English Abstracts of Articles in the Present Volume of "Fortid og Nutid"

Translated by Jørgen Peder Clausager

Arthur Arnheim:

The Danish Royal House of Glücksburg and the Russian Jews

It has been known since 1912 that in 1907 the Danish King Frederik VIII made an attempt at stopping a wave of persecutions of Jews, then breaking out in Russia. An appeal to the King's nephew, Czar Nicholas II, appears to have had a positive effect. This appeal, however, was merely the last of a series of approaches that had been made by the Danish royal family since 1882, in order to influence the Romanoff dynasty to adopt a more tolerant policy towards the Jews in Russia. The prompting to act in the matter came from Jewish circles at home and abroad. The secrecy which it was necessary to observe in the treatment of these matters has meant that the source material is slender and has to be searched for in many different places.

Bertel Nygaard:

Frederik Schiern and Universal History

The Danish historian Frederik Schiern (1816-82) is one of the most important examples of how the inspiration from Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel's philosophy of history shaped the development of historical studies in Denmark in the 1830s and -40s. During these years and until his death Schiern developed his ideas on historical science and the philosophy of history and about universal history beyond the framework of nations. For later generations of historians this has constituted a body of ideas that was not only something to be rejected, but also something that could serve as inspiration. By looking more closely into these ideas it is possible to introduce light and shade into the understanding of the development of historical science in Denmark. Perhaps it is even possible at the same time to challenge the theoretical and methodological considerations which lie at the root of modern historians' conception of their subject.