THE ECLECTIC GERMAN READER: CONSISTING OF CHOIE SELECTIONS FROM THE BEST GERMAN WRITERS, WITH COPIOUS REFERENCES TO THE AUTHOR'S GRAMMATICAL WORKS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649567973

The Eclectic German Reader: Consisting of Choie Selections from the Best German Writers, with Copious References to the Author's Grammatical Works by W. H. Woodbury

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CONSISTING OF

CHOICE SELECTIONS

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THE BEST GERMAN WRITERS,

WITH COPIOUS REFERENCES

AUTHOR'S GRAMMATICAL WORKS;

TO WHICH IS ADDED A

COMPLETE VOCABULARY.

BT.

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W. H. WOODBURY, A. M.,

ТТВОЕ ОГ "АВОЛТАА СОЦЗЕТ ИТИ ОДИЧАХ," " БLEMENTART GENERN BEADER," "ECLECTIC ORNHAR ESADER," "ОВИЧАТ-ЕМОЦЗИ АЮ ЛИОСІЗЧ-ВЕННАЯ BEADER," "ТЕЧ МЕТНОР ГОЕ ОДИНАТ-ЕМОЦЗИ АЮ ЛИОСІЗЧ-ВЕННАЯ "ÉRUE ÉRCEODE JAT ESICTEARE EST CALHIGUE OFTAGE," ATO.

Ber frembe Sprachen nicht tennt, weiß nichts von feiner eignen. Go tt fe.

NEW YORK: IVISON, BLAKEMAN, TAYLOR & CO. CHICAGO: & C. GRIGGS & CO.

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1870.

PREFACE.

For those who desire no farther knowledge of German than may be required in business transactions, as also for those who, being already well skilled in the principles of general grammar, desire nothing more than a plain statement of the points peculiar to the German, ample provision is made in the course of study given in the author's grammatical works.

But another class, larger than either of the others, consists of those who occupy an intermediate position. They want a course at once brief and comprehensive. They have not the time, or perhaps, the means to justify them in entering immediately upon the perusal of entire works of standard authors. And yet while acquiring the principles of German Grammar, they desire to find the application of those principles, in the writings of those who have adorned the language by their genius.

For this class the present work is mainly designed. It is, therefore, ECLECTIC; that is, it is upon the *plan* o. that ancient philosophical system, which drew professedly from every quarter that which was best in its kind. Genius in almost every line of composition, literary excellence of every grade and nature, is here more or less represented: the whole forming a kind of Sketch-book, which, whether

PREFACE.

for occasional reading, or the higher purpose of educational training, cannot fail to be highly interesting and profitable.

That the way of the student may be readily cleared of obstacles, and the habit of reading with perpetual regard to the principles of grammatical structure, may be formed and established in the mind, references are all along made at the foot of the page, to the author's Grammars, where difficulties of construction or idiom, that may occur, are explained and illustrated. The careful use of these references is, therefore, earnestly recommended.

That the book may be yet more complete in itself, a full vocabulary has been added; in which, besides what might be properly expected in a mere dictionary, the student will find many remarks and illustrations explanatory of the text.

As a preliminary to the course of reading presented in this book, the author takes occasion to say, that he has in preparation another volume, more progressive in plan and easy in style, which is designed for pupils less advanced.

Meantime the present volume is sent forth with the hope of affording one more pleasing and appropriate channel, through which the wealth of the German language may be more widely diffused.

NEW-YORE, June 14, 1852.

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