

PERSONAL NOTES.

AMERICA.

Michigan.—In the University of Michigan Professor Frederick M. Taylor has charge of Professor Adams's work during the current half-year. Professor Taylor was born at Northville, Mich., and studied at the Northwestern University, where he took his degree of A. B. in 1876, and his Master's degree in 1879. In the same year he was appointed Professor of History and Politics at Albion College, Michigan. On leave of absence he studied at Johns Hopkins during a part of 1884, and devoting a part of each week to study at the University of Michigan during 1887-88 he secured the degree of Ph.D. from that institution in 1888. His thesis on "The Ethical Genesis of the State" will be printed this winter.

AUSTRIA.

Vienna.—In Lorenz von Stein, one of the most acute, prolific, and learned teachers and writers in political economy has gone to his rest. Not that he was the founder of a school which to-day counts its adherents by the score, for this can in nowise be said of him. But a host of fructifying and fertile suggestions in all fields of economic science has been the result of his labors.

He was born on the 15th of November, 1815, at Eckenforde, in Schleswig. His early education was at the military school and the gymnasium at Flensburg, whence he went in 1835, to the University of Kiel, and later to Jena, where he devoted himself mainly to philosophical and legal

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studies. After completing his legal studies he went, in 1839, to Copenhagen, where he obtained a position in the Government office for Schleswig-Holstein. But further scientific work drew him to the university again, and at Berlin he took the degree of Doctor of Laws. For some time after this he resided in Paris, where he continued his studies in legal history, and began especially to take an interest in the socialistic ideas and agitation of that time. In the year 1846 he was called as extraordinary professor to the University of Kiel. He took an active part in the political life of the duchy, and when, in 1850, the supremacy of Denmark in the duchies was fully established, Stein, with eight other professors of the University of Kiel, was repaid for his energetic and determined stand in favor of the independence of the duchies by the loss of their positions. In 1855 Stein received a call as Professor of Political Economy to the University of Vienna, and here he labored uninterruptedly and untiringly with brilliant success, until his retirement from active work in 1888. He died on the 23d of September, 1890, at his country seat at Weidlingau, near Vienna.

Stein's writings are remarkable for their acute, suggestive thought and brilliant style. His two chief works, his *Geschichte des Sozialismus und Kommunismus Frankreichs* and his *Finanzwissenschaft*, will always remain notable works in the field of special investigation. For his history of French socialism Stein had made studies, when still quite a young scholar, among the leading men of the movement itself. His work is to-day one of the best that we have on socialism, and the more recent historians have contented themselves usually in simply copying Stein.

Among the brilliant qualities of Stein's works one should not forget their weak points. Stein is a blind adherent of Hegelian dialectics. He is apt, in the consideration of an historical epoch, to pass by the actual course of events, and to consider certain ideas as characteristic of the epoch. He then designates, with much

plausibility, yet often in a very questionable manner, the different steps of the historical development as the development of certain ideas, even when he is obliged to resort to the boldest hypotheses in order to justify such a historical conception. In addition, we must note a further failing, and that is that he is not always careful and reliable in the citation of facts and figures.

These are, however, but slight objections, that do not detract from the great services rendered by this keen thinker, whose far-seeing eye enabled him to predict fifty years ago the era of monarchical social reform. In addition to his literary and professorial interests, Stein took an active part in commercial life, and participated in railroad and other stock ventures. Fortune did not always smile on him here, and it was the irony of fate that the theoretical master of finance was forced to go into bankruptcy. Among his other qualities, one that rendered him especially popular in Austria was his oratorical power, which never failed to thrill his auditors at the University of Vienna with enthusiasm. The extent and variety of his literary activity can be gathered from the long list of his writings.

KARL DIEHL.

Halle, Germany.

LIST OF STEIN'S WRITINGS.

Die Geschichte des dänischen Civilprozesses und das heutige Verfahren. Kiel, 1841.

Der Sozialismus und Kommunismus des heutigen Frankreichs. Ein Beitrag zur Zeitgeschichte. Leipzig, 1842; 2d ed., 2 vols., Leipzig, 1847.

Die Munizipalverfassung Frankreichs. Leipzig, 1843.

Geschichte des französischen Strafrechts und Prozesses. (In Warnkönig und Stein's französische Staats- und Rechtsgeschichte. Basel, 1846.)

Die sozialistischen und kommunistischen Bewegungen seit der dritten französischen Revolution. Anhang zum Sozialismus und Kommunismus. Paris, 1848.

Einleitung in das ständische Recht der Herzogtümer Schleswig und Holstein. Kiel, 1847.