

souffrir les animaux, ayant tous les défauts de l'âme la plus vile et la moins éclairée, mais manquant de force, à l'âge où il était, pour faire éclater ses vices aussi souvent que la nature l'aurait porté à les montrer ; par exemple, il aurait, comme Néron, été enchanté de voir brûler Paris de Bellevue ; mais il n'aurait pas eu la courage d'en donner ordre ; le spectacle qui lui ferait le plus grand plaisir serait celui de voir les exécutions de la Grève, mais il n'a pas le courage d'y aller.

R. H. M.

Mr. James Smith's *Junius Unveiled* (London : Dent, 1909) is an attempt to prove that Junius was Gibbon. Beyond showing that Gibbon had both the brains and the cynicism necessary for the task, the author makes little serious attempt to prove his case. Gibbon's year in the Militia is made his authority for the statement that 'Junius exhibited a particular knowledge of military affairs such as was possessed by no English writer of the time, with the single exception of Gibbon' (p. 91) ; and his other arguments are equally futile.

W. L. G.

Mr. H. Belloc's *Marie Antoinette* (London : Methuen, 1909) is a clever and a most readable book, and an amusing one, in spite of the shadow of impending disaster which throws something of tragic gloom over even the frivolities and follies of Marie Antoinette. Mr. Belloc is not to be taken too seriously, and part of the entertainment he gives his readers is due to his humorously paradoxical dogmatism. The Jew, the philosopher, the protestant, indeed the whole mechanism of modern society he loudly declares to be accursed. The Reformation, he says, checked Europe in the career of progress on which she had entered under the stimulus of the Renaissance and the guidance of the catholic church, and is the source of all the evils which followed. The French Revolution, by breaking the shackles of deadly routine, by startling society out of a blind optimism, and by restoring the vigour of the church, has given democratic Europe a chance of once more advancing on the right path under the conduct of Rome. Mr. Belloc is troubled by no doubts. He would seem to have had access to the pages of that book after the production of which all secrets will be revealed. At all events he pronounces sentence with the confidence of an infallible judge. He knows not only the secrets of men's hearts but even what the future has in store for them (e.g. p. 62). His prejudices and their source are alike undisguised. Maria Theresa was on the whole a faithful daughter of the church, and her great qualities are fully recognised, while the sketch given of Joseph II is a caricature so grotesque that it has lost almost all likeness to the original. The estimate of Marie Antoinette, on the other hand, is neither unjust nor unsympathetic. Her follies and mistakes, if not extenuated, are explained by her education and the difficulties of the position in which she was placed. Her part in bringing about the fall of the monarchy is scarcely exaggerated. Though she stood for much of which Mr. Belloc disapproves she was a believing catholic. The scales in which she is weighed are therefore equally balanced. Mr. Belloc, who generally shows little discrimination in the use of his authorities and accepts without hesitation most of the revolutionary legend, justly rejects the calumnies with which not only the republicans but even some legitimists have besmirched the memory of the unfortunate queen. An amusing instance of the author's perverse ingenuity is the parallel he

draws between the obstinate credulity of the believers in the innocence of Captain Dreyfus and that of those whose conviction that the queen was guilty in the affair of the collar could be shaken neither by evidence nor common sense.

P. F. W.

Prince Murat is continuing his invaluable *Lettres et Documents pour servir à l'Histoire de Joachim Murat*, the third volume of which (Paris: Plon, 1909) gives us the letters during Murat's tenure of the office of governor of Paris until August 1805. The present volume therefore comprises the critical seasons of the conspiracy and the murder of the Duc d'Enghien. As regards the former, we get abundant evidence of the anxiety which the government felt on the occasion, and rightly so if members of the council of state were implicated in it. As regards the latter, those who hoped that fresh light would be thrown on Murat's attitude towards it may be disappointed, for little else is printed save Mosbourg's account of the affair in full, and therefore in its essentials the matter remains as it has been since the publication of Count Murat's *Murat, lieutenant de l'Empereur en Espagne*. The fresh material, slight as it is, goes to confirm the story of Murat's horror at the whole proceeding, and it is a pity that he signed the order constituting the commission for the trial nominated by the First Consul, for then no one could accuse him of having had even the slightest share in the crime. The number of jobs done for the town of Cahors is surprising.

L. G. W. L.

Under the title of *Officers of the British Forces in Canada during the War of 1812-5* (Welland Tribune Print, 1908) Mr. L. Homfray Irving, the honorary librarian of the Canadian Military Institute, gives a list compiled from official sources of 'the staff of the British army, the officers of the Upper and Lower Canadian militia, the Indian department, the provincial marine and the royal navy.' He does not however include the names of the regimental officers of the British army. The list of names is supplemented by biographical footnotes and a variety of appendices dealing with pay, uniform, &c. It shows the Canadian militia as it was at that period, and being evidently compiled with great care should prove of service to the student of the war and of special interest to the Canadian reader.

W. B. W.

M. Paul Frémeaux' *Sainte-Hélène, Les Derniers Jours de l'Empereur* (Paris: Flammarion, 1910), is a pleasantly written book, but it adds nothing material to our knowledge of Napoleon at St. Helena. The author is uncritical, takes a violent line against the British government, and labours to prove that Napoleon's last illness was complicated by liver trouble. Extracts from Dr. Henry's well-known narrative form a substantial part of a work which can hardly be reckoned as a serious contribution to history. The book has also appeared in an English translation (*The Drama of St. Helena*, 1910).

H. A. L. F.

Professor G. E. Cory's *Rise of South Africa* (London: Longmans, 1910) purports to be not a history of South Africa as a whole, but an authoritative and careful account of the Eastern Province. The first volume, which carries the history down to 1820, tells the same facts which are found in Dr. Theal's volumes in much fuller detail and with somewhat more distinction