

# **THE GERMAN SPIRIT**

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The German Spirit by Kuno Francke

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**KUNO FRANCKE**

**THE  
GERMAN SPIRIT**



## BOOKS ON GERMANY

BY KUNO FRANCKE

A HISTORY OF GERMAN LITERATURE AS DETERMINED BY SOCIAL FORCES. HENRY HOLT & Co. 116th impression 1918.

GLIMPSES OF MODERN GERMAN CULTURE. DODD, MEAD & Co. 1898.

GERMAN IDEALS OF TO-DAY. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & Co. 1907.

DIE KULTURWERTE DER DEUTSCHEN LITERATUR IM MITTELALTER. BERLIN, WEIDMANN. 1910.

PERSONALITY IN GERMAN LITERATURE BEFORE LUTHER. HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS. (*In press.*)

# THE GERMAN SPIRIT

BY

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NEW YORK  
HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY  
1916



## FOREWORD

OF the three papers published here together, the first one was written in the spring of 1914; it was delivered as Convocation Address at the University of Chicago in June, and appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* for November of that year. The second essay was written in the spring of 1915 and appeared in the *Atlantic* for October. The third, a lecture delivered at the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences and various other educational institutions in February, 1916, has not been published before.

It seems to me that the three papers together present a view of contemporary Germany which may help Americans to understand better both the sources of enduring German greatness and the reasons why German achievements have so often



failed to appeal to America. At the present moment of blinding passion, the antithesis between American and German feeling has become so acute that a reasonable and sympathetic view of German aspirations has become well-nigh impossible. I should be glad if this little book could do something to restore sympathy and reasonableness.

K. F.

## CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. GERMAN LITERATURE AND THE AMERICAN TEMPER . . . . .	3
II. THE TRUE GERMANY . . . . .	43
III. GERMANY'S CONTRIBUTION TO CIVILIZATION . . . . .	87

