

he concluded that some monk or traveller from England had carried to Italy the collection of Anglo-Saxon poems now known as the "Codex Vercellensis," and had made a gift of it to this library at Vercelli, in the dusty recesses of which it was found in the year 1832. This supposition seemed so probable that scholars have accepted it as the solution of the hitherto perplexing question. Some day it may be that Prof. Wülcker's popular reputation will rest more upon this shrewd guess than upon his laborious works.

But now let me describe the professor from a nearer view and consider his personality as exhibited in the study and classroom. Wishing to hear some of his lectures, I called upon him at his residence to introduce myself and obtain formal permission to attend his *Seminar*. Two callers were there before me, one of whom was an American who had just taken his degree. Happy mortal! Having to wait some minutes in the study before being shown into the reception-room, I could not help casting a glance or two upon the objects in the room. A student's "den" must always have charms for the true student and what, after all, is a professor's study but the most delightful of student's "dens"? The particular one in which I found myself on this occasion was not to any great extent different from others of its kind. Of course there were many book-shelves and upon them were many English books. If their owner has read them all, as in all probability he has, he has come into touch with more of our literature than most Englishmen or Americans. Every period of English literature from its earliest beginnings down to the present day, was represented. The works of the standard novelists of this century were particularly in evidence and generally in complete editions. Nor were the fiction writers of to-day forgotten. The works of these latter are published for German readers of English in the well-known Tauchnitz edition, and the presence of a couple of hundred of these volumes indicated the professor's interest in the works of contemporary writers, while their looks proved that they were on the shelves not for mere ornament but for use. It struck me at the time that few could be more *au courant* of latter-day literature than Prof. Wülcker.

There were two other things in the room that appeared to me peculiarly characteristic of him who is the presiding genius