, Professor Josey points out, would be a static world, unless indeed, it were a more troubled world still. "Groups are brought together by fear of external foes", he observes. "If the fear of groups without were removed, a great source of social solidarity would be destroyed."

Nor would labor gain by internationalism attained by the abolition of national ideals, he adds, because its position is endangered just as much by the unrestricted exportation of capital as it is by the unrestricted importation of cheap labor.

BERMUDAN HOUSES, by Professor John Sanford Humphreys, associate professor of architecture, Harvard University. Boston. Marshall Jones Co. 1923. 317 pages. Plates.

This beautiful volume on Bermudan Houses treats an almost untouched subject, for even the post-cards sold on these islands are printed on the mainland of North Carolina 570 miles distant, by people who have never seen the marvellous coloring of brilliant blue sky, cream-colored houses, dark cedars, and the intense green and vivid hues of the semi-tropical vegetation. The outer paper covering has a charming sketch by the author which gives the key-note of color for the 181 plates in half-tone depicting the characteristic but rapidly disappearing architecture of early days.

Professor Humphreys was a Beaux Arts student, and when with Carrere & Hastings did important work on the New York Public Library. He writes easily, treating his subject in a masterly manner as he laments the neglect and destruction



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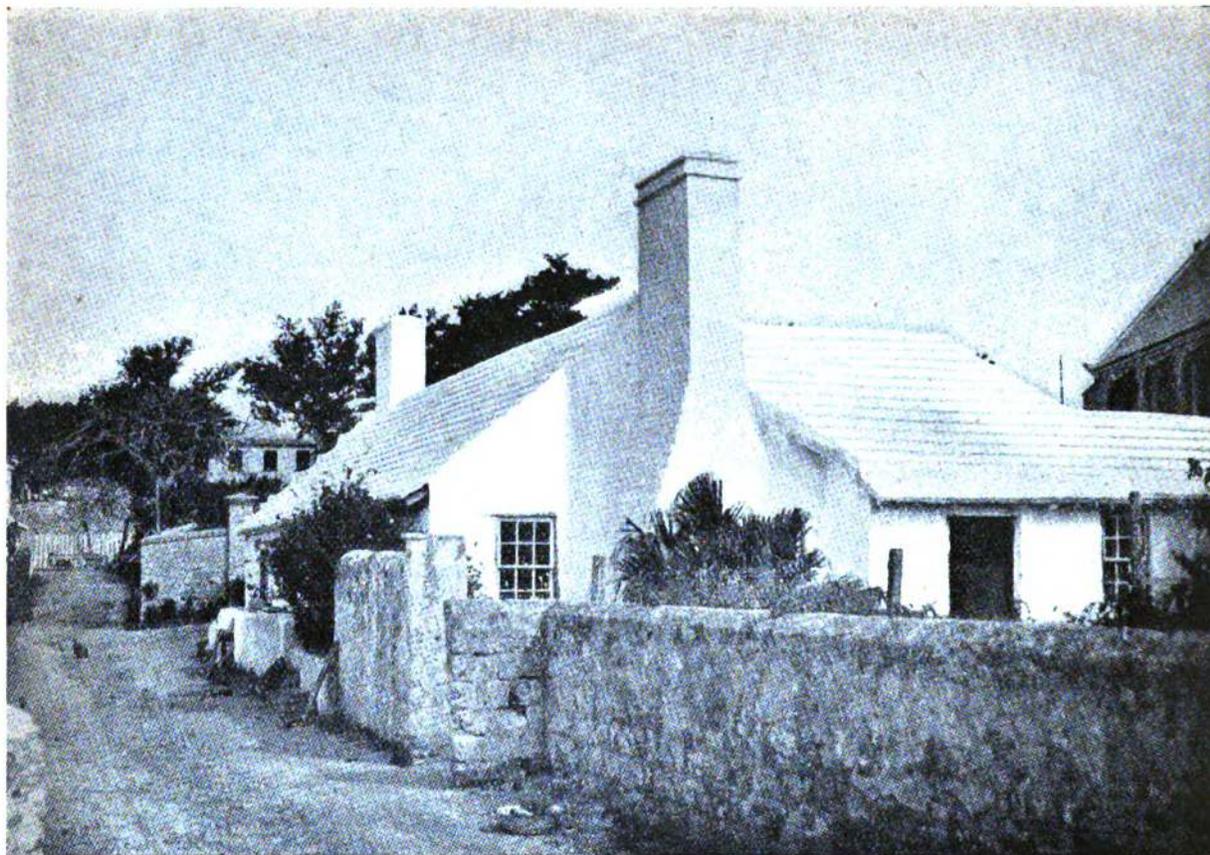
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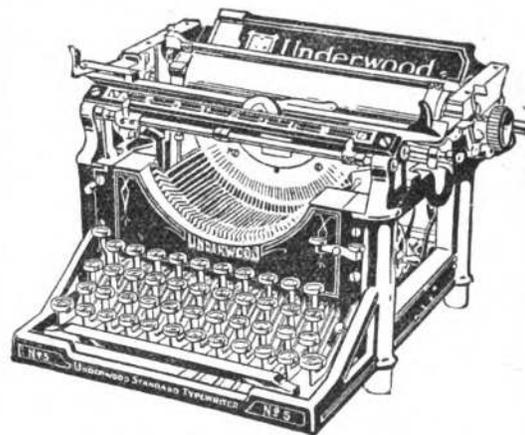
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YOUNG BOSWELL, by Chauncey Brewster Tinker. London. G. P. Putnam's Sons. Boston. The Atlantic Monthly Press. 1923. 266 pages.

The book throughout smiles upon us with something of the youth and grace of Boticelli's "Primavera": Boswell's shortcomings appear as amiable as the graceful gambades of a young lamb, a slip here and there, maybe a playful fall on the dewy green, but what of that! True, there is mention of two victims to these slips: the first producing a boy whose upkeep Boswell reluctantly estimated at £10 per annum, while the second seems to have been somewhat better provided for: but lacking further documentation, the reader soon forgets all about them, as probably did Boswell himself.

Boswell is presented as astute and wily, yet vaguely ingenuous: of unbounded audacity, yet of unproven courage: insatiably curious, withal so gay and debonair that his curiosity is generally forgiven him. Behold this Scottish lad of great mother-wit, indifferently supplemented by a veneer of learning, proceeding on his foreign tour. At the age of twenty-four, by sheer impudence, he the pigmy storms the doors of Rousseau and Voltaire, those two intellectual giants of the eighteenth century. His battering-ram was the twofold pose of a philosopher's and disciple's zeal. Great was his wit, he succeeded! The following year he sailed for Corsica, remote and dangerous land, and there actually gained the friendship of Paoli, the redoubted chief. A few years later he might have "boswellised" Napoleon himself!

Dr. Tinker's chapters on "Love" and "Wooing a wife" are particularly delightful. Boswell had acquired the knowledge of many things other than of his own heart and mind: he was at once in love with a noble damsel of Holland, a ravishing Italian maiden, a Scottish heiress upon whom he was about to settle his choice when, lo, appeared an Irish beauty, young and likewise wealthy. Nothing would do but he must follow on to Dublin in the company of this lady's particular friend, who happened to be a cousin of his own. In

In "Germany's Capacity to Pay" (McGraw Hill Book) Professor Moulton and Dr. McGuire have brought together all the relevant available data, says Professor Agger in a review of the book in the last *Political Science Quarterly* and, he continues, have produced a book which may be accepted as nearly authoritative and final as a discussion of so difficult and complex a question could be expected to be.

Dublin he had a splendid time which unexpectedly ended in his marrying the cousin—of lesser beauty or wealth than any of her rivals. Yet was Boswell fond of money: by this token alone should we still count him akin to genius.

The day of his demise, at the early age of fifty-five, found him still possessed of the verdant faults and heady enthusiasm of youth. Had it not been for his failings he might indeed have lived longer, produced more. Still he had achieved his Magnum Opus and that greatness which his worldly spirit so admired. Moreover, had he lived contrary to his nature could he have given us what he did? Thus, at this distance, there seems not much cause for regret.

George G. Fleuret

THE ROAD, by Hilaire Belloc. London. British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co. 1923. 218 pages.

If there are any who do not believe in roads, good roads, they should read this book, but the reading of it should not be limited to them. Mr. Belloc's thesis is that the material rise and decline of a state are better measured by the condition of its communications, that is, of its roads, than by any other means; and his argument is no less interesting than his thesis.

Beginning with the origin of the road, he goes on to trace the influence of marsh and water, of soils and gradients and forest upon its development, and the counter influence of the road upon the economic and political life which it makes possible.

The second part of the book, that relating to English roads in particular, discusses in some detail the transition from the horse to wheeled traffic, Macadam and his improvements in road construction, the influence of the locomotive upon roads, and the crisis in the road question brought by the invention of the automobile.

For the automobile new roads are needed, Mr. Belloc urges; for their construction is required a national fund, and for their maintenance taxation according to fuel used.

The Comte de Saint-Aulaire, France's ambassador to Great Britain, speaking at a recent meeting of the Authors' Club in London, named Paul Bourget, Maurice Barrès and Anatole France as the three French authors who have had the most powerful influence on the last generation; they are, he said, "great artists and great moralists, equally regardful of the pursuit of intellectual perfection and their mission to humanity".

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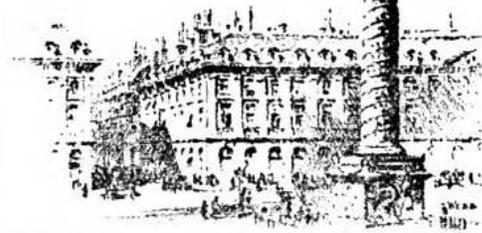
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- MORGAN, J. H. Present State of Germany. London. University of London Press. 1924.
- PRIBRAM, ALFRED FRANCIS. Austrian Foreign Policy, 1908-18. London. George Allen. 1923.
- THOMAS, DAVID Y. T. One Hundred Years of the Monroe Doctrine, 1823-1923. New York. Macmillan Co. 1923.

TRAVEL

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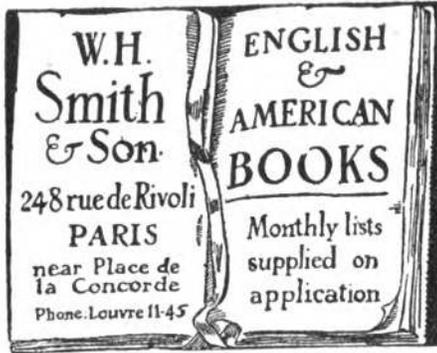
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- COLLINS, JOSEPH. Doctor Looks at Literature; Psychological Studies of Life and Letters. New York. George H. Doran. 1923.
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- BORDEN, MARY. Jane—Our Stranger; a Novel. London. William Heinemann Ltd. 1923.
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- HOPKINS, GERARD. An Unknown Quantity. New York. E. P. Dutton & Co. 1923.
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Spectator, May 10. Wanted—A Mediterranean Policy, J. St. Loe Strachey. How Civilizations Die, Dean Inge.

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Mercur de France, 1^{er} Mai: Comment se fait un Journal, André Billy. Après les conclusions du Comité des Experts. Deux grands rouages de la machine fiscale allemande, Antoine Eluère.

— — Mai 15: Création et Critique, Gabriel Brunet.

Nouvelle Revue Française, 1^{er} Mai: Sur l'idée de Victoire, Alfred Fabre Luce.

Revue Hebdomadaire, Avril 26: Après le rapport des Experts. Les Résultats de la Politique de la Ruhr (I), Wladimir d'Ormesson. Anatole France, poète (à propos de son Jubilé), Marius André.

— — Mai 10: Les Résultats de la Politique de la Ruhr (II). Les accords avec les industriels, Wladimir d'Ormesson. Les Lettres Américaines: Waldo Frank, Marc Loge.

Revue des Deux Mondes, Avril 15: Le Général Nivelle, Louis Madelin. A l'Exposition Dgas, Louis Gillet.

Revue des Deux Mondes, 1^{er} Avril: Le Laurier de Ronsard, Henri de Regnier. Manon Lescaut, Roman Janseniste, Paul Hazard. Les Chemins de Fer Allemands Gage des Réparations, C. Colson.

Frederic Mayer, author of "The Express Guide" to Paris, Versailles, and other popular guide-books to Paris and its neighborhood, has just added to the series a guide-book to Fontainebleau (Publications Anglo-Américaines, 92 Avenue de Villiers). Among the most interesting features of the little book are a chapter entitled "Thirty-three Attractive Spots in the Forest", and the illustrations, which show visitors exactly what to look for and what, if possible, to remember.

"This King Business" (The Century Co.), by Frederick L. Collins, former editor of *McClure's Magazine*, is devoted to sketches of the fortunes of European royalty subsequent to the War. In a chapter entitled "The City of Exiles" he describes the life of Russian refugees in Paris; in other chapters he tells about the present fortunes of the Empress Zita, the more fortunate Queen of Roumania, whom he calls the "Woman Charlemagne", King Emmanuel, Alfonso of Spain, "the Royal Play Boy", and others.

In an essay on Matthew Arnold in his "Prophets of Yesterday" (Harvard University Press) Dr. John Kelman says, "of his prose writing by far the most important is Culture and Anarchy. This, as we shall see in a later lecture, is the work in which he gives us material for judging and understanding all the rest. Along with it may be read 'Friendship's Garland', that delightful witty and wayward little volume which has seemed so whimsical and which is yet in many ways so wise. The 'Discourses in America' and the 'Essays in Criticism' may follow. Then there are 'Celtic Literature' and 'Reports on Elementary Schools', besides the volumes by which he is perhaps most widely known."

"Tutankhamen and Egyptology" by Professor Samuel A. B. Mercer (Morehouse Pub. Co., Milwaukee) is an excellent resume of Egyptian history up to and including the reign of Tutankhamen, with a translation of every extant ancient Egyptian inscription which has to do with Tutankhamen, and an account of the discoveries made in the excavation of his tomb before July 1923.

"Sarah K. Bolton: Pages from an Intimate Autobiography", edited by her son, and privately printed, is a record of the well-known author of "Poor Boys Who Became Famous", "Girls Who Became Famous", "Famous American Authors" and other books of similar character. It includes interesting reminiscences of her life as a teacher in Mississippi during the Civil War, work in the Women's Temperance Crusade in Ohio in the early seventies, and European travels, including interviews with Victor Hugo and Robert Browning.

In an essay on Carlyle in his "Prophets of Yesterday" (Harvard University Press), Dr. John Kelman advises those who desire to understand Carlyle to begin with his Essays and a selection of his letters, especially some of those to Emerson and Stirling. "After that introduction", he says, "I would suggest the four great central works, 'Heroes and Hero Worship', 'Past and Present', 'Sartor Resartus', and 'The French Revolution'. Not until these have been read, but immediately following them, should come 'The Letters of Cromwell', in which he recreated the figure of that great English statesman and hero, rescuing it not so much from oblivion but from deep and virulent misunderstanding. Finally, his 'Life of Frederick the Great', in ten volumes, might well come as the last stage of this journey."

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