

THE GOLDEN AGE OF GERMAN LITERATURE

THE OREGONIAN'S HOME STUDY COURSE. DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON

Of the literatures of Europe the German was the last to have its golden age. The four other great literatures of the world preceded it, but all proceeded Germany in making their finest contributions to modern culture.

During the period of the breaking up of the medieval system of life and thought, Italy led the way by her redemptive use of the treasure of Greek art and literature; Spain followed, imposing herself upon a domineering and arbitrary pope; less than religious and political Europe, though now the reformer.

The turn of Germany to lead and to contribute came at last. The golden age of its primary extends in its broader limits from the year 1780 to about 1850, or more narrowly from the year 1800 to 1850.

That the great classical period of modern German literature began in the year 1780 is the sufficient explanation in the 30 years' war—1793-1806. This set Germany back fully 200 years in comparison with France and England.

The work of repression and dissolution begun by the religious and political reaction of the second half of the 18th century was completed by the disaster of Napoleon's wars which destroyed nearly all the national forces of Germany—material, social, intellectual, moral.

It is, however, necessary for the German spirit independently to react upon this foreign stimulus. The leaders of this reaction were Lessing and Herder. Gotthold Christian Lessing, born in 1724 at Kamenitz in Prussia, died in 1781 at Braunschweig, is one of the great critics of modern times in literature and art.

Herder's chief writings of Lessing were "Letters on the Latest Literature" (1780-89), "Laokoon" (1780), "Hamburg Dramaturgy" (1787). Of the "Laokoon" Goethe declared: "It transported us from the region of poetry observation into the free fields of plastic art."

The epoch-making dramas of Lessing were "Miss Sara Sampson" (1766), the first German tragedy of common life; "Minna von Barnhelm" (1767), a classic German comedy; "Emilia Galotti" (1772), the first classic German tragedy, and "Nathan the Wise" (1779), a dramatic poem, written in purest Italian.

Herder's chief writings of the 18th century, which he called "Fragments on Modern German Literature" (1796) and "Critical Collections" (1798). The "Fragments" have been regarded as the most significant and original work of his period.

Herder was a great personal and all-pervasive idea of organic growth, or evolution, and of genius, so that "No one, Kant perhaps alone excepted, has contributed more to the stock of German thought, or has exercised greater or more lasting influence upon an age, a nation or the world at large, than Herder. Directly or indirectly he has been a learning, history and literature, as Kant reconstructed philosophy."

Herder's chief writings of the 18th century, which he called "Fragments on Modern German Literature" (1796) and "Critical Collections" (1798). The "Fragments" have been regarded as the most significant and original work of his period.

THE RAILROAD WRECKED. IN SPITE OF THIS, ROBERTS' ADVANCE GOES ON STEADILY.

BRABANT JOINS HANDS AT THABANCHU. -The Situation at Mafeking -Plumer's Advance.

LONDON, May 8.—The following dispatch from Lord Roberts has been received at the War Office: "Small Northey. The railway from Brabant to this place has been considerably damaged, and the bridge over the Vet River has been hopelessly wrecked.

Plumer's Advance Forces. SMALDREEL, O. F. S., May 7.—General Plumer's advance camp of the Colonial Light Infantry has been established at Loggen (Welgelegen) siding. According to reports, the Boers intend to make a big stand near the Zand River. The railroad bridge over the Zand River, on the south side of the Vet River, and engineers are busy making a deviation across the bed.

GERMANY TO IMITATE. American Locomotives and Machinery to Be Copied. Referring to a previous report, in which he explained that the principal purpose of the Prussian Government in ordering a number of American locomotives for service on the state railways was to give Bavarian engineers and engine builders an opportunity to test, study and imitate so far as should be possible, the superior features of the American machines, the American Consul at Berlin has shown that by reason of their great boiler space and heating surface, they are more efficient and economical.

Lines from Across the Sea. How the Hospital-Ship Maine Has Touched All British Hearts. VICTORIA, B. C., May 3.—(To the Editor.)—I came across the following lines in "The Owl," a Cape Town paper, and they seem to me to express the feelings of gratitude to our American cousins which fill the breasts of Britishers on account of their generosity in providing and equipping the hospital-ship Maine.

Other Notable Famines. The famine in India excites horror, but Ireland was scourged with famine from the middle of the 18th century periodically down to 1845 when the last great famine occurred. There have been times of great distress in Ireland for food since 1846—notably in 1859 and 1882. During the war of the Spanish succession, terrible sufferings were experienced in France. In Paris there was a terrible famine.

Hotel Donnelly, Tacoma. European plan; headquarters for commercial men. Chilberg's restaurant in connection.

Hotel Branawick, Seattle. European first class. Rates 75c and up. One block from depot. Restaurant next door.

Rome, May 8.—Mount Vesuvius has been in a state of eruption for the past three days, and explosions within the crater have thrown lava and masses of rock to a great height. Last night, the eruption was especially violent, and was accompanied by menacing rumblings.

SILVER TO THE FRONT. BRYAN REFUSES TO MODIFY THE CHICAGO PLATFORM.

ON May day William Jennings Bryan, leader of the Democratic party and uncompromising champion of the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, made a speech at Columbus, O. He did more than that. He absolutely and positively refused to favor a plank in the Kansas City platform modifying the imperative demand for immediate free coinage of silver.

GERMANY TO IMITATE. American Locomotives and Machinery to Be Copied. Referring to a previous report, in which he explained that the principal purpose of the Prussian Government in ordering a number of American locomotives for service on the state railways was to give Bavarian engineers and engine builders an opportunity to test, study and imitate so far as should be possible, the superior features of the American machines, the American Consul at Berlin has shown that by reason of their great boiler space and heating surface, they are more efficient and economical.

Lines from Across the Sea. How the Hospital-Ship Maine Has Touched All British Hearts. VICTORIA, B. C., May 3.—(To the Editor.)—I came across the following lines in "The Owl," a Cape Town paper, and they seem to me to express the feelings of gratitude to our American cousins which fill the breasts of Britishers on account of their generosity in providing and equipping the hospital-ship Maine.

Other Notable Famines. The famine in India excites horror, but Ireland was scourged with famine from the middle of the 18th century periodically down to 1845 when the last great famine occurred. There have been times of great distress in Ireland for food since 1846—notably in 1859 and 1882. During the war of the Spanish succession, terrible sufferings were experienced in France. In Paris there was a terrible famine.

Hotel Donnelly, Tacoma. European plan; headquarters for commercial men. Chilberg's restaurant in connection.

Hotel Branawick, Seattle. European first class. Rates 75c and up. One block from depot. Restaurant next door.

Rome, May 8.—Mount Vesuvius has been in a state of eruption for the past three days, and explosions within the crater have thrown lava and masses of rock to a great height. Last night, the eruption was especially violent, and was accompanied by menacing rumblings.

THE PALATIAL. Absolutely fireproof, electric lights and artesian water; perfect sanitation and thorough ventilation. Elevators run day and night.



Not a dark office in the building! Absolutely fireproof, electric lights and artesian water; perfect sanitation and thorough ventilation. Elevators run day and night.

- ANDERSON, GUSTAV, Attorney-at-Law... 813
ASSOCIATED PRESS: E. L. Powell, Mgr... 806
AUSTIN, F. C., Manager for Oregon and Washington Bankers Life Association... 602-503

FOR WELL PEOPLE. An Easy Way to Keep Well. It is easy to keep well if we would only observe each day a few simple rules of health.

ELYS CREAM BALM. A LOCAL AND CLIMATIC CATARRH DISEASE. Nothing but a local remedy or change of climate will cure catarrh. Get a well-known specific.

ELYS CREAM BALM. A LOCAL AND CLIMATIC CATARRH DISEASE. Nothing but a local remedy or change of climate will cure catarrh. Get a well-known specific.

ELYS CREAM BALM. A LOCAL AND CLIMATIC CATARRH DISEASE. Nothing but a local remedy or change of climate will cure catarrh. Get a well-known specific.

ELYS CREAM BALM. A LOCAL AND CLIMATIC CATARRH DISEASE. Nothing but a local remedy or change of climate will cure catarrh. Get a well-known specific.

ELYS CREAM BALM. A LOCAL AND CLIMATIC CATARRH DISEASE. Nothing but a local remedy or change of climate will cure catarrh. Get a well-known specific.