

phants, and that simple, unadulterated truth was seldom to be heard in his presence. His conscience told him this was a vicious state of things, however pleasant to his own pride, and self-love might be the adulation offered. He determined, therefore, that his son, at least, should have a true man near him; no mere complaisant Polonius, but a straightforward, honest and useful adviser.

It was Montausier who frankly told Louis, when he declined to receive the dedication of a book from the learned Madame Dacier because she was a Huguenot, that the King of France, the Augustus of the age, the supreme patron of literature, ought not to be a bigot. His coolness and decision, on one occasion at least, had a wholesome effect on the Prince. From some quick gesture on the part of the Duke, while addressing him, the Prince foolishly imagined that he had received a blow from his governor. "How, sir!" passionately exclaimed the Prince, "do you strike me? Where are my pistols?" The Duke turns to a domestic and orders the Dauphin's pistols to be brought. Then, handing them to him, he calmly observes, "And now, let us see what you are going to do with them!" The good sense of the hasty boy led him to apologize. The Duke's letter to the Prince, on the expiration of his office as governor, contained these words: "If you are an honest man, you will love me; if you are not, you will hate me; and I shall console myself." And again, at a later period, when the Dauphin was being extravagantly lauded for the capture of Philipsburg, he wrote thus: "I do not compliment you, Monseigneur, upon the taking of Philipsburg, because you had an army, an excellent park of artillery, and Vauban; but I rejoice with you because you have shown yourself liberal, generous and humane, putting forward the services

of others, and forgetting your own. It is upon this that I have to compliment you." It is evident, had Montausier bequeathed to the Bourbons a *Del Principe*, as Machiavelli did to the Medicis, it would have essentially differed from Machiavelli's.

It was to the Duke of Montausier that the germ-idea of the Delphin classics was due. During the campaigns in which he had taken part when a youthful officer, he had desired to have near him the standard Latin writers for his own use during hours of leisure. But he found that in order fully to understand and enjoy his reading, it was needful to have at hand a huge pile of other books for frequent reference. Hence he thought there might be an edition of the Latin classics so contrived that each volume should be, as it were, self-contained: supplied, that is, at every page with all needful elucidation and comment. This would be a boon to young officers of a studious turn, who at the same time must not encumber themselves with bulky camp-equipment. And now, when the duty devolved on him of studying the necessities of his ward the Dauphin, it struck him that an edition of the Latin authors, of the compact and convenient kind contemplated, would be exactly the thing for him. The King is pleased with the idea. Colbert, the Prime Minister, himself a student of letters, heartily co-operates. The project is made to take shape; the publication is begun. It took twenty years, however, to complete the scheme.

(b) *Bossuet*. — The preceptor-in-chief of the Prince, under Montausier, was, as we have heard, Bossuet—Jacques Benigne Bossuet, afterwards the famous bishop of Meaux. He was one of the most learned and eloquent of all the ecclesiastics of France. Prior to his appointment as chief instructor of the Dauphin he had been