

Mr. Hassall makes the rather surprising statement that 'his despotic and brutal régime had compelled his son to turn his attention to literature and music.' On the whole, however, he does justice to Frederick William's share in the foundation of the greatness of Prussia, including the virtual creation of its army, though on a basis anything but national. By the way, the disbandment of the regiment of guards, which is here noted as an instance of the liberal spirit in which Frederick began his reign, had been suggested to him by his father himself. Elsewhere I have noted a few slips, such as are inevitable in a book covering so extensive a ground. Schulenburg should not have been described as 'Austrian,' which he was neither by birth nor by service when he victoriously defended Corfu. Pirna was not itself an 'impregnable fortress.' Appendix C ('Imperial Constitution in the Eighteenth Century') is not, I think, quite correct; how did the barons get in? Early in the volume the college of electors (at the beginning of the eighteenth century) should have been stated to have included *both* Bavaria and the Palatinate (up to 1777), not *either* the one or the other. But these things, and one or two vagaries of style, do not mar the effect of an able product of historical scholarship.

A. W. WARD.

Les Français au Canada : la Jeunesse de Bougainville et la Guerre de Sept Ans. Par RENÉ DE KERALLAIN. (Paris. 1896.)

THIS is a work whose form and purpose rather detract from its value as a distinct contribution to the materials of Canadian history. It is the explicit object of the book to clear the private and official character of the brilliant young French officer Bougainville from certain accusations brought against him by a French-Canadian writer of the zealously patriotic type. Yet, quite apart from this personal and temporary interest, the work contains copious extracts from letters and documents which shed considerable light upon several phases of the history of Canada at the time of the conquest. Not the least interesting of these is the attitude to each other of the home and colonial factors when suddenly brought into intimate contact.

At the opening of the war France despatched a large and well-equipped force to Canada under Montcalm. This prompt and vigorous support of the colony naturally brought joy to the hearts of the Canadians; but, the first burst of enthusiasm over, it was soon evident to each that there might exist at least two distinct types of Frenchmen. The polished and courtly officers, fresh from the most fashionable, worldly, and brilliant social centre in Europe, despised the poverty-stricken, unpolished, ignorant, yet proud and highly sensitive *noblesse* of Canada, whose idiosyncrasies and pretensions afforded endless material for epigram, satire, and jest to their sharp tongues and trained wits. The French soldiers, again, despised the Canadian militia for their very unmilitary bearing and equipment and their ludicrous ideas of war. To the Canadians and their Indian allies war meant a series of stealthy skirmishes, of sudden raids on defenceless farmhouses or small villages, accompanied by miscellaneous fire and slaughter and the acquisition of a string of scalps taken from all ages and both sexes. It was not that the Canadian was naturally

more brutal or more cowardly than the French soldier, but his long alliance with the Indian and the settled policy of his government had caused him to regard these inhuman atrocities as a highly proper and even Christian method of warfare. Were not the English heretics the enemies of God as well as of the French? It was equally natural that both officers and men of the newly arrived French forces should take little pains to conceal their horror and disgust at these methods of warfare. The French Canadians in their eyes were not fit to be accounted regular soldiers, though they might be useful enough as hewers of wood and drawers of water. In this light they were at first treated, and bitter were the complaints of the Canadians at the indignities which they suffered and the hardships which they bore as virtual servants to the regular French troops.

Vaudreuil, the Canadian governor, himself a native of Canada and thoroughly imbued with Canadian ideas and methods, naturally defended the Canadians, and insisted on carrying out the old war policy of the colony. This policy consisted in so terrorising the whole English frontier, from Acadia to the Ohio, by means of constant Indian-French raids, as to keep in check the English colonial advance to the west, or drive the colonists back to the coast.

Montcalm, regarding the war as a regular series of campaigns between trained English and French soldiers transferred to America, and involving the very existence of the French colony, naturally despised this petty Canadian policy. Thus from the first there was discord from top to bottom of the French forces in Canada. The controversies and misunderstandings which then arose have been cherished by the French Canadians down to the present time, though almost completely forgotten in France itself. The peculiar political situation and narrow circumstances of the French Canadians encouraged the incorporation of their side of the controversy with the other elements of the ancient *régime* in Canada which constitute the chief factors in French-Canadian patriotism to this day. One of the most recent of the enthusiastic supporters of the French-Canadian cause against all comers is the abbé Casgrain. He is eager to defend the character and actions of the Canadians, and to saddle the responsibility for the loss of the colony and for most of the unpleasant and discreditable incidents connected with it upon the element from Old France. In his writings on this period he felt called upon to attack with peculiar severity the intelligent and vivacious young French officer Bougainville, whose chief sins seem to have been that he shared the natural prejudices of his comrades, was minutely observant of what was going on about him, and freely outspoken in his observations on men and things. To defend his relative from the accusations, direct and implied, brought against both his private and official character is the central object of M. René de Kerallain, and in this he has been successful.

ADAM SHORTT.

The Girlhood of Maria Josepha Holroyd [Lady Stanley of Alderley], recorded in Letters of a Hundred Years Ago: from 1776 to 1796.
 Edited by J. H. ADEANE. (London: Longmans. 1896.)

Few who read this volume will be disposed to quarrel with Miss Adeane's description of her grandmother's letters as being 'of unusual merit and