

**HISTORY OF THE
STUDY OF
THEOLOGY, VOL II**

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History of the study of theology, Vol II by Charles Augustus Briggs & Emilie Grace Briggs

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CHARLES AUGUSTUS BRIGGS & EMILIE GRACE BRIGGS

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BY
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D.D., D.LITT.

Prepared for Publication by his Daughter
EMILIE GRACE BRIGGS, B.D.

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PART I
THE STUDY OF THEOLOGY IN THE
MIDDLE AGES

CHAPTER I

THE STUDY OF THEOLOGY IN THE NINTH AND
TENTH CENTURIES

1. *A palace school was established by the Franks for the training of princes and nobles ; when Charlemagne appointed Alcuin as its superintendent, it rapidly became a great centre of learning.*

The palace school was founded by one of the predecessors of Charlemagne for the training of the sons of princes and nobles. As a court school it moved about with the monarch from place to place. Charlemagne himself was trained there.¹ He had some knowledge of Greek as well as Latin, and studied with the grammarian, *Peter of Pisa* ; possibly also with *Paul the Deacon* († 797), a Benedictine monk and noted Lombard scholar, who taught Greek at his court for a time, and afterwards wrote a history of the Lombards.

The school of the palace was reorganised by *Alcuin*, and became celebrated during the eight years of his superintendence. His classes were frequented by Charlemagne himself, the members of his family and

¹ *Vide Maitre, Les Écoles épiscopales et monastiques, pp. 34 seq.*