

**THE INFLUENCE OF
WALTER SCOTT
ON THE NOVELS OF
THEODOR FONTANE**

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The Influence of Walter Scott on the Novels of Theodor Fontane by Lambert Armour Shears

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LAMBERT ARMOUR SHEARS

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY GERMANIC STUDIES

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OF THEODOR FONTANE

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*To My Father
Who First Awakened in Me
a Love
for the Study of German*



PREFACE

The present study owes its origin to a conversation on the German novel of the nineteenth century which I had with Professor Frederick W. J. Heuser early in 1920. On this occasion Professor Heuser called my attention to a paper written by Dr. Friedrich Schönemann in 1915 for the American Modern Language Association entitled "Theodor Fontane und England," in which is discussed the influence of certain British novelists on the fiction of Fontane. This essay formed the starting-point for my investigation. To Dr. Schönemann too I am deeply indebted for valuable advice, especially during the early stages of my work. It is also a particular pleasure to acknowledge here the inestimable assistance rendered by Miss Bertha E. Trebein, the author of the monograph, *Theodor Fontane as a Critic of the Drama*. Doctor Trebein, who had access in Berlin to Fontane's unpublished diaries and letters as well as to the files of various periodicals, has most generously given me the benefit of her exhaustive research. For information concerning details of Fontane's works and literary activity I am obliged to the very cordial co-operation of Mr. Friedrich Fontane, the publisher, a son of the novelist. More than to anyone, however, the successful completion of this monograph—the difficulty of which cannot be judged by its length—is due to the fruitful suggestions and the constant, stimulating encouragement of Professor Robert Herndon Fife. Helpful counsel was also given by Professor Heuser and Professor Henry H. L. Schulze. To Professor Fife and to my colleague Dr. Gerhard Baerg of Wesleyan University, I am indebted for assistance in reading the proof.

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