

**HEATH'S MODERN
LANGUAGE SERIES. DER
ZERBROCHENE KRUG:
NOVELLE**

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HEINRICH ZSCHOKKE & EDWARD S. JOYNES

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STATUE OF HEINRICH ZSCHOKKE, BY LANZ,
AARAN, 1895.

PREFACE.

THE following charming and simple story is edited expressly for early and easy reading. In recent years a great number of excellent texts have been added to our resources in German; but of those especially adapted, in style and editorial treatment, for very easy reading the list is still quite limited. To that list the present edition is intended to belong. The text is very simple, both in matter and in style. The Notes aim to give such help as young students — not quite beginners — should need. The Vocabulary is adapted to the same grade, presuming a knowledge of only the simplest and most regular grammatical forms. The Paraphrases for retranslation are, like the text, simple and easy; yet the teacher — still more the student — will not fail to see that they include many suggestive turns of phrase and construction. Purposely, for convenience of selection or of review, these exercises are divided under each section into two parts. The mode of using them — or whether to use them at all — will, of course, be determined by teachers themselves.

Different editions of this text show occasional, and sometimes considerable, differences of reading. The copy here followed is — with very slight variation — that of the latest edition in Cotta's *Volksbibliothek*.

SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE,
NOVEMBER, 1897.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE life of Zschokke was one of remarkably varied activity and achievement. Besides his very considerable literary work he was laborious and conspicuous as educator, as editor, as statesman, patriot and philanthropist. He combined large idealism and spirituality with practical judgment and great energy of character. His long life was devoted earnestly and unselfishly to the good of mankind; and his name, though not of the most illustrious, is highly and widely honored in Switzerland and in Germany. Such a biography is of unique interest, but here only a very brief sketch will be presented.

JOHANN HEINRICH DANIEL ZSCHOKKE was born at Magdeburg in Prussia, March 22, 1771, of intelligent and well-to-do parents of the middle class. Early an orphan, he passed an ill-directed, misunderstood, unhappy and somewhat wayward childhood. His early education was irregular, and his backwardness in study led to the belief — shared also by himself — that he was unfitted for intellectual life. Yet he was busy with other thoughts — especially with unwholesome introspection and religious doubts, and a vague longing for liberty and for sympathy. Finally, in his seventeenth year, he ran away from school, to seek liberty at any cost. For two years he led a wandering and precarious life, now teaching privately, for which he was ill

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prepared, now trying his pen in the service of a company of actors — living poorly and hardly, yet reading eagerly as he had opportunity, and gaining meanwhile valuable insight into life, and into himself. These roving years, which might have wrecked a less sturdy character, were of great service to Zschokke. They gave him needed experience; they cured him of morbid introspection and doubt; they fired him with ambition to be and to do something better, and convinced him of the need of education, discipline and self-reliance.

Accordingly at the end of two years he returned home, sought reconciliation with his guardian, and in 1790 matriculated in the University at Frankfurt on the Oder as a student of theology. At the same time he extended his course of study over a wide range of philosophy, history, politics and natural science, and was truly an omnivorous and voracious student. In 1792 he took his doctor's degree with distinction and passed his examination in theology; yet, being deemed too young for the pulpit, he continued at the university as *Privat Dozent*. Here, besides theology, he lectured on ethics, æsthetics, history and sociology; he also found time to produce an extravagant play, *Abellino, der grosse Bandit* — somewhat in the style of Schiller's *Robbers* — of which he afterward heartily repented, yet which was long popular on the stage; and soon after, another, of less distinction, *Julius von Sassen*. His lectures were very successful, and it seemed that a career of distinction as university professor was open before him. But these were the days of the French revolution, and Zschokke, early inspired with zeal for liberty, had made known only too clearly his sympathy with this great move-

ment for human rights. His application in 1795 for promotion to a professorship was rudely rejected by the Prussian minister. Convinced that there was no self-respecting career for him either at the university or within the Prussian dominions, he surrendered his position, and started out again — no longer a callow youth but a cultured and thoughtful man — to seek his fortune.

He went first to Switzerland, where he hoped to find a primitive people in the enjoyment of their natural rights; but, while he was delighted with the natural features of the country, he was astonished and shocked at the political and social condition of the people. Still he prolonged his visit, making many valued and valuable friends. He next went to Paris (1796), where, at the very source of the revolution, he hoped to see in reality his ideal of political liberty. But he was soon disenchanted and, disappointed and aimless, he turned away to resume his travels — this time through Switzerland to Rome. Detained by accident at Chur, he was induced to take charge of an academy at Reichenau, formerly a flourishing and influential school, now however in decadence. This invitation offered Zschokke an opportunity to put into practice his ideas on education. He soon reformed and transformed the school, founding its organization especially upon the ideas of liberty, self-government and training for free citizenship. In two years he had brought his work to a condition of great usefulness and promise. But by this time France and Austria were again at war. Switzerland, the common frontier, was the battleground, and the prey of both. The inhabitants were now divided into contending parties. The school was closed, and as the Austrian influence was

here in the ascendant, Zschokke became a fugitive, again disappointed of his most cherished hopes. Meantime, however, he had established a high reputation as an educator and had gained standing and influence among prominent men of the liberal party. He had already produced, besides a valuable schoolbook, an interesting work on local history, and his labors had met with public recognition by his formal admission to the rights of honorary citizenship.

At Ragatz Zschokke met other refugees, like himself friendly to the popular cause. By them he was appointed delegate to the Helvetic government then sitting at Aarau. This (Aug., 1798) marks his entrance into public life. For the stormy years following it is impossible, and here needless, to recount his history. Winning applause and confidence on his first public appearance, he was appointed successively to office after office of responsibility, trial and peril. Everywhere he acted as the champion of the rights of the people, as peacemaker between contending factions, as the protector of communities and of persons under the horrors of war. In every capacity his clear judgment, his patriotic faith, his high courage and generous heart were manifest and won for him the respect of foes and the admiration of friends; so that it is hardly too much to say that during these trying years he was among the foremost citizens of his adopted country. On the restoration of peace Zschokke occupied high official position; but as he was not in sympathy with the reactionary tendencies of the government, he withdrew from public life — yet spent another quiet and fruitful winter (1801-2) at Berne.

Withdrawn now, as he supposed permanently, from public affairs, yet unwilling to leave Switzerland, he settled (1802)