

**THE GERMAN FIRST BOOK;
OR, CONVERSATIONS
AND DIALOGUES**

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The German first book; or, Conversations and dialogues by Morris Miehnaur

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MORRIS MIEHNAUR

**THE GERMAN FIRST BOOK;
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AND DIALOGUES**

THE
GERMAN FIRST BOOK;
OR
CONVERSATIONS AND DIALOGUES
FOR
THE USE OF SCHOOLS.

BY
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PREFACE.

AT the present time, when the study of the German Language is becoming so generally a branch of education in English schools, every aid to simplify and facilitate its acquirement cannot, it is thought, be otherwise than acceptable; and it is hoped, that, although this little work contains nothing but what is really essential, it will be found to comprehend enough to enable the student, who will take the trouble of making himself thoroughly acquainted with its contents, to read any of the great German authors, and to acquire a perfect fluency in German conversation. It has also, in printing, been thought more useful for the learner, to have the German portions printed in their proper characters.

M. M.

January, 1845.

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THE GERMAN FIRST BOOK.

Das Deutsche A, B, C. — *The German Alphabet.*

German.	English.	Pronunciation.
A a	A a	Au
B b	B b	Beh
C c	C c	Tseh
D d	D d	Dch
E e	E e	Eh
F f	F f	Ef
G g	G g	Geh
H h	H h	Hah
I i	I i	E
J j	J j	Yot
K k	K k	Kah
L l	L l	Ell
M m	M m	Em
N n	N n	En
O o	O o	O
P p	P p	Peh
Q q	Q q	Koo
R r	R r	Err
S s	S s	Ess
T t	T t	Teh
U u	U u	Oo
V v	V v	Fou
W w	W w	Veh
X x	X x	Iks
Y y	Y y	Ipsilon
Z z	Z z	Tset.

Einfache Selbstlauter. — *Simple Vowels.*

A a, A a; E e, E e; I i, I i; O o, O o; U u, U u;

Y y, Y y.

Die Doppellaute. — *The Diphthongs.*

Au, au (pronounced like *ou* in *house*); Ei, ei; Ey, ey;
 Ai, ai (like *i* in *kite*); Eu, eu; Aeu, äu (like *oi* in *oil*);
 Ie, ie (like *ee* in *deep*).

Abgeänderte Selbstlaute. — *Modified Vowels.*

Ä, ä (pronounced like *a* in *fate*); De, ð (like the French
eu in *peu*); Ue, ü (like *u* in the French word *fut*).

Doppelte Mittlaute. — *Double Consonants.*

ch, ch — tseh-hah	ff, ss — ess-ess
ck, ck — tseh-kah	ß, sz — ess-tset
sch, sch — ess-tseh-hah	st, st — ess-teh
dt, dt — deh-teh	tz, tz — teh-tset
ff, ff — ef-ef	

PRONUNCIATION OF PARTICULAR LETTERS.

- © c, C c, as *k* whenever it is pronounced as such in English, and as *ts* when in English it sounds like *s*: as, Cedar, cedar (pronounced like *tse*der).
- © g, G g, may always be pronounced as in *give* and *big*: as, Gabel, Zug. In the word *Geometrie*, &c., &c., and sometimes between *i* and *e*, it is pronounced like *ch* in Note 3: as, regieren.
- © h, H h, as an initial always aspirated, as in *house*, Haus; but after a vowel, and after *t* in the same syllable it is mute, as in *Wuth*, rathen, fahren.
- © i, J j, like *y* in *yes* (ja, jagen). In some French words admitted in the German, it is pronounced as in French: as, Journal.
- © t, T t, as in English; but before an *i* followed by another vowel, like *ts*: as, Nation.
- © z, Z z, like *ts*: as, Zoll (pronounced, *tsoll*).
- © ch, Ch ch, is pronounced—1. like *k* at the beginning of words, when preceding a consonant, or *a*, *o*, *u*: as, Chace, Charakter. Also when followed

by an *é*, originally of the same syllable : as, *Dache*, *Dáche*.

2. As the Scotch pronunciation of *ch* in *loch*, after *a*, *o*, *u*, and *au*, when originally of the same syllable : as, *hoch*, *Luch*, *loch*, *Strauch*, *Buch*.

3. As the Scotch pronunciation of *gh* in *light*, before or after *e*, *i*, *o*, *é*, *b*, *ú*, *au*, *eu*, and after *l*, *n*, or *r*, as in *ich*, *Wúch*, *Furcht*, *Stráuche*, *Fúcher*, *Milch*, *Búcher*.

sch (*sch*), *Sch* *sch*, like *sh* in English : as, *short*, *shot* (*Schtuß*). When a final *s* (*é*) precedes *ch*, that letter belongs of course to the previous syllable : as, *háuschen* (little house). Pronounced, *háus-chen*.

ß, *sz*, as a sharp *s*, and only used as a final letter, and sometimes after a long vowel. If the word is lengthened by an *e* (*é*), a double *s* (*ff*) takes its place : as in *kuß*, *Kúffe*.

N.B. — *é* and *z*, separate, retain each their natural sound, as in the word *háuszucht*.

Ph *ph*, *Ph* *ph*, like *ph* in the word *physic*.

Geschlechtswörter. — ARTICLES.

B. bestimmte. — <i>Definite.</i>		Unbestimmte. — <i>Indefinite.</i>	
Singular.	Plural.	Singular.	
masc. fem. neut. of the 3 gen.		masc.	fem. neut.
N. der	die das die, the	N. ein	eine ein, a, or an
G. des	der des ter, of the	G. eines	einer eines, of a, or of an
D. dem	der dem den, to the	D. einem	einer einem, to a, or to an
A. den	die das die, the.	A. einen	eine ein, a, or an.

N.B. The vocative is always like the nominative, and the ablative is denoted by a preposition.