

*internationalen Privatrechts* (2 volumes, 1889), the result of more than twenty years' thought and reflection, likewise dealt with international law and was translated into English by Mr. Gillespie under the title of *The Theory and Practice of Private International Law*. From the date of their publication until the present day these works have been looked upon as authorities both at home and abroad. Essentially practical, he was nevertheless deeply versed in theory. He did not accept theory, however, and find support for it in practice. He analyzed both and tested them in the light of history. He was thus at one and the same time historian, philosopher, and jurist within his chosen field.

Those who have not had the pleasure of knowing Professor von Bar cannot gather from his large and weighty volumes the charm of manner, the felicity of expression, the keenness and subtle sense of humor, which made association with him a constant joy and an abiding memory. His very peculiarities were attractive, of which one may perhaps be mentioned for which he had good precedent, if precedent were needed. It is said of the philosopher Kant that he was accustomed to single out a student and lecture to him, and that one young man who enjoyed the distinction felt it necessary to make some changes in his dress and personal appearance. These distressed the philosopher, who appeared ill at ease at his next lecture. He sent for the young man and asked him if he would not be good enough to allow in future as in the past a button on his coat to hang loosely from the garment, as he had been accustomed to fix his eye on this when lecturing. If the loss of a button disturbed the philosopher of Königsberg, the loss of his lead pencil would have ruined the jurist of Göttingen as a public speaker, because instead of eyeing his audience or indeed of speaking to it, Professor von Bar apparently devoted his attention to a lead pencil, like himself diminutive, which he held at a distance on beginning his remarks and drew nearer and nearer to his eyes the longer he spoke until it almost threatened, so it seemed to his auditors, his vision. Great in his calling, modest, as we like to think greatness should be, attractive in all his ways, he died rich in honor and in the fulness of years.

#### FRIEDRICH MEILI

Professor Friedrich Meili, the distinguished international jurist, died at his home in Zurich, Switzerland, on January 15, 1914, in the 66th year of his age. To the development of international legal science, more particularly in respect of private rights, he devoted the best years of his

life. He brought to his work a fervor born of a conviction that the modern development of the means of intercourse and communication among the nations, requires a broader legal science, in which selfish local prejudices must surrender to the greater needs of the international community. Indeed, it was through the study of the law applicable to the new means of intercourse, the railroad, the telegraph and telephone, that he was gradually led into the international field.

The essentially practical trend of his thought and writings was due to his long experience at the Bar. In 1885, however, he became professor of law at the University of Zurich and later gradually abandoned his practice. In 1904 he received the designation of professor of private international law, which was probably the first time that a separate chair in this field was created in any faculty. He was a member of the Institute of International Law and also represented his country as a delegate at all of the four conferences thus far held at The Hague upon private international law. His arguments were always lucid and forceful, and fortified by a wealth of practical experience gained from actual contact with life. It was this which made Professor Meili's opinions widely sought in great international cases. He advised the Governments of Denmark and Austria in important litigation; he was retained by Portugal in the Delagoa Bay controversy; by the shareholders of the Netherland-South African Railroad Company against Great Britain; and by Russia in the German Bank Deposits case, in all of which he was eminently successful.

He was a prolific writer in his chosen field; indeed, those who were not fully aware of the circumstances, often wondered how one large volume could follow another so closely, consistent with adequate preparation and reflection. But the many treatises which he published within the ten years preceding his death, were in reality the work of a lifetime, the result of patient research and of an accumulation of notes gathered throughout his active career. In 1902, he published his *Handbuch des internationalen Civil und Handelsrechts* (which was translated also into English and Japanese); in 1904, *Das internationale Civilprozessrecht*; in 1909, *Das Lehrbuch des internationalen Konkursrechtes*; and in 1910, *Das Lehrbuch des internationalen Strafrechtes und Strafprozessrechtes*. He was one of the first to attempt to work out a jurisprudence for aërial navigation.

Professor Meili was unusually well equipped for work in the fields of comparative and international law through his wide knowledge of both

ancient and modern languages. He spoke English fluently and became acquainted with many of our American lawyers and publicists through his visit to St. Louis in 1904, where he read a paper at the invitation of the American Bar Association. He was a man of the broadest sympathies; nor did his scholarly attainments tempt him to forget the social purpose to be subserved by all law. He served *Justitia* well, but he also made her the handmaiden to international commerce and intercourse.

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