

criticism of the reliability and characteristics of all the contemporary witnesses. His fame attracted students from the whole of central Europe and beyond and for half-a-century the cream of German scholarship flowed through his hands.

Ranke initiated his seminar in 1833, and in the group of the first two years were Giesebrecht, Köpke, Hirsch and Waitz. The last-named,¹ who had come to Ranke by way of Savigny and Lachmann, was hailed by the master as the future Muratori of Germany; in 1835 he won a prize for a brilliant study of King Henry I, and at the advice of Lappenberg, warmly recommended by Ranke, he offered his services to Pertz, who thus in 1836 acquired without effort and for a subsistence wage the greatest medieval scholar of the century, who as a critic was to revolutionize the study of sources and as a constitutional historian did for Germany what Stubbs, his admirer, was later to do for England. In 1837 Waitz was joined by another able young man, Ludwig Bethmann. Both lived with Pertz and his alert, sympathetic and kindly wife as members of the family; the Pertz of those days was still the lovable master and friend; Waitz describes him in his diary as a frank, homely man, with blond hair, blue eyes and an open forehead, a leader, but approachable. It was the April of the *Monumenta*.

The *Scriptores* continued to appear at regular intervals, and as early as 1829 there began a series of individual texts reprinted with shorter editorial matter in cheaper octavo form *in usum scholarum*. At a later date, the 'school editions' became new, scholarly editions replacing many of the original folios. From these arose a controversy between Pertz and Böhmer which lasted for more than thirty years. Pertz throughout loved the folio-format, and viewed with displeasure both the proposal to reduce the *Scriptores* to quarto or to publish a simultaneous octavo version. He feared loss of sales and diversion of editorial energy. Böhmer, with more prophetic vision, wished to popularize scholarly and historical work as much as possible. Unable to move Pertz, he himself

¹ There is no good biography of Waitz; for an intimate sketch by his son Eberhard, see *Georg Waitz* (Berlin, 1913; the centenary of his birth). For appreciations, see W. Wattenbach, *Abhandlungen d. Berliner Akademie*, 1886; A. Kluckhohn, 'Zur Erinnerung an Georg Waitz', in *Sammlung Gemeinverständlicher wissenschaftlicher Vorträge* (ed. Virchow u. Holtzendorff), N.F., ii Ser., Heft. 25-48 (Berlin, 1887), 347-82, and the attractive pages of G. Monod in *Portraits et Souvenirs*, 1897.