

# **GERMAN AND ENGLISH SOUNDS**

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German and English sounds by C. H. Grandgent

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**C. H. GRANDGENT**

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ENGLISH SOUNDS**



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# GERMAN AND ENGLISH SOUNDS.

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## PREFACE.

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It is hoped that this book, which contains a detailed study of two individual dialects, may be of interest to phoneticians, and, at the same time, serve as a guide to learners of German or English pronunciation. The English presented here is mine; the German is that of Dr. Richard Hochdörfer, now Professor of Modern Languages at Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio. It will be seen that I have mentioned, also, some of the most important local variations in the pronunciation of both languages.

My own dialect I have been examining for a number of years. To collect information about Dr. Hochdörfer's speech, he and I went through Vietor's *German Pronunciation* together, and noted all the cases in which his practice differed from the one described in that useful work. His and my individual sounds were investigated with the aid of the instruments described in my pamphlet on *Vowel Measurements*. At the back of this book will be found drawings representing the position of the vocal organs during the formation of nearly all the German and English vowels and consonants that give trouble to beginners.

My heartiest thanks are due to Dr. Hochdörfer, not only for the patience with which he submitted, during several months, to a series of disagreeable and often painful experiments, but also

for many excellent observations on his pronunciation and mine. I am under great obligations, also, to Professor Sheldon, of Harvard University, who was kind enough to look over my manuscript and suggest numerous improvements.

CAMBRIDGE, March, 1892.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGES
INTRODUCTION: §§ 1-4.....	1-2
ACCENT: § 5.....	2
QUANTITY:—	
German: §§ 6-8.....	2-4
English: §§ 9-13.....	4-5
CONSONANT SOUNDS:—	
Table: § 14.....	6
Remarks on the Consonants: § 14.....	6-8
Relation of Sounds to Spelling: § 15.....	8-10
Dialect Variations: § 16.....	10-11
VOWEL SOUNDS.— Note: § 17.....	11
German:—	
Table: § 18.....	11
Relation of Sounds to Spelling: § 18.....	11
Dialect Variations: § 18.....	11-12
English:—	
Table: § 19.....	12
Relation of Sounds to Spelling: § 19.....	12-13
Analysis of ũ, ð, ð, t: § 20.....	13-14
Analysis of ði, ðu, oi: § 21.....	14
Note on Diagrams: § 22.....	14
Dialect Variations: § 23.....	14-19
Individual Vowels: § 23, a.....	15-18
Coronal Vowels: § 23, ð.....	18
Nasality: § 23, e.....	18
Vowels with r: § 23, d.....	18-19

SYNTHESIS:—	PAGES
German: § 24.....	20-21
Syllabication: § 24, <i>a</i> .....	20
Consonants: § 24, <i>b</i> .....	20
Vowels: § 24, <i>c</i> .....	20
Word-Groups: § 24, <i>d</i> .....	20
Emphasis and Intonation: § 24, <i>e</i> .....	20
Reference: § 24, <i>f</i> .....	21
English: § 25.....	21-22
Syllabication: § 25, <i>a</i> .....	21
Consonants: § 25, <i>b</i> .....	21-22
Vowels: § 25, <i>c</i> .....	22
Word-Groups: § 25, <i>d</i> .....	22
Reference: § 25, <i>e</i> .....	22
REMARKS ON THE DRAWINGS:—	
Method of Work: § 26.....	22-23
Description of Cuts: § 27.....	23
Jaw-Lowering: § 28.....	23
Essential Features of Vowels: § 29.....	24
Height of Larynx: § 30.....	24
List of Sounds Represented: § 31.....	24-25
Notes on Sounds: § 31.....	25-27
DRAWINGS.....	28-37
INDEX OF SOUNDS.....	39-42

## GERMAN AND ENGLISH SOUNDS.



### INTRODUCTION.

1. The two dialects that form the basis of this study are the German spoken by Dr. R. Hochdörfer, of Magdeburg, Prussia, and the English of my own speech, formed in and near Boston, Massachusetts. Some features of the latter seem to me to represent a local or individual rather than a general usage: in these cases I add and recommend a different pronunciation.

2. Besides the types of speech just mentioned, I have tried to give the most important local variations in the pronunciation of both languages. In the matter of German dialects I have relied mainly on Viator. For North English I have followed Lloyd;<sup>1</sup> for South English, Sweet and Miss Soames. My remarks on American dialects are the fruit of my own investigations.

3. It is taken for granted that readers of this book who are not already familiar with both German and English have access to the ordinary grammars, dictionaries, or guides to orthoepy. The following observations are intended merely to supplement the information usually contained in such works.

4. Throughout this book Italics (*a, b, c*, etc.) will be used in citing letters and words in the ordinary spelling; Roman type (*a, b, c*, etc.) will be employed to represent sounds and groups of sounds: for instance, *b* = the letter *b*; *b* = the sound

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<sup>1</sup> *Phonetische Studien*, V, 1, p. 78.