

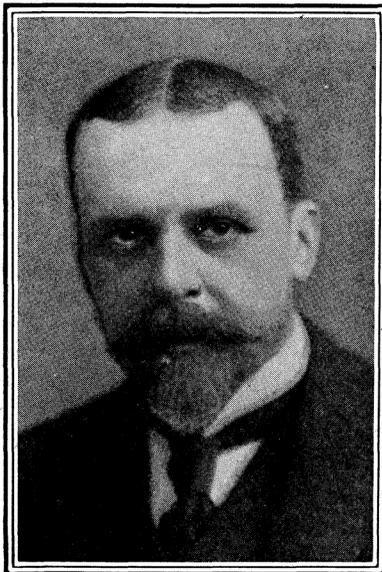
of his precious... the virtue of his heart...

"Madame," answered Paganini, to such a "parasite" as Mr. Mr. Schauflier describes...

Slightly and suddenly in a way
And never beam with a grin.

A BRITISH THRUST AT AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP.

BARRETT WENDELL, Professor of English in Harvard University...



PROF. BARRETT WENDELL.

The London Saturday Review thinks that his book exhibits "want of discrimination, superficiality, and complacent satisfaction with inferior standards of culture and discipline."

"In Shakespeare's 'Coriolanus' there comes, we are told, 'a sudden cessation of power, what seems a colossal chill of exhaustion'..."

Again:

"Professor Wendell is speaking of Davidson's essays as they might seem in fancy the playful recreations of some superhuman enchantment..."

ignorance was apt to credit the crumbling relics of Roman engineering.

"This, we repeat, is a historicism... Let the author of this anonymous book ask himself what possible application to such a work as Bacon's Essays there could have and their full absurdity will be revealed."

Turning to the question of Professor Wendell's accuracy, The Saturday Review continues:

"Lyly, we are told, to do his plots after the manner of the classics; it would be interesting to know what classic furnished him with a single one of his plots. On page 347 we are accurately informed that Dryden published a number of volumes of the restored King Charles III. We should very much like to see it, and so doubtless would Dryden's editors."

Turn where we will according to this merciless critic, there is "the same want of discrimination, the same superficiality and what is worse, not only the same provincialism, not to say Sainte-Beuve calls it but the same complacent satisfaction with inferior standards of culture and discipline."

"Take the following: Professor Wendell speaking of Milton's Latin poems says that those who as a rule are of Latin are competent to speak of the Epitaphium Damonis 'appowen and passion, etc. As to those on the other hand who like the Professor know more Latin than most of us... we wonder what, say twenty years ago, would have been said at Oxford and Cambridge about a university lecturer lecturing to an academic audience on Milton who had not only no competent knowledge of Latin, but who regarded such a disqualification with perfect complacency. And we find in every chapter of this book exactly what we should expect to find from a man who had the notions which Professor Wendell appears to have about the equipment and training of a literary critic. The diction and style, as might be expected, are on a par with the rest of the book; such sentences and syntax as the following meet us at every turn. 'The two of these were personally, independent and so whose names, etc. 'That line proved idiomatic.' 'Not particularly Miltonic, either in the first etc. 'Nothing happens, as was predicted to be the case with Masses, any way.' 'The temperamental history of England.' 'Dante, we are informed, was in Milton's eyes immortal as he is today, which reminds us of poor Partridge's remark that he was not only alive on the day on which he was writing but also alive on 29 March before. 'The durability of English Scripture is partly a matter of its reverent holiness.' 'It is surprising that neither English poetry nor English prose tell enough.' Professor Wendell's usual concord, we may remark."

"It is scandalous," concludes The Saturday Review, "that a great university like Cambridge should tolerate such standards of information and criticism as this thing would exhibit."

Certain excerpts from Professor Wendell's book were printed in THE LITERARY DIGEST April 8th. In view of the certainty of the Professor's British critic, it may interest our readers to turn to those quotations.

A Physiological Theory of Verse. The beating of the heart, suggests Mrs. Maynard's explanation of the existence of verbal rhythm. "The idea that in war debate on only suggests but interprets the outward externalization of the one possible solution to many a verbal riddle," she claims. Mrs. Hall's paper, printed first in Poet Lore, and republished in pamphlet