

autumn of this year (1827) Pertz entered upon his duties at Hanover as archivist and librarian of the Royal Library.

In December 1829 the second volume appeared, largely the work of Pertz. Taken together, the first two volumes, with a total of 1500 folio pages, were a good beginning. Several important works, such as the *Annales Xantenses*, discovered by Pertz, were published for the first time, others, such as Einhard's Life of Charlemagne, appeared in a vastly improved text, and though here and there later critics could find faults, the favourable reception was justified. Difficulties, however, were by no means over. Energetic as he was, Pertz could not alone do all the editorial and sub-editorial work, and in 1829 he secured his first standing collaborator, a man of his own age, J. M. Lappenberg, state archivist of Hamburg. Lappenberg did excellent work and remained a pillar of the *Monumenta* till his death forty years later, but he was a contributor, not an assistant. The same may be said of the somewhat unexpected emergence of Böhmer. Böhmer had long been anxious to help with the scholarship as well as with the administration, and had already collected materials for small undertakings. Now, inspired by Pertz, he volunteered to compile a register of imperial charters from 911 to 1313 to serve as the first volume of the *Diplomata* section. The first part was out in 1831 and the series, with offshoots and revisions, continued till his death, but it was financed by Böhmer himself and did not figure among the *Monumenta*, though it usually finds a place on the shelves alongside. With all its inevitable faults and errors it was not only a priceless tool but an inspiration and a pioneer in an important field.

Meanwhile the financial position was still stringent. Neither governments nor nobles helped as Stein had hoped. Some feared, as in France in the days of the Maurists, that research might upset the titles of the reigning houses and powerful families; others, that a study of medieval Germany would make men anti-liberal and pro-Catholic.¹ Metternich in particular feared revolutionary discoveries and would not allow Austria to help. Before any firm position had been reached the undertaking lost its only powerful guide and support with the unexpected death of Stein (29 June 1831). This event revealed the faulty organization of the society. Neither Pertz nor Böhmer was a member of the Directorate; the

¹ For this see Waitz, *N.A.*, ii, 460.