

Germany; Pertz for his part took to Böhmer and the long association, which ripened into a friendship, began that was to survive all trials and differences until it was broken by death.

Now that Stein had two such excellent officers it was possible to devise a programme. From the beginning the conception was grandiose; all the sources (Stein would rather have said, all the memorials) of German history from the disappearance of effective Roman rule to the invention of printing—in other words, the millennium from 500 to 1500 A.D. The only topics excluded, large indeed in themselves, but necessarily left on one side, were the purely ecclesiastical history of Germany, and the crusades. The materials were from the first divided into five sections, namely chronicles (*Scriptores*), laws (*Leges*), charters (*Diplomata*), letters (*Epistolae*), and finally writings of antiquarian interest (*Antiquitates*). Hahn of Hanover was selected as publisher.

The first task of the new editor was to produce a volume which would attract attention and prove the viability of Stein's enterprise. Logically, a beginning should have been made with the early Merovingian documents, but this was a peculiarly difficult field in which Pertz had as yet no materials. It was decided therefore to begin with Charlemagne, and the first volume duly appeared on 14 August 1826 with the sub-title *Annales et Chronica aevi Carolini*. After some discussion the format of royal folio had been selected, and from the various formulae proposed by Pertz for the general name of the series Stein selected the familiar three words: MONUMENTA GERMANIAE HISTORICA. On the title-page was the motto originally suggested by Büchler, which has become familiar to so many thousands of readers: 'Sanctus amor patriae dat animum'.

No sooner had the first volume appeared than Pertz set out in search of manuscripts to Paris and England. His reputation, his charm and his ability to combine hard work with social activities were remarkable; in Paris he was received not only by Rémusat, Guérard and the Thierrys, but in diplomatic circles and in fashionable salons. He found manuscripts in plenty; he also found a wife in Julia Garnett, the American-born daughter of a well-known English astronomer. They were married in Paris, with Lafayette and the Hanoverian minister among the guests, and returned to Hanover after Pertz had taken his wife to stay with Niebuhr and Stein, who found her intelligent, unaffected and winning. In the