

of the spot. One of these was a framed photograph of an Anglo-Saxon manuscript, and the other an old-fashioned study-chair. Of beauty the former had little and of comfort the latter had less. An ardent enthusiasm for the language of our remote ancestors might invest the manuscript with beauty, but no one, even in his wildest flights of fancy, could delude himself that he even found comfort in that wonderfully constructed chair. It is high-seated and low-backed; it is stiff and straight and angular, and its look seems to wish to ward you off by telling you that it is hard and uncomfortable to sit upon. For its owner and occupant it may be entwined with memories that make it dear to him; nay, it must be, for what else was there about it to attract any one to it or to make up for its complete lack of the large, comfortable, inviting look that the study-chair should always have? Absolutely nothing, and therefore it must be some human interest attaching to it that gives it worth and attractiveness.

While I was musing over what this romantic interest might be and trying to form a mental picture of the professor from the objects with which he surrounds himself, the door opened and I was called in to the reception-room. A tall, sparely-built man of about fifty years of age arose to receive me and invited me to take a seat on a sofa near him. His grayish hair and whiskers, the lines on his face and his whole manner and appearance gave the impression of the hard and incessant student, in which regard he differed from Prof. Sievers, who appeared the cultured gentleman rather than the laborious student. It is hardly necessary to say that he wore the inevitable glasses. I say inevitable, for it seems to me that the large majority of German students have weak eyes and wear glasses; in some cases they go so far as to wear two pairs at one time. There are exceptions to the general rule, but Prof. Wülcker is not one of them.

In his conversation with me he spoke slowly and languidly, as if to talk were a burden to him. This is his natural manner of speech and not one adopted for the occasion; for in all his lectures he spoke in precisely the same way. He can speak English fairly well, but would not do so with me, I suppose in order to test my ability to appreciate his lectures. However, we got along very well, and the result of the whole conversation was that I was given permission to attend his *Seminar*. After