

## CORRESPONDENCE

SIR JAMES FITZJAMES  
STEPHEN

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—In 1862 Sir James Fitzjames Stephen published "Essays by a Barrister." The book appeared anonymously, and consisted of articles reprinted from the *Saturday Review*. The author remarked that he would bet that it would never reach a second edition. His brother Leslie drily comments, "He would, I am sorry to say, have won his bet."

"Essays by a Barrister," once highly prized by a select circle of readers, is now almost forgotten. This is a pity, for it had outstanding merits. With its pungent wisdom and massive virility, it is well worth reprinting as a "document" of the mid-Victorian age. John Douglas Cook, the editor of the *Saturday Review*, collected round him a distinguished set of contributors—Maine, Sir William Harcourt, Freeman, Mark Pattison, Goldwin Smith, John Morley, Lord Justice Bowen, and George Venables (who broke Thackeray's nose). It was a vigorous journal, professing a Johnsonian antipathy to popular humbugs and foibles.

Shortly ago I was fortunate enough to pick up Fitzjames's own copy of the book, containing a number of comments and corrections, written years afterwards by the author himself. To the essay on "The Wealth of Nature" there is prefixed this sentence, "Written as a sort of epitaph on my Father, a few days after his death." The subject of the essay is "the importance of the social functions discharged by able men whose abilities are superior to the reputation which they earn."

Characteristically, he illustrates his theme by references to those who built our Indian Empire. "A man died a short time ago who at twenty-five years of age, with no previous training, was set to govern a kingdom with absolute power, and who did govern it so wisely and firmly, that he literally changed a wilderness into a fruitful land." At this point he has inscribed an explanatory marginal note, "Old Mr. Grant Duff, our friend's (Mountstuart's) father, the first resident at Sattara and writer of a History of the Mahrattas."

Stephen continues:—"The British Empire, whatever may be its defects, was not put together nor held together without much skill and labour. How many heart-burnings must have been soothed, how many jealousies composed, how much care and experience must have been exerted in negotiation, in legislation, in persuasion, before colonies, equal in size to great European States, could be brought to govern themselves and to stand to their mother-country in a relation which has hardly a parallel in history." His written comment is:—"I had in my mind my Father's obscure labours for many years at the Colonial Office. He had an immense influence there between 1832 (say) and 1847." (This, of course, was "Mr. Oversecretary Stephen," the son of James Stephen, the Abolitionist.) Leslie

much as he could those in whom he had confidence, and who, he supposed, had studied the subject, meaning the Low Church clergy."

A lawyer and unorthodox, Stephen had not Sir Herbert Edwardes's faith in the clergy, Low Church or other! In fact, he goes on:—"It requires the experience of English life to know the depths of ignorance and presumption, especially in all that relates to their own profession, which is the characteristic peculiarity of popular preachers and platform divines." (A hit at Exeter Hall!) Sir Herbert Edwardes was one of the greatest of our Indian administrators. Lawrence described him as "a born ruler of men." He was a vice-president of the Church Missionary Society, and a frequent speaker on evangelical platforms.

Over the essay on "Gamaliels," Fitzjames has inscribed "Written at F. D. Maurice, whom, however, I never mentioned in my journalistic days." "Maurice is the kind of man who is almost sure to be the founder of a school of able and enthusiastic youths, who will almost worship him and receive his opinions as a revelation." It was one of Fitzjames's pet notions that middle-age and experience should be the touchstone of reforming ideas and schemes. "The world of school and college is a make-believe world." In his essay on "Pain" he runs athwart modern sentimentalism. "Bodily pain, being external to the mind, by confronting it and assaulting it, teaches it lessons which have more chance of being remembered than almost any others." He notes in the margin, "Maine, I recollect, quoted this in the debate on the Whipping Act, 1864."

Before taking leave of this representative of views and virtues traditionally British, a word must be said about his amazing industry. There are a number of circumstantial notes, of which these are specimens: over the essay on Paley's "Moral Philosophy" he writes, "Written at night in a little inn in North Derbyshire on a two days' walk interpolated into Quarter Sessions." Over the essay on "The End of the World" he notes, "Written at an inn at Boston (Lincolnshire) in the middle of the night between two days at Quarter Sessions, and on the road from one Quarter Sessions to another." Such notes are evidence that he lived up to his own dictum, "Work is the very breath of my nostrils."

(REV.) F. BROMPTON HARVEY.

Barwell, Leics.

## MORE OF THE ORMULUM

Sir,—Not much has been ascertained of the history of the famous Ormulum manuscript, now Junius 1 in the Bodleian Library, beyond the facts that on February 6, 1659, it was in the possession of Vlietus (Jan van Vliet) of Breda, the Dutch philologist and friend of Junius, that it was No. 107 of the "Libri Miscellanei in Folio" in his sale catalogue (Gerard Ameling, The Hague, July 12, 1666), that it was acquired by Junius, and that

recently. The reviewer deplored the lack of historical equipment, and, in view of the amazing inaccuracies to which he drew attention, his phrase "an unsafe guide" was hardly too severe. But he himself made a "correction" which was itself inaccurate—it was indeed Baldwin, and not Alexander, de Freville who claimed to perform the service of King's Champion at Edward III's Coronation; for it is officially recorded that he came into chancery and withdrew that claim. Furthermore, the original petition of his rival, Henry Hillary, has survived; and there is attached to it a letter of Privy Seal, dated February 3, 1327, which was sent to the Chancery authorizing it to prepare the mandate which would allow the Exchequer to pay Hillary's fee. Your reviewer is therefore probably wrong in asserting that Hillary did not perform his service.

This information has been a little time in print in the "Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research," Vols. XII and XIII, where Mr. H. G. Richardson and myself have examined the Coronations of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries in the light of much new evidence. It has been our particular hope to introduce the historian and the liturgiologist, who have approached the same subject from different standpoints but never succeeded in meeting. Nevertheless, the historian will fail to appreciate much unless he bears in mind, for example, that every new form of Coronation oath will be reflected in a change in the Coronation service, that the decisions of the Court of Claims will be of immediate interest to those responsible for the religious service, since they must know the secular officers who are to take part in it, that what we now describe as a "Coronation roll" may be primarily a liturgical document. In the unfortunate dearth of information there is here an almost untouched field well worth gleaning.

Yours faithfully,

G. O. SAYLES.

The University, Glasgow

The Reviewer writes:—

I am grateful to Professor Sayles for his correction, and have read with interest the papers to which he refers. Criticizing an obvious confusion of the unsuccessful claimant in 1327 with the Baldwin de Freville who was equally unsuccessful in 1377, I had failed to note that on the earlier occasion not only Alexander but an elder Baldwin was involved; and Professor Sayles has conclusively shown that, although this Baldwin had at one time transferred his rights to Alexander, it was in fact he whose claim came before the Chancery.

With regard to Hillary, though I agree that Professor Sayles has established a probability, I do not think that the letter of Privy Seal he quotes amounts to a record that the service was performed, since there exist alternative petitions by Hillary, one of which asks for payment of the fee by way of indemnity for expenses, notwithstanding that the King may have dispensed with the service. The first direct record of the service seems still to be that of 1377; that of 1327 is made probable by circumstantial evidence, but circumstantial evidence also sets up the presumption that it had been performed still earlier by the Marmion lords of Tamworth and Scrivelsby, from whom the Hillarys and the Frevilles alike derived

## NEW FOREIGN BOOKS

UN FILO DI BREZZA. By GIANNA MANZINI.  
Panorama: Milan. L.10.

Signora Manzini's latest volume is exquisite, with the delicacy and feminine sensibility that have characterized all her work and have earned for her the title of "the Virginia Woolf of Italy." The extreme sensitiveness to changing moods, the ability to crystallize with a phrase or unexpected image the fleeting stages of half-unconscious thought, to make similes that astonish by their fitness and inevitability, so that we wonder they were never found out before, are characteristics of the work of both writers, who are both extremely "feminine" in the best application of the word.

But this very sensitiveness has its dangers, for it may so easily become precious and over-cultivated as in such phrases as "tristezza delle zampe di leone a dover sorreggere cassapanche vuote." The "Casa di Riposo" (romanzo da fare), from which the above phrase is taken, is perhaps the most interesting section of the book. In a number of short sketches never above three or four pages in length Signora Manzini gives rapid pen-portraits of the inmates of a convalescent home, the invalids, the nuns, the furniture, the maids, the animals, and gives an extract from the first chapter, the Cardinal's Visit. It is a "romanzo da fare" which we imagine will never be written; for, given in embryo as it is (which is in itself a conceit), it is already complete. What more could be said of Suor Pace, for example, than the following passage? "Ricama con fili d'oro e d'argento, lavora la carta velina, fa versi d'occasione, sorveglia l'orto. L'insalata vien su ricciutissima. Tutti gli anni compone un grande presepio, sempre più nuovo, con pezzi sempre più vecchi." The chapter "Importano i mobili," with the wardrobe with its "spalle da tiscio," the mirrors "voltati leggermentel in su, come il viso dei ciechi," and the phrase, "più delle fotografie, più di qualsiasi oggetto, le poltrone rammentano la morte alla quale appartennero," is among the best for giving some idea of Signora Manzini's particular gifts of evocation, and of endowing inanimate objects with a full meaning in the shortest of phrases. This is accentuated in the sketch, "Stanze d'Affitto," with its emphasis on the window (a favourite point with Signora Manzini). The opening study in the book, "Musica in Piazza," with its many parentheses and intricate hidden allusions to hidden thoughts and associations in the mind, is more difficult, more elaborate in technique and ambitious in idea than the rest. But each sketch might be singled out for some characteristic turn of phrase or situation, "Terza Classe," for example, with its skillfully etched assembly of people and the "lampadina blu," or "Gentilina," the "bambola tiscio," a little masterpiece of re-evocation.

LE MIRACLE. Par MARIE-LOUISE REYMOND.  
Neuchâtel and Paris: Attinger. Swiss Fcs.3.50.

Mme. Raymond read in the newspaper that Guy de Lusignan, son of Léon de Lusignan, last Emperor of Trebizond, had died a pauper's death in a Milan hospital. She had visited Cyprus, and knew of the legendary past of the dynasty. She felt that

...written comment:—"I had in my mind my Father's obscure labours for many years at the Colonial Office. He had an immense influence there between 1832 (say) and 1847." (This, of course, was "Mr. Oversecretary Stephen," the son of James Stephen, the Abolitionist.) Leslie Stephen calls his father "a living categorical imperative." "Did you ever know your father do anything because it was pleasant?" was a question put to young Fitzjames by his mother. "Yes, once; when he married you," was the adroit reply.

There are two notes appended to the essay on Lord Macaulay:—"Written one night at the Quarter Sessions at Derby between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m., after one long day in Court and before another. Lord Macaulay was an old family friend of ours and was very kind to me personally." Fitzjames, and his brother Leslie, moved away from some of the orthodoxies of the Clapham Sect, but they never failed to do reverence to the noble character of their ancestors, and to the home in which they were reared. "It may be stated with great confidence," says Fitzjames, speaking of Macaulay, "that the society in which his childhood was passed, and from which his earliest impressions were received, was not the dull narrow-minded circle which some assertions respecting it and him would imply." "Lord Macaulay's father was something better than a man of genius, for he sacrificed not only his time and his labour but his fortune, and as far as calumny could destroy it, his reputation, to labours of love in which he bore the burden while others reaped the glory." He concludes:—"A warmer-hearted man, or one more disposed to cherish hereditary friendship, to acknowledge and to repay obligation, to show kindness, to do favours, to help the distressed, never lived in the world." He appends the note:—"George Trevelyan has made all this common knowledge now—what was not so when this was written." (Sir G. O. Trevelyan's "Life and Letters of Lord Macaulay" was published in 1876.)

The essay on Carlyle was written in June, 1858. It concludes:—"He is, on the whole, one of the greatest wits and poets, but the most untrustworthy moralist and politician of our age and nation." The manuscript note reveals a change of mind:—"No, no; this does not do the subject anything like justice. I did not know Carlyle at the time, and moreover I was still young enough to be afraid of juvenile enthusiasm." Stephen not only got to know Carlyle, but became his personal friend. Yet in spite of a certain sympathy, he could never become a thorough Carlylean. After undertaking to write about him in John Morley's series, he abandoned the attempt because he found that he should have to adopt too frequently the attitude of a hostile critic. Carlyle came to admire Fitzjames's character, and made him his executor in order that there might be "a great Molossian dog to watch over his treasure."

As an old Indian official, Fitzjames retained the keenest interest in all the affairs of the Empire. There is an essay on "Christianity in India" which deals with the thorny problem of the religious education of the natives, in particular with the proposal that in all schools supported by Government the Bible should be introduced. A note explains: "Written after a long controversial talk with Sir Herbert Edwardes, who was much shocked at it. He told me he could not answer me; but he was determined to support as

...the possession of Vlietus (Jan van Vliet) of Breda, the Dutch philologist and friend of Junius, that it was No. 107 of the "Libri Miscellanei in Folio" in his sale catalogue (Gerard Ameling, The Hague, July 12, 1666), that it was acquired by Junius, and that twenty-seven leaves, now missing, were still in the manuscript in the seventeenth century, as appears from gaps in the column numeration of that date.

A manuscript in the library at Lambeth Palace (No. 783) provides some new information. It is a collection of philological materials written in the hands of Vlietus and Junius, which was bought at Breda in May, 1667, "ex Bibliotheca Jani Vlietii demortui reliquis" by William Griffith, secretary to Henry Coventry at the Peace of Breda. Forty-nine leaves contain extracts from the Ormulum and word-lists with column references in Vlietus's hand. The extracts are dated "MDCLIX Jan Bredae" and headed "Excerpta ex Rithmis Saxonici MSS. e Bibliotheca P. M. Thomae Alesburiensis equitis . . ." This is Sir Thomas Aylesbury, a master of requests and master of the mint in the reign of Charles I and a generous patron of learning. He retired to the Netherlands on the death of the King, and died at Breda in 1657 at the age of 81. It is satisfactory to be able to record a book from his library.

The extracts are important because, at the time they were made, all the leaves numbered in the column numeration were still in place in the manuscript of the Ormulum. Vlietus copied about 550 lines from leaves now missing, 360 of them from the gap between columns twelve and twenty-nine, including forty-six consecutive lines following the second Latin text *Dixit Zacharyas ad Angelum*. Vlietus was a less accurate transcriber than Junius, and he did not attempt to reproduce Orm's peculiar orthography. He was chiefly interested in the vocabulary of the text (it is evidently his hand that has underlined words in Junius 1) and his extracts are of value because they are selected to illustrate particular words and phrases. To take one example: the lines

To spaechen ifell hinden on  
To wrezen ] to wrabben.

copied from column twenty-seven or twenty-eight, confirm the manuscript reading of *Havelok*, line thirty-nine, "wreieres and wrobberes made he falle," where *wrobberes*, which is accepted by the O.E.D. with the conjectural meaning "informers," has been assumed by some editors to be a miswriting for *robberes* "robbers."

I hope to describe Vlietus's manuscript and this new Ormulum material in detail at a later date. Meanwhile any information about Sir Thomas Aylesbury's library, and particularly about its dispersal in Holland, will be very welcome.

N. R. KER.

Magdalen College, Oxford.

## EDWARD III'S CHAMPION

Sir,—Within the next few months the publishers will be inundating us with a flood of books concerning the Coronation ceremony, and it is certain that the great majority will after some fashion discuss the customs and precedents of previous reigns. Many of them, it is to be feared, will be hastily made and ill-digested compilations, like that on "The King's Crowning," which you reviewed

...the date of 1377; that of 1377 is made probable by circumstantial evidence, but circumstantial evidence also sets up the presumption that it had been performed still earlier by the Marmion lords of Tamworth and Scrivelsby, from whom Dymokes, Hillarys and de Frevilles alike derived their claim.

## BOSWELL'S JOURNAL

Sir,—In his interesting and valuable notice of the limited edition of "Boswell's Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides with Samuel Johnson, LL.D.," your reviewer states that the publication of a popular edition of the Boswell Papers "has been undertaken by an enterprising and (in this connexion) well-named New York publishing firm, the Viking Press." It is also stated that a "trade" edition of the "Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides" will be published at a guinea in 1937.

May I point out that the "trade" edition will be published on November 23, 1936, and that it is planned to publish the entire Boswell Papers in a popular edition, and in five volumes, of which the "Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides" will be the fifth?

Publication in this form has always been the joint undertaking of William Heinemann, Limited, London, and the Viking Press, New York.

Yours faithfully,

William Heinemann, Ltd.,

A. S. FRERE REEVES.

99, Great Russell Street, W.C.1.

## "SHADOWS LIKE MYSELF"

Sir,—We note in a review of "Shadows Like Myself," by the Countess de Chambrun, which appeared in your issue of October 17th, that the author of this work has been confused with her sister-in-law, Alice Longworth. The maiden name of the Countess de Chambrun was Clara Longworth. Her brother, the late Nicholas Longworth, Speaker of the House of Representatives, married Alice Longworth, the daughter of Theodore Roosevelt.

Yours sincerely,

Charles Scribner's Sons, Ltd.,

C. KINGSLEY.

## EMBLEM BOOKS

Sir,—I should be grateful if anyone could tell me where I could see the "Index of Emblem Books" (of more than 3,000 entries) by Henry Green, mentioned on p. viii of his "Andrea Alciati and his Books of Emblems" (London, 1872).

Yours truly,

JEAN FOUBERT.

Care of Mrs. J. Morris, 38, Bassett Road, Ladbrooke Grove, London, W.10.

## RICHARD DOYLE

Sir,—I am endeavouring to gather material for a memoir of Richard Doyle, and I should be most grateful if any of your readers who possess letters of his would kindly communicate with me.

MARGARET RITCHIE.

Woodend House, Marlow, Bucks.

Reuchner and Paris. A. Singer. Swiss. Pcs. 3.50.  
Mme. Raymond read in the newspaper that Guy de Lusignan, son of Léon de Lusignan, last Emperor of Trebizond, had died a pauper's death in a Milan hospital. She had visited Cyprus, and knew of the legendary past of the dynasty. She felt that his ancestry entitled Guy de Lusignan to a kinder fate; and this novel is the account of what she imagines it should have been. Lusignan is still young, but a prey to pernicious anæmia. A rich young widow, surprisingly beautiful, is directed by the Mother Superior of the hospital to visit the dying man daily, that he may have some comfort in the solitude and wretchedness of his approaching end. To perform her task the better, the widow presently marries him. Then she is called away to France, and in her absence the light which she has brought into Lusignan's life works the miracle of the title. He recovers and joins her at Le Touquet. But their meeting is the occasion of a terrible misunderstanding on his part. At once he flees, and is carried off to Denmark. She finds that he has become a gamekeeper on an estate there, adjoining that of some friends of hers. Further complications furnished the occasion for excellent descriptions of Danish life and scenery. The psychology of the characters is as sentimental as the plot, and even more elementary. But for that very reason the tale has a strong individual charm, and it is told with unflagging vivacity and speed.

POLSKÁ LITERATURA VE VLÉCHOV REVOLUCE  
LOUCE (Polish literature in the throes of revolution). By DR. KAREL KREJČI. (Prague: Orbis.)

The revolution to which the title of this book refers is that of 1905. It affected Polish literature very extensively, and its influence is manifest in the work of every Polish writer of note belonging to the last pre-war generation. Dr. Krejčí's volume is thus virtually a manual of Polish literature in the early part of the present century, and as such it is distinguished by a rare combination of thoroughness and readability. Nearly four hundred pages are here devoted to a detailed survey, not only of the Polish literary world of thirty years ago, but also of the political and social conditions which helped so closely to shape its activities. Dr. Krejčí shows the varying degrees in which the revolutionary movement acted upon the Polish authors of the time. To some it meant hardly more than an incidental phase in their literary work, while others were revolutionary writers pure and simple. In some cases—Pilsudski is an outstanding example—authorship was the outcome of memorable experiences in the revolutionary campaign and, though of documentary rather than literary calibre, proved a stimulating source of inspiration to men of letters. Instructive parallels and contrasts are drawn between the analogous movements elsewhere, especially in Russia, and the sociological and other factors which have differentiated Polish revolutionary literature are closely analysed. Dr. Krejčí traces also the conflict of opinions among Polish writers themselves, and the resulting decline of the revolutionary idea in literature. This process was practically completed a few years before the outbreak of the war, the events and results of which, as Dr. Krejčí says, "brought this period to a definite end, caused the revolution to pass swiftly into the realm of memories and myths, and filled Polish minds with new standards of thought."