

as he sat up to the ears in books and pamphlets. However, he had large stores of knowledge long laid up, and he chose to draw upon the largest and richest of all. For years, he had been studying, translating, and writing essays on German literature. The extent and intimacy of his knowledge surprised even Goethe, who pronounced him to be "almost more at home in our literature than we ourselves."<sup>1</sup> He proposed to cover the whole field of German literary history from Ulphilas to Jean Paul, beginning with the origins of the Teutonic people and ending with forecasts of literature to come.<sup>2</sup> One thinks of Huxley giving a whole lecture on a piece of chalk, and wonders at the distance traversed in a single address; but discursiveness was the note of lecturing then; one of Coleridge's courses included "Architecture, Gardening, Dress, Music, Painting, and Poetry." There was one great advantage, however. Judging from Spedding's letter, Carlyle was to break up virgin soil. He was to have the rare privilege of addressing an

<sup>1</sup> Eckermann, Oct. 11, 1828.

<sup>2</sup> These were the topics of the six lectures:

1. On the Teutonic People, the German Language, Ulphilas, the Northern Immigration, and the Nibelungen Lied.
2. On the Minnesinger, Tauler, Reineke Fuchs, the Legend of Faust, the Reformation, Luther, Ulrich von Hutten.
3. On the Master Singers Hans Sachs, Jacob Böhme, Decay of German Literature, Anton Ulrich Duke of Brunswick, Opitz, Leibnitz.
4. On the Resuscitation of German Literature, Lessing, Klopstock, Gellert, Lavater, Efflorescence of German Literature, Werther, Goetz.
5. On the Characteristics of New-German Literature, Growth and Decay of Opinion, Faust, Philosophy, Kant, Fichte, Schelling, Art and Belief, Goethe.
6. On the Drama, Schiller: Pseudo-Drama, Klinger, Kotzebue, Werner: Romance, Tieck, Novalis: Pseudo-Romance, Hoffmann: Poetry and German Literature, Herder, Wieland, the Schlegels, Jean Paul: Results, Anticipations. *C.L.L.* I, 105.