

the desired effect. American productions were fairly reviewed and moderately criticised in the literary journals at Halle, Göttingen, Leipzig and other places, and even at Vienna. Several of them received the honour of a translation into the German language. About the same time when this conspiracy was formed, Harvard university sent some of her most promising pupils to complete their education in Germany, whence they returned fraught with knowledge, which enabled them to take their stations in the first ranks of our society.

Thus we first sought and obtained aid among the enlightened Germans, whose language and literature are most congenial to our own. France needed not to be sought, she met us of her own accord in the fields of literature and science; she extended to us her friendly hand, and showed herself the faithful ally in arts, that she had formerly been in arms; of this her scientific and literary journals bear ample testimony.* There the works of American authors have always been respectfully noticed, criticised with candour and fairness, and with the delicacy peculiar to that intelligent and amiable people; but never with the stern brow of insolent superiority, or the bitterness of contemptuous satire. Other nations followed the example of Germany and France, and we found friends everywhere through the whole extent of the European continent.

As to Great Britain, those of that nation whose good opinion is worth having, the men of elevated minds, have done justice to our efforts; but the vulgar herd of writers, abandoning France, which they so long delighted to misrepresent, have selected us as the object of their unmanly attacks, of which I have shown you a striking instance, which I would not have noticed, if it had not been so immediately connected with my subject; showing the necessity of extending our views more and more beyond the limits of British literature, as the best answer we can give to those who affect to consider us as their humble imitators. Not that I mean to say that the literature of Great Britain is not worthy of imitation; no man is more

* Those who have been in the habit of reading the *Revue Encyclopédique* and the *Bulletin des Sciences*, edited by Baron Ferussac, know with what respect American works have been noticed in those publications.

