

**MATERIAL FOR
PRACTICAL GERMAN
CONVERSATION**

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Material for practical German conversation by Laurence Fossler

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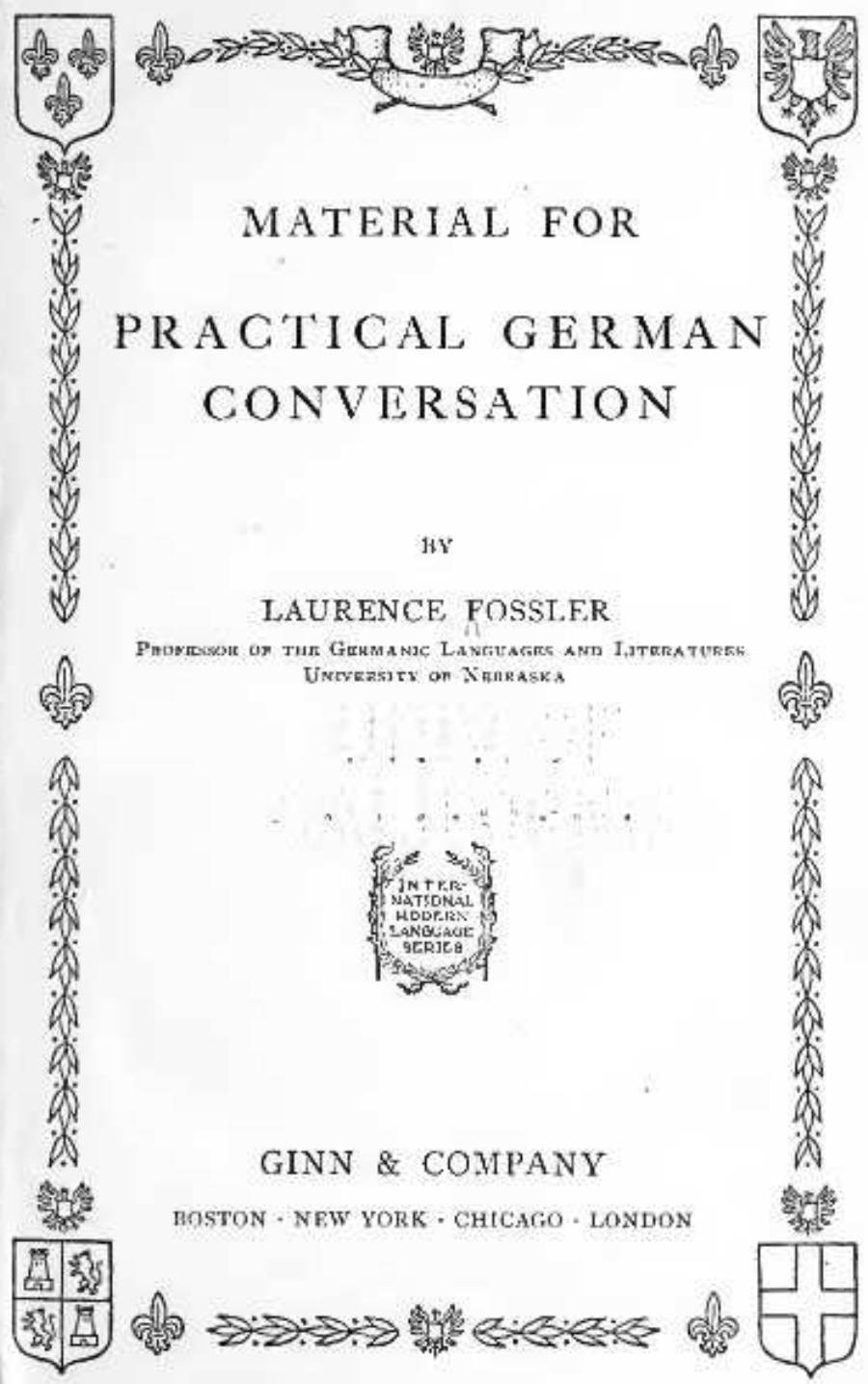
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LAURENCE FOSSLER

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CONVERSATION**



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PRACTICAL GERMAN
CONVERSATION

BY

LAURENCE FOSSLER

PROFESSOR OF THE GERMANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA



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IN MEMORIAM

Prof. J. Henry Sengok

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TO THE
ALPHABET

The Athenæum Press
GINN & COMPANY · CAM-
BRIDGE · MASSACHUSETTS

TO

Dr. C. Benj. Andrews

CHANCELLOR OF

MY ALMA MATER, THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

THIS LITTLE VOLUME

IS AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED

M125422



PREFACE

THE volume herewith submitted to my fellow-teachers and their classes in "German Conversation" differs more or less from other text-books on that subject hitherto within easy reach. It is not a book for beginners, nor even for second-year students. It presupposes a certain degree of proficiency in reading the language, a proficiency measured by the ability to read with profit books such as Schiller's *Tell* or *Maria Stuart*, Goethe's *Hermann und Dorothea*, Sudermann's *Frau Sorge*, or texts equally difficult. It assumes further that the learner wishes more than a collection of phrases pertaining to steamboats, ticket offices, and hotel accommodations, and, finally, that a review of the main points of grammar, in connection with the lessons, will be welcomed by both teacher and taught.

A constant effort has been made to meet and explain representative difficulties which the average student encounters in his attempts to speak German. The fact that the field is practically limitless, and that it is possible to cover but a small portion of it, has, I trust, not escaped my attention. I can but hope that the book will prove to be what its title claims for it — Material for Practical German Conversation, and that by its aid the learner may gain at least a fair command of the language as actually spoken.

It remains to be said that I have made free use of Flügel-Schmidt-Tanger, *Wörterbuch der englischen und deutschen Sprache*, and of Otto Lyon-Heyse, *Deutsche Schulgrammatik*. E.g., the presentation of the sequence of tenses, p. 164, follows Lyon's treatment of that topic very closely. Hetzel, *Wie der Deutsche spricht*; Sütterlin, *Die deutsche Sprache der Gegenwart*; von Jagemann, *German Syntax*; Thomas, *German Grammar*, have likewise been consulted as occasion demanded. Furthermore, I take great pleasure, on bringing my labors in connection with this volume to a close, in acknowledging my indebtedness to the editors of the International Modern Language Series for many helpful suggestions and criticisms.

LAURENCE FOSSLER

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

August 10, 1904

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