A GERMAN COURSE
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PREFACE

This book is intended primarily to meet the need of a prose manual which may be used in form from the time a boy begins the translation of connected passages to the time he leaves school. The advantages of using one prose book throughout the school are obvious, the most important perhaps being the opportunities it gives for revision. In order to satisfy schools faced with competitive examinations, the proses which form the second half of the book have been divided into two parts, those in the first part reaching School Certificate standard, those in the second the standard of the Army Examination and of London Matriculation. The proses have been selected from a wide field in order to encourage the use of as large a vocabulary as possible; a few but not many have already been set in examinations. The first piece in each part has been treated in detail and takes the form of a model lesson. In the notes attached to the proses help is given with difficult phrases and idioms as well as numerous references to the grammatical sections which form the first half of the book. The matter in these sections covers roughly the same field as the proses. Since it is not the aim of this book to take the place of a Grammar, much that may be found in Grammars has been omitted (e.g. long lists of exceptions and tables showing the conjugation of verbs, etc.), and this has made possible inclusion of matter not always found in Grammars (e.g. the use of ja, doch, einmal, etc.). But since errors even in advanced work are often due to a failure to understand elementary principles, the most important points of elementary Grammar have been included at least in outline, so that reference may be made to them if necessary. An index to the Grammar is given at the end of the Grammar sections and a full vocabulary after the proses, and it is hoped that with these inclusions the book will be found complete in itself. This completeness as well as the fullness of the references will, I hope, appeal not only to schools but also to those who already have some knowledge of German and who wish to keep their knowledge fresh. For this purpose the occasional translation of short passages from English into German is as good a method as any, provided time
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need not be wasted in referring to Dictionaries and Grammars; it was to avoid this necessity that the index was added and the vocabulary made as complete as possible.

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