

back with the utmost pertinacity and adroitness. Twice when all seemed lost he was saved first by Bismarck's distraction in the Schleswig-Holstein crisis and later by the dissolution of the Confederacy on the outbreak of war with Austria, as a result of which Prussia assumed liability for the finances of the *Monumenta*. But though he had undoubtedly won the first round, the skies continued to darken. Waitz remained faithful and with his old genius for selection Pertz acquired Weiland,<sup>1</sup> a pupil of Waitz, in 1865 and Scheffer-Boichorst,<sup>2</sup> pupil of Waitz and Köpke, in 1871; these two became firm friends and did yeoman service in after years. On the other hand, the final breach had come with Jaffé. On leaving the *Monumenta* he had planned a series of historical texts, mainly letters, centring round personalities and places, critically edited and annotated; the project had the blessing of Mommsen, and the first volumes had a great success. The series was taken by Pertz, and probably intended by Jaffé, to be a competitor of the cheap editions in the *Monumenta*; he retorted by every kind of petty footnote insult, while Jaffé heaped fuel on the fire by publishing an edition of the letters of St Boniface, long projected and promised by Pertz, and by sharp criticism of Pertz's scholarship. Finally, Jaffé had the misfortune to lose a manuscript from the Berlin library, whereupon Pertz forbade him the use of the place, and when the Minister stepped in on Jaffé's behalf proceeded to accuse his old assistant of espionage. The matter now passed to the lawyers; Pertz refused to withdraw the charge and Jaffé circulated widely in official and academic circles a burning rebuttal. His mind had long had a streak of morbidity, and he now developed a mania of hatred and persecution; in 1870, at the height of his powers as a scholar, he took his own life. For this Pertz cannot be held accountable,<sup>3</sup> but he himself was now showing signs of age and even of an unbalanced mind.<sup>4</sup> Hopeless anarchy reigned in the management of the *Monumenta*; editions languished and proofs were not sent to the editors. Even Waitz determined to contribute no more; Köpke was removed by death,

<sup>1</sup> 1841-95.

<sup>2</sup> 1843-1902; *N.A.*, xxvii, 768 ff.; *A.D.B.*

<sup>3</sup> The article on Jaffé in *A.D.B.*, by Alfred Dove, is unjustifiably harsh in its tone towards Pertz.

<sup>4</sup> *Bresslau*, citing Wattenbach, 469. Cf. Dümmler to Sickel, 28 August 1872: 'Pertz ist geistig stumpf, hält aber gleichwohl mit unbeugsamer Energie den Besitz der Monumenta als Familieneigentum fest' (*Bresslau*, 469, n. 1).