

theless, for two reasons thorough revision has been necessary. At times M. Duruy dwells on events, connected with France, at greater length than is desirable for us. Furthermore, history, like science, is progressive and never standing still. Not rarely does she change her verdicts in consequence of later light. In her domain, however often travelled over, discoveries are constant. Therefore I have abridged, enlarged or modified as I deemed best. Some few chapters I have entirely recast, among them that on "The Three Eastern Questions." But, except with a careful and a reverent hand, I have touched no word which the great master wrote.

The work of M. Duruy ends with the year 1848. The last quarter of the book — that devoted to "Contemporary History" and covering the last fifty years — is wholly my own. To write the story of to-day has been difficult. It has been none the less arduous because a delightful task. For aid in its treatment I have been indebted to many friends, and specially to Professor H. B. Adams, LL.D. of Johns Hopkins University. I have sought to continue the same system which, in the earlier portion of the volume, the French author follows so successfully and well. I have endeavored to avoid the mistakes consequent upon nearness, wherein the recent is prone to fill the sky, and have striven to observe just proportion between related facts. But the eye of a hundred years hence will mark and gauge the closing events of this century with clearer and wiser vision than can we.

EDWIN A. GROSVENOR.

AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

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