

HERDER AND KLOPSTOCK

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Herder and Klopstock by Frederick Henry Adler

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FREDERICK HENRY ADLER

**HERDER AND
KLOPSTOCK**

HERDER AND KLOPSTOCK

BY

FREDERICK HENRY ADLER

A. B. Ohio State University, 1909

A. M. University of Illinois, 1911

THESIS

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the

Degree of

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IN GERMAN

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IN

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OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

1913

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TO MY PARENTS

PREFACE

It is difficult to understand the whole creative and classical period of German literature without taking into consideration Klopstock's significant position in its history and the powerful influence he exerted upon its greatest personalities. His wonderful originating powers brought forth a new ideal of humanity, the influence of which has been felt in all succeeding periods; his thoughts, and the language he clothed them in, may be traced in the works of Germany's greatest masters.

The chief aim of the present work has been to present in a new light the relation of Klopstock to Herder, one of his great contemporaries, whose genius aided in causing to grow and flourish the seed sown by the poet. The first part resolves itself into an objective treatment of the personal relations of the two men, of Herder's knowledge of Klopstock's works, and of his critical estimate of them. In the second part an attempt has been made to show how the spirit of the new world of ideas, as created by Klopstock, found sympathetic response in Herder, and how it in turn received expression in his own life and works. The last chapter attempts to present the source of Klopstock's new poetical language; by means of a comparison with Herder's language, it aims to give a more detailed presentation of the intellectual world of the two men.

The author wishes to express his sincere gratitude to Professor Julius Goebel, of the University of Illinois, whose inspiration and kindly guidance has made this work possible. Also to his friend, Mr. J. Allan Nevins, who read most of the present work in its original draft, and offered many valuable criticisms regarding style, the writer desires to express his most hearty thanks.

Then, finally, to his friend, Dr. Irma E. Voigt, for her friendly assistance, the writer extends his most heartfelt gratitude and appreciation.

F. H. A.

Cleveland, March, 1914.

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