

About the time when a young Corsican was completing his studies at a military academy, there was being educated at the University of Strasburg, a young Austrian—who was to shape the secret springs that would snap the honor and glory of the greatest military commander the world has ever known—if a military school had nursed the genius of a Napoleon, the university had trained the talents of a Mitternich—a crafty, far-seeing statesman—conniving with the Emperor's ambition to form a marital alliance with the House of Hapsburg—and whose unseen hand was encouraging the campaign of Russia and marshaling the armies for the defeat of Leipsic.

Just before this time, when in the most humiliating condition, Prussia had established the University of Berlin. To this university were gathered as teachers, the most learned men of the nation, and students from all her territory came to drink of her empyrean waters. It was the capstone to a system of education that 50 years later, furnished an army, rank and file, that levied tribute at the battle of Sedan and at the siege of Paris. Since which time, it has been accepted almost as an axiom, that even in warfare, the best enlisted soldier is the best educated one. Von Moltke had won a fame that will last through the shining centuries yet to come.

After this siege, and only about 25 years ago, occurred that most memorable session of the French assembly. After being in a horrible uproar for more than three days and no decision reached, with the fate of a helpless host of people resting upon the decisions of a wild, disorderly body, while the guns of the victorious Prussians were pointed at the heart of the nation, and the proudest people on earth seemed upon the abyss of utter destruction, relief came from a little wrinkled, shrill voiced man, who, with a commanding wave of his hand, hushed into silence that hooting rabble, and boldly pointed to what must be done. It was not only a college-bred man, but one that was termed a literary statesman. M. Adolphus Thiers—he alone gathered the shattered fragments of the First Emperor's once glorious nation, and evolved from the ruins a great republic.

Who shall undertake to measure the influence of Oxford