

**WORMAN'S SERIES FOR THE MODERN  
LANGUAGES. AN ELEMENTARY GERMAN  
READER IN PROSE AND VERSE: WITH  
COPIOUS EXPLANATORY NOTES AND  
REFERENCES TO THE EDITORS GERMAN  
GRAMMARS AND A COMPLETE VOCABULARY**

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**JAMES H. WORMAN**

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*COPIOUS EXPLANATORY NOTES AND REFERENCES TO THE  
EDITORS GERMAN GRAMMARS*

AND A COMPLETE VOCABULARY.

BY

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## P R E F A C E .

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THIS Elementary Reader is intended as a companion to my Grammars of the German language. It should be used with the *Elementary* as soon as the first twenty lessons have been thoroughly mastered; in connection with the *Complete*, it may be read after the student has acquired Lesson I. The References and Explanatory Notes are very full and minute, having been prepared with this special end in view. Frequent repetitions, both in statement and reference, will be noticed; this is intentional on my part, the object being to secure thoroughness in the drill of the elementary principles of the German language.

Years of experience in the class-room enables me to confirm the theory that diligent and attentive reading of good authors not only supplies the learner with a rich store of words, phrases, and idioms, and expressions of every kind, but makes him familiar with the various inflections and mutations of which the words are susceptible in a much briefer time than even the most devoted study of the grammar.

Great care has been taken to make this work truly *progressive*. The readings, which are selected to afford variety, both in prose and verse, have been arranged with a view to the progress to be expected of an elementary student. *Eigensinn*, by Benedix, an easy play, was inserted in this book because, like the French plays of Scribe, it gives the learner the conversational language of the day. This play affords also an excellent opportunity for a review of the *auxiliary verbs of mode*.

The selections, in their orthography, are always an exact

copy of the best editions of the authors from whom the extracts are taken. This will make the learner familiar with the peculiarities of the different German writers.

It may not be out of place here to state that it has been my endeavor to present in this book only such selections as can be placed in the hands of youth of both sexes without reserve.

The Notes and References are placed immediately at the end of the text, before the Vocabulary, instead of at the foot of the page, to which they refer, in order to insure a thorough study of the lesson. The Vocabulary contains not only the words, but also the idiomatic phrases occurring in the text and requiring especial mention.

In the preparation of the Notes, I have been largely aided by Prof. Karl Witte, of New York, formerly of Göttingen University, Germany, and in the compilation of the Vocabulary, I was ably assisted by Mrs. J. W. Caldwell, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

**JAMES H. WORMAN.**



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\* These figures indicate the date of birth and death.

† Place of present residence.