

a statement of facts within his knowledge, but an effective gallery of portraits, and a psychological study of the most curious kind.

But the chief trouble of the judges, and the true reason why the trial was prolonged, is said to have been, not so much the difficulty of believing or rejecting Sachs, as that of either resisting or reconciling the new King, in whom the accused clergymen found a zealous and powerful friend.

Friedrich Wilhelm the Fourth, King of Prussia, is one of the few princes who in these liberal days have been grossly calumniated and persistently misconceived by us ; though his domestic virtues and religious views were such as ought to have won for him every English heart. He was neither a strong man nor a wise man. He had none of Cromwell's insight, none of Napoleon's dash. One grain of political genius would have given him what his happier nephew will one day find at his feet, the crown of Germany. But while Friedrich Wilhelm was in no sense a daring prince, he was a kindly, generous, and faithful man ; a friend of scholars and travellers ; a great lover of art ; a collector of antiquities ; a man of books and of study, who spent his happiest hours in the library and the picture-gallery, and preferred the

conversation of writers and discoverers to that of placemen and soldiers. It is hard for a king of Prussia to be anything beyond the general of a camp. Prussia is one huge barrack. Every man is trained to the use of arms; everything is done in uniform; and the king is chief drill-serjeant in his realm. To wear sword and plume, to review the guards, to hold military receptions, are nothing. The king is expected to be a real soldier; to pass much of his time in barrack; to have a great military household; to receive his general officers at his table daily; and to live in times of peace the life of a commander in the field. Friedrich Wilhelm could not free himself from the traditions of his house. He had seen hard service in his youth, and he continued to play at the trade of war in his riper years. But the care of his army did not absorb his mind. He gathered eminent civilians about him; men like Humboldt, Bunsen, Rauch, and Kiss; friends of his heart on whom he shed the light of his high place, and who will surround his name for ever with the radiance of their fame. He was exceedingly gentle in his manners. He was good and pious; more so, many of his people thought, than became a king.