

FROM PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE subject matter of the best Readers now in use in the schools of Germany, is divided into two parts, one of which contains selections of a descriptive and geographical, the other of an historical and narrative character. The object of this division is not only to afford the pupils a more extended survey of the literature, but also to lend both variety and interest to their reading. In passing from one topic to another they immediately find themselves in a new atmosphere, and constant attention is thus secured.

Professor HERMANN B. BOISEN's sound judgment and long years of practical experience led him to adopt this plan in the grammatical treatise of his "First Course in German," as he entitled the first edition of this book. It is sincerely to be regretted that his severe illness and sudden death prevented him from fully carrying out his plans; a circumstance which was all the more unfortunate, as it compelled him to restrict his labors to a mere outline of the chapters on descriptive German.

The publisher's proposal to revise and enlarge Professor BOISEN's little book I regarded as highly flattering, and, though involving much responsibility on my part, I have been induced to submit the first volume of the "*Sprache und Gebrauch*" to the public. — For the complete realization of Professor BOISEN's idea preparations have already been made for the edition of a second volume, to follow the first