

After describing the unification of Germany and of Italy, the history of the Second Empire and the establishment of the dual monarchy of Austria and Hungary, Dr. Andrews devotes the last third of his volume—we may presume reluctantly—to the changes since 1871. The historian has a well-founded suspicion of so-called contemporaneous history, which is necessarily half prognostication, for it is only by forecasting the future that the important and permanent can be distinguished from the trifling excitements of an Argus-eyed daily press. But both public and publishers agree that modern history ends only with the very minute when the historian dispatches his manuscript to press. Dr. Andrews has good-humoredly yielded to their wishes and given us an excellent outline of the political events down to last March, not only in western Europe, but in Russia and the Balkan Peninsula.

While the author's careful exclusion of the irrelevant will rob the past of some of its chief attractions for the natural man, who has an inveterate *penchant* for soul-stirring combat and odds and ends of gossip, and while the scholar, who cares not for gore or gossip, may lament the absence of foot-notes, among which he might poke about for suggestions, there is, it may be hoped, a considerable class of serious-minded readers in this country and England who will appreciate and enjoy Dr. Andrews' impartial, clear and painstaking account of one great phase of Europe's past.

JAMES HARVEY ROBINSON.

*Columbia University.*

---

*Life and Administration of Sir Robert Eden.* By BERNARD C. STEINER, Ph. D. Pp. 142. Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science. Series XVI, Nos. 7, 8, 9. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1898.

Recently several historical students have turned their attention to a careful and detailed study of the transition from colonial to commonwealth government in some one of the thirteen original states that composed the American Union. As a result several excellent monographs have appeared. One of the latest of these is the above cited volume of Professor Steiner. With almost equal propriety this study might have been entitled "The Transition of Maryland from a Proprietary Colony to a Commonwealth," inasmuch as Sir Robert Eden was the last Proprietary Governor of Maryland, his administration spanning the stirring period 1768 to 1776. The author however has intentionally limited himself to the treatment "of the end of the old, not of the beginning of the new."

Although Eden was extremely popular and conciliatory, his administration is shown to have been marked by the struggle, common to all the colonies, against the policy of taxation adopted by the mother country, and also by a series of contests between the governor and council against the lower house of the legislature in regard to the peculiar rights and prerogatives of the proprietor. Especially stubborn was the prolonged fight over the regulation of "fees" of proprietary officers. In the course of these disputes the lower house repeatedly passed resolutions placing themselves on the broad basis of the "rights of Englishmen," and asserted their rights and privileges, as in their resolutions of November 1, 1770, when they declared "that Marylanders are entitled to the rights and liberties of the subjects in our mother country," and again in 1771 when they unanimously resolved "that whoever shall advance the proposition that His Majesty's subjects (by transplanting themselves hither) have forfeited any part of their English liberties, are enemies to the province and mistake its happy constitution," and asserted that the legislature has the sole right to impose and establish taxes and fees.

Eden as presented to us in the pages of this monograph appears not only as a very attractive personage, but as almost the ideal proprietary governor, careful of the rights and prerogatives of the proprietor and of his obligations to the crown, but at the same time conciliatory to the colonists and mindful of their interests. So far successful was he in playing this difficult rôle, even after "the fires of the Revolution had been kindled," that his course called forth the warmest endorsement from the king, and yet it could be said of him, as late as January, 1776, that he "continued to receive from the colonists every mark of attention and respect." He was "indefatigable in the endeavor to bring about a reconciliation" between the colonists and the mother country. To that end while pursuing the "most soothing measures" toward the Marylanders he tries to present to the English officials a true statement of the situation, warning them in one instance that "the spirit of resistance against the tea act, or any mode of internal taxation, is as strong and universal here as ever. I firmly believe that they will undergo any hardships sooner than acknowledge a right in the British Parliament in that particular."

Influenced by the general movement in the other colonies, Maryland's first convention of freemen assembled in June, 1774, and by April, 1775, a Council of Safety had been appointed, but owing to the tact and moderation of all concerned for over a year there continued to exist "a perfect democratic government side by side with the phantom of Proprietary rule." "The other provinces could not understand Maryland's delay." "The popularity of the Governor,

the conservative character of the Maryland men perplexed and disturbed the radicals of Virginia and Massachusetts." The most dramatic events of the period were in connection with "the intercepted letters" from Sir George Germain, and the resulting complications arising from the attempted intervention of the Continental Congress and other parties to effect the arrest of the governor, and the strong resentment of Maryland to all outside interference. In spite of these letters the convention, which met in May, 1776, still expressed in most "extraordinary language" their appreciation of the governor's integrity and service, but at the same time signified "that the Publik quiet and safety require that he leave the Province." They further declared, and this within six weeks of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, that they are firmly persuaded that a "reunion with Great Britain on constitutional principles would most effectually secure the rights and liberties and increase the strength and promote the happiness of the whole Empire."

Thus the "fair and impartial" course of the governor, in large measure, had been instrumental in confining the uprising in Maryland to a contest for the "rights of Englishmen." When his influence was removed, that province immediately joined in the common movement of the other colonies in the broader struggle for the "rights of Man." As a further proof of "the moderation of the colonists" and "the conservative character of the Revolution in Maryland" may be mentioned the fact that the proprietary officials in the loan and land offices continued to exercise their functions until May 15, 1777.

The author has presented a most interesting and valuable study of a neglected field, and has enhanced the value of his contribution by his careful account of the drift of public opinion, which has been possible only through his diligent researches in the newspapers and other controversial literature of the period.

HERMAN V. AMES.

*University of Pennsylvania.*

---

*A General History of the World.* By VICTOR DURUY. Translated from the French, thoroughly revised, with an introduction and a summary of contemporaneous history (1848-1898), by Edwin A. Grosvenor, Professor of European History in Amherst College. Pp. xxvi, 744. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., 1898.

*A History of Modern Europe.* By FERDINAND SCHWILL, Ph. D., Instructor in Modern History in the University of Chicago. Pp. ix, 434. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1898.

*Europe in the Nineteenth Century.* By HARRY PRATT JUDSON, LL. D., Head Professor of Political Science in the University of