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As to what will probably be for most workers the most valuable part of the work, the bibliography, utter completeness is probably unattainable and is certainly needless. A somewhat careful examination of crucial parts shows that Dr. Wells' aim at substantial completeness was in general successful. For Chaucer he means to supplement, not to supersede, Miss Hammond's Bibliographical Manual, to which he sends the reader for each item. Miss Hammond's note on the Franklin's Tale in *Modern Language Notes*, XXVII. 91-2, should have been mentioned, since it is later than her Manual; Gummere on Chaucer's medieval and modern sides, in the *Modern Language Publications*, XVI. xxxvii-xl., should have been mentioned, as being of general interest and as ignored by Miss Hammond. For Layamon (so-called; if Dame Siri3, p. 178, Ernle3e, p. 191, why not Lazamon?) there might be mentioned an account and specimen of the Caligula MS in the *New Paleographical Society*, Ser. I, vol. 2 (London, 1903-12), plate 86; a review of Hoffmann's dissertation by Jordan in *Engl. Stud.* XLII. 262-4; an article on Anglo-Norman words in Lazamon by Payne in *Notes and Queries* (1869), Ser. 4, vol. 4, pp. 26-7. On Godric and his lyrics reference might have been made to Matthew Paris, *Chronica Majora* (Rolls Ser.), II. 264-274, 352, and to Giraldu Cambrensis (ib.), II. 214-6. On Gower's *Mirour* (not *Miroir*) de l'Omme reference might have been made (as to the date) to G. L. Kittredge, *Date of Chaucer's Troilus* (Chaucer Soc. 1909), 80-2, and to the present reviewer's *Development and Chronology of Chaucer's Works* (ib. 1907), pp. 220-225; also to *Mod. Lang. Notes*, XXI. 239-240. A recording in print of Professor Wells' minor slips would serve no good purpose.

A reviewer's difficulty is often that the enumeration of minor matters which he would have liked to see otherwise fills more space and sometimes makes more impression than his words of warm appreciation. The present reviewer will round out by repeating his first sentence. This is an admirable piece of work.

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Les Anciens Peuples de l'Europe. GEORGES DOTTIN. Pp. XIV + 302. (Vol. I of Collection pour l'étude des antiquités nationales.) C. Klincksieck, Paris, 1916.

M. Camille Jullian announces that he and M. Dottin, in beginning the publication of a series of works upon the antiquities of France, have wished to inaugurate the collection by

dedicating the first volume to the most ancient peoples of all Europe. A number of other volumes are already under way, and the names of Cagnat, Toutain, Besnier—to mention only a few—are indicative of the character of the work which will appear in this new series.

M. Jullian writes the introduction to this first volume. He says that he considers the purpose of the book is to show how necessary it is for the historian to make himself acquainted with the literature, the archaeology, the political economy, the anthropology, the geology, and so on, of a country. He calls Fustel de Coulanges to witness that history is the most difficult of all sciences. But he also seems to recognize in his phrase—even if it is said in another connection—"il n'est pas bon, en matière d'histoire, d'avoir trop d'esprit", that many of M. Dottin's pages are rather heavily loaded with narrative that is not entirely unlike a cross between a Catalogue of the Ships and a first chapter of St. Matthew.

After the first chapter, which is entitled *Les Sources*, but which might as well have been called *Caveat Lector*, one comes to forty pages on *Les Civilisations* which give a clear and readable account of the various cultural strata of the European peoples. The author has handled his sources with acumen and diligence, and one is fain to believe that he has not used some of the latest books because he felt some hesitancy as to the final acceptance of many of the results set forth in them. *Les Peuples* is the title of the third chapter, which fills pages 66-224. Here the author takes up all the European peoples one after another and follows their movements as mentioned in the ancient writers, with an occasional reference to archaeological and anthropological material. He recognizes as precarious the results gained from ancient sources as to the life of peoples, but thinks it interesting and perhaps useful to make a grouping of customs. Thus he finds (page 73) that women worked in the fields among certain peoples, that a community of land is found among others, that cannibalism is mentioned among still others, that here there is polygamy and there community of women, that matriarchy, tattooing, hospitality, human sacrifice, and so on, are elsewhere. It would have been more interesting if the idea could have been developed so that something would seem to have been proved. M. Dottin seems to entertain a genial openmindedness as to the Amazons, and for him the Pelasgi are a mighty people. Whether he has not allowed himself to be contaminated with the prevalent view of late years about the Pelasgi, or is taking up cudgels to restore to a place in the sun a people which has been a bit over-relegated into oblivion, I cannot quite determine. M. Dottin also deals at length with the Ligures, and makes them out a great people who inhabited much of Italy and who spread their power up the Rhone, and perhaps

as far as Spain. But what if the Ligures had been an Alpine people who could not live on the coast or in the low river valleys, or what if they and the Veneti had earlier been one Po valley people and had been split apart by invaders from the north and forced back, the one into the high mountains above Genoa, and the other into the marsh lands at the mouth of the Po? It would have been well to note the discussion of the Ligures in Ridgeway's chapter in *A Companion to Latin Studies*, and in Peet's *The Stone and Bronze Ages in Italy*. The work of Pinza seems not to be known at all to M. Dottin.

The last chapter (IV) is a short one on the local and general history of Europe. It is like the third chapter in being a mass of proper names. They are necessary, no doubt, and M. Dottin must be congratulated on having brought such a mass of material into so small a compass. And yet one cannot help but feel that overmuch weight is given to the ancient sources—they make up about nine-tenths of the citations—for they are generally considered pretty unreliable in their statements about the comings and goings of ancient peoples. None the less, the book is a valuable manual and will be warmly welcomed.

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The Arden Shakespeare: General Editor, C. H. HERFORD, Litt. D. *The Merchant of Venice*, edited by H. L. WITHERS, B. A., the American edition revised by MORRIS W. CROLL, Ph. D. *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, edited by E. K. CHAMBERS, B. A., the American edition revised by EDITH RICKERT, Ph. D. *As You Like It*, edited by J. C. SMITH, M. A., the American edition revised by ERNEST HUNTER WRIGHT, Ph. D.

A certain well-known college professor used to begin his lectures on Shakespeare with the frank statement that the object of his course was to find out what the language of Shakespeare means. The result was an absorption in questions of grammar and philology and an unfortunate neglect of the plays as poetry. The editors of the Arden Shakespeare, seeking to maintain a more appropriate relation between literary appreciation and linguistics, have chosen to emphasize the literary aspect of the plays. The revised American edition preserves the general character previously given to the series. The text is preceded in each volume by a literary history of the