

**HURRAH AND HALLELUJAH: THE  
TEACHING OF GERMANY'S  
POETS, PROPHETS, PROFESSORS  
AND PREACHERS; A  
DOCUMENTATION**

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Hurrah and Hallelujah: The Teaching of Germany's Poets, Prophets, Professors and Preachers;  
A Documentation by J. P. Bang

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**HURRAH AND HALLELUJAH**

### *Raison d'être*

"The new-German spirit has found one of its most classical expressions in a collection of poems published by a German pastor, Konsistorialrat Dietrich Vorwerk, under the significant title, 'Hurrah and Hallelujah.' I find in this combination something so absolutely characteristic of the German spirit, that I have adopted it as the title for this book. In the first edition of Pastor Vorwerk's poems there occurred a paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer, of which I will cite the last three petitions and the close:

"Though the warrior's bread be scanty,  
do Thou work daily death and tenfold woe  
unto the enemy. Forgive in merciful long-  
suffering each bullet and each blow which  
misses its mark! Lead us not into the  
temptation of letting our wrath be too tame  
in carrying out Thy divine judgment! De-  
liver us and our Ally from the infernal  
Enemy and his servants on earth. Thine is  
the kingdom, the German land; may we,  
by aid of Thy steel-clad hand, achieve the  
power and the glory."

*See page 42.*

# HURRAH AND HALLELUJAH

THE TEACHING OF GERMANY'S POETS,  
PROPHETS, PROFESSORS AND PREACHERS

*A DOCUMENTATION*

BY

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COPENHAGEN

FROM THE DANISH BY JESSIE BRÖCHNER

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

**RALPH CONNOR**

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## INTRODUCTION

BY RALPH CONNOR

*Author of "The Sky Pilot," "The Doctor,"  
"Corporal Cameron," etc.*

THE revelation of the German mind, of the German soul—I had almost said of the German heart, but there is in these Sermons and Lectures no sign of "heart" as we understand the term—is such as to fill one with dismay if not despair.

These sermons are the utterances of Christian ministers who may fairly be supposed to cherish the most sacred beliefs, the most Christian feelings, the holiest aspirations to be found among their people. These Lectures are the teachings of men distinguished for the clearest reasoning, the finest thinking, the most liberal culture in Germany during the last quarter-century. Remembering this, one asks in amazement too deep for words what is this strange madness which has fallen upon a once wise and kindly and great people. One is conscious of the same mingling of horror and pain as when a friend once trusted, esteemed and loved as a type of generous and noble manhood is suddenly revealed as a pitiable, unbalanced creature, the victim of unclean thoughts and revolting habits. The shock is not

simply that of outraged and disappointed friendship, but the more vital shock of a weakened faith in humanity itself.

As I perused these extracts I was pulled up again and again with the questions, "Can it be possible that these are genuine?" "Did sane German men ever solemnly give forth these amazing ideas and sentiments?" "Or is Dr. Bang playing a huge hoax upon an ignorant non-German world?" For I protest that it does seem as if, seeking to ridicule her, to humiliate her, to damn her forever before the world of sane and thinking men, one of Germany's most bitter haters had wickedly faked these extracts and attributed them to these reverend and learned leaders of her people. It is difficult to believe that these fantastic, these impassioned outpourings of mind and soul are anything but ironic. That silly, solemn self-glorification, that self-idolatry with its iteration so characteristic of a semi-barbarian fanaticism—how even a slight sense of humour had saved them!—that sense of mission, light bearing and life giving, to inferior, frivolous and decadent non-German peoples (cf. "German nature healing a sick world"), that pitiful, insolent contempt for all peoples, races, tribes other than themselves, that crazy hatred of those they call their foes, rising to a frenzied hysteria when directed against England, and above all, and sadder than all, that blasphemous monopolising of the Almighty as the German God, nay the identification

of the Deity with the German soul (cf. Pastor W. Lehman: "God is nothing but our moral activity, etc." Read the whole blasphemous archaic definition of the German tribal deity). How pitiful it all is, how ghastly, how terribly funny were it not so terribly sad! If Dr. Bang seeking to convict these German poets, prophets, professors and preachers of mental turgidity, of emotional frenzy, of impious reversion to heathenism in religion and ethics, and using the matter of these Sermons and Lectures, had put it forth in an original essay, the whole German literary and religious world would have risen in wrathful denunciation of him, and not only the German but the rest of the civilised world as well. We Anglo-Saxons would certainly have regarded such an essay as a scandalous libel. But Dr. Bang is wise. He argues little, he mainly quotes. Not his argumentation but his documentation constitutes this most terrific arraignment of Germany through her intellectual and religious leaders which has yet been put forth. Out of her own mouth it is that she stands before the world condemned. And the tragedy of it all is in this, that these men are sincere, deeply, passionately sincere. And herein consists the awful nemesis that has after fifty years' pursuit at length overtaken the German intellect and the German soul. For the crime of Germany to-day of which these Sermons and Lectures convict her is not hypocrisy; but the long practice of hypocrisy has induced in