

**RELIGION AND
PHILOSOPHY IN
GERMANY: A FRAGMENT**

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Religion and philosophy in Germany: a fragment by Heinrich Heine

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RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY
IN GERMANY.

RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY
IN GERMANY:

A fragment.

By HEINRICH HEINE.

TRANSLATED BY

JOHN SNODGRASS,

TRANSLATOR OF "WIT, WISDOM, AND PATHOS FROM THE PROSE OF
HEINRICH HEINE."

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1882.

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TO MY FATHER

3 Dedicate

THIS ATTEMPT

FAITHFULLY TO RENDER INTO ENGLISH

A FRAGMENT

OF

HEINRICH HEINE'S BRILLIANT PROSE.

J. S.

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE.

IN the beginning of the year 1833, Heine contributed to the newly-founded and short-lived Parisian journal, "Europe Littéraire," a series of articles on modern German literature. The object of these articles was to assist Frenchmen to a more accurate acquaintance with the productions of the German Romantic School than it was possible for them to acquire from Madame de Stäel's celebrated book, "De l'Allemagne." Political topics being excluded from the programme of the "Europe Littéraire," it was only in a very guarded manner that Heine could, in the pages of this Journal, direct the shafts of his satire against the despotic rulers of Germany. But in the series of three articles published in 1834 in the "Revue des Deux Mondes," and afterwards collected together under the title, "A Contribution to the History of Religion and Philosophy in Germany," Heine felt himself at liberty to deal in the most unrestrained manner with the political condition of his native country. When, however, in January 1835, Hoffmann and Campe of Hamburg published the German version of the work, the mutilation it

had suffered at the hands of the censor was so great as to call forth from Heine a protest in the German press. How keenly he resented the treatment to which his work had been submitted will be seen from the Preface to the second German edition (page 10 of the present volume). In the French version of Heine's works, the book now translated appears as the first part of the two volumes entitled "De l'Allemagne." These volumes were carefully revised by Heine during the latter years of his life, but the later German editions had not the benefit of such revision. The French version, as finally revised by the author, must therefore be regarded as the definitive form in which he desired the work to appear. The translator of this volume has therefore been confronted with the difficulty of a French and a German version, presenting considerable variations of text. Some of these variations are so slight as to render it unnecessary to draw special attention to them; indeed to indicate every little change of phrase would prove an annoyance to any but devoted students of Heine's works. Other alterations consist of corrections of errors, a few short passages are materially changed, and several paragraphs appearing in the one version are omitted in the other. Where the alteration in the text seems of importance it is indicated in this volume either by a footnote or in the Appendix, and passages omitted from either version are restored. The actual translation, however, has been made rather from the German than from the French. And for this reason: