

feudal conditions of the middle ages. The reforms of Maria Theresa were not introduced into the Netherlands, and the old privileges of the orders and cities were not interfered with.¹ During the union with Holland (1815-30), Luxemburg had much to suffer from the attempt to unite opposing elements represented in differences of public spirit, religion, language, and industries. An attempt was made to introduce the Dutch as the national language. New taxes were laid, which fell heaviest on the agricultural classes; it was these taxes, with a duty on wine, that caused the emigration to Brazil, and started the Luxemburgers across the sea.² In spite of these wrongs, Luxemburg owes to the union with Holland the restoration of local government and the building up of education, both of which had suffered from French influences.³ The democratic constitution adopted by Belgium, in which freedom of the press and direct elections were established, and equality proclaimed, had a profound effect upon Luxemburg, so that when a restricted constitution was granted to the grand duchy in 1840, complaints grew so loud that it was revised in 1848⁴

Though the emigration from Luxemburg was largely the result of economic conditions, which especially affected the agricultural classes, yet the discontent that followed the restoration in 1839, and the restricted constitution, doubtless added to the emigrating impulse. Another cause was the dislike of military service, which, as above stated, is the result of foreign rule, and the unwillingness of the people to expose their lives for a foreign nation. For that reason many young men withdrew from the Holland, and

¹ Wolf's *Austria* (Oncken Series), p. 118.

² Nicholas Gonner's *Die Luxemburger in der Neuen Welt* (Dubuque, Iowa, 1889). This is a valuable work, from which I have obtained many of my facts relating to the Wisconsin immigration of Luxemburgers.

³ Marquardsen's *Handbuch des Oeffentlichen Rechts*, Luxemburg, iv: i. 4, ii Halfte, 11-15.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 18. In the revision, censorship of the press was removed, and the suffrage greatly enlarged.