

**GERMAN STUDENTS'
MANUAL OF THE
LITERATURE, LAND, AND
PEOPLE OF GERMANY**

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German Students' Manual of the Literature, Land, and People of Germany by Franklin J. Holzwarth

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OF THE LITERATURE, LAND, AND
PEOPLE OF GERMANY

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F. J. HOLZWARTH

German Students' Manual

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PREFACE

THIS work does not purport to be a History of German Literature, but aims to supply a want which the writer believes to exist among both teachers and students of German in our colleges, by providing them with a text-book which will, in a very concise manner, give a general view of German land, people, and literature, and show how German thought and character have grown and developed under the influence of other nations. Great care has also been taken to locate the writers in their proper periods; to characterize each clearly, together with his most important works, and to give the most prominence to the greatest. The author has therefore incorporated in this book the outlines, act by act—a feature which he believes can not be found in any other American text-book—of the immortal dramas of Lessing, Schiller, and Goethe. German literature is so extensive, and the time that the average American student can devote to the subject so limited, that a book of this kind seems almost imperative to facilitate the work of the more advanced courses. Students often display such ignorance of even the best known writers, and of the simplest facts concerning Ger-

many, its states, government, language, and education, that the teacher is constantly handicapped by innumerable questions and explanations. It is therefore intended to give the student, even in his freshman year, an opportunity to familiarize himself with the representative writers of each period in the development of German literature, and to make him acquainted with the essentials underlying the study of a people which to-day is at the height of intellectual life and culture. The material may be supplemented by lectures, and collateral reading may be assigned by the teacher. A suitable map has also been added to enable the student to obtain a better idea of the location of places of literary interest, and of the relative size and position of the various German states. The writer wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to all modern standard works on the subjects treated, and also to his colleagues in the department, Professors J. Lassen Boysen, Charles J. Kullmer, and William C. Lowe, for their encouragement and valuable suggestions.

F. J. HOLZWARTH.

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GERMAN STUDENTS' MANUAL

THE PRIMITIVE PERIOD

LAND AND PEOPLE

THE original home (*Urheimat*) of the Germanic races must probably be sought in Asia. When the Romans first became acquainted with the country then called Germany, it already contained a large population. While the earliest account of these races is very obscure, we must consider them a branch of the Aryan race, which name is now commonly used to designate that ethnological division of mankind, otherwise called Indo-Germanic or Indo-European.

Our sources of information concerning prehistoric times are so meager, that it is difficult, if not impossible, to tell to what plane of civilization the Aryan had attained. But we are assured that the Aryan, although of a nomadic race, had passed the stage of a mere hunter. He had horses, cattle, and sheep; he built rude houses, and made boats, wagons, and weapons. Time was reckoned by the moon, and the decimal system was used for counting. His food consisted of milk, butter, and flesh, and a fermented