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SOURCES, METHOD, AND STYLE**

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# HEBBEL'S NIBELUNGEN

ITS SOURCES, METHOD, AND STYLE

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*TO  
THE MEMORY OF  
MY MOTHER*





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## NOTE

Of the many writers who have attempted to make use in modern literature of the motives and action of the old story of the Nibelungs, which is to the Germanic people, as William Morris long ago pointed out, their true 'Tale of Troy,' none has been more successful in its actual rejuvenescence than has Hebbel, in his dramatic trilogy "Die Nibelungen." On this account, and because of the place which it relatively occupies among Hebbel's works, the drama undoubtedly offers an interesting field for investigation. The question of the genesis and growth of the trilogy has elsewhere been considered, but nobody until now has exhaustively examined the sources of the material and the attitude of the author in his use of it. The present monograph has been undertaken at a time when increased attention is being directed to Hebbel and his work, and is, in my opinion, a distinctly valuable contribution to the rapidly growing amount of Hebbel literature.

WILLIAM H. CARPENTER.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, May, 1906.

