

*Haupt*, with which Benedix began his career as a playwright in 1839, *Der Vetter*, *Die zärtlichen Verwandten*, *Die relegierten Studenten*; among his many good short comedies, *Die Eifersüchtigen*, *Die Hochzeitsreise*, *Eigensinn*. It is the particular merit of Benedix's plays that they are thoroughly German; the social conditions in the Germany of Benedix's time are, of course, not in all respects those of to-day. The characters are familiar types in the upper middle class, and they reveal their foibles, their eccentricities, their homely virtues in such a way that one has merely to know something of human nature, in whatever land, in order to understand them. There is exaggeration, to be sure, even to the point of caricature, but we are merely amused, never deceived.

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As this edition is intended for elementary and intermediate students, the notes contain considerable grammatical material. Especially are the more common difficulties of syntax explained, and reference is made to Thomas's *Practical German Grammar* for confirmation or more detailed discussion. It is the editor's belief that with pupils of the high-school age or later a little time can profitably be spent on the elements of syntax, not by the memorizing of rules and exceptions, but by constant attention to their application. It means time saved in the long run and will make the pupil independent of translation as the *only* means of "getting the sense." Equally important to this end is the proper understanding of idioms and figurative uses of words. In these days of special vocabularies and other helps it is particularly necessary that the definition and explanation of words should not be neglected. The study of word-formation, so far as it involves the elements of derivation