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composed of, the very dregs of the nation," until at last Robespierre himself was guillotined, "and France at last, though not altogether released from her merciless oppressors and her long sufferings, breathed more freely, and saw the first glimmer of sunshine."

Shall we say the sunshine of yesterday? For, with Taine, we are all awakening now to the true nature of the Revolution, of all its visions and all its enormities. With Taine, too, as with historians of the American Revolution, we are understanding the noble power of organized minorities. By which we explain astounding success of the present attack in France on a parent's right to pay in support of a school and send his children there. Taine began by sympathy for the Revolution. So, we believe, did the writer whose name ushers in this hand-book, a little work, most readable, judicial in presentation of facts, and yet with nothing of the cramming primer. It justifies itself to be "a text-book intermediate between the voluminous histories which are beyond the schoolboy's scope and the brief outlines which are of little use except for *cramming*."

How clearly put, on p. 77, is the plan of the Directory's Empire, bounded by the Pyrenees, the Alps, the Rhine, and with a series of independent republics along the line

of the frontier, the Cisalpine (south of the Po), the Ligurian (Genoa), Batavian (Holland); and then the Helvetic, to complete. And there is room for interest in recounting the changes of forms of government: "Having left a few grenadiers at the door, the general advanced a few paces, when he was suddenly assailed from different parts of the hall by cries of 'Down with the dictator! Outlaw him!' Bonaparte did not hesitate to avail himself of the advantages which the violent conduct of the Council gave him; he repaired instantly to the court of the palace, and ordered a corps of grenadiers to march forward. With the drums beating the charge, the grenadiers soon cleared the hall, the members flying in the greatest confusion through the doors and windows, while the troops rent the air with shouts of 'Long live the Republic! Long live Bonaparte!' The revolution (of the nineteenth Brumaire*) was accomplished, and the Republic existed only in name." (1799).

France has wearied of tyranny before. And—as it seems to us strangely, but in a fashion to instruct us as to our own times, present and future—has accepted constitutions,

*Brumaire (*brume*, mist, fog) was the second month in the calendar of the French republic. It comprised the time from October 23 to November 21.—[EDITOR.]