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the next twenty years it developed into the modern form of an enduring State based on individual rights and historical diversity.

The period between 1815 and 1848 was rich in talented highminded thinkers, writers and poets whose influence on the trend of Swiss history and the regeneration of national awareness cannot be too strongly emphasized. Swiss nationalism owes much to such noble and far-seeing minds as Pestalozzi Gotthelf, Burckhardt, Gottfried Keller, Furrer and Rüttimann (the two architects of the 1848 constitution) and many others among them Rossi and Zschokke who, though not Swiss-born, contributed effectively to the establishment of closer national ties and the idea of a common Fatherland.

The civil war of 1847 — the *Sonderbund* — which threatened the disruption of the Confederation was the last conflict in the struggle for national unity. Thanks to the wisdom and the statesmanship of the political leaders a peaceful settlement was achieved, a settlement which left no bitterness and culminated in the great constitution of 1848. This constitution, largely following the American model, in promoting the individual liberty of every citizen, assured a solid and lasting basis for the country's national existence. Time has proved how well the men of 1848 built.

Professor Kohn has produced a thoughtful and stimulating study, brilliantly written and very readable. It is both analytical and objective and shows a rare understanding of the subject and a sympathetic approach to the problem. We look on his book as a welcome and valuable addition to the literature on Switzerland's political development.

J.J.F.S.



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OUR NEXT ISSUE.

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