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978-1-108-00662-0 - Geschichte der deutschen Sprache, Volume 2

Jacob Grimm

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Geschichte der deutschen Sprache

Jacob Grimm (1785-1863) became a household name around the world through the collections of fairy tales he compiled with his brother Wilhelm. The brothers were also the founders of a monumental German dictionary. Jacob's specialism was the history of the German language, which he studied in the broader context of Indo-European philology. Others working in this burgeoning field included the older scholar Rasmus Rask and Grimm's contemporary Franz Bopp (also published in this series). Grimm's two-volume *Geschichte der deutschen Sprache*, reissued here, was first published in 1848. It is noteworthy especially for the chapter on the major sound shift now known as Grimm's Law or *die erste deutsche Lautverschiebung*, which sets out regular mappings between Germanic consonants and those found in earlier Indo-European languages, such as English *father* and Latin *pater*. The book also contains a wealth of comparative material on phonology, vocabulary and grammar within Germanic and across the Indo-European spectrum.

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1848.