



Photo: Dr. Paul Wolff

It gives us much pleasure to discover all the beautiful older and newer types of the Bauer foundry in one or another of these miniature propaganda booklets. There is the "Bodoni", awakened to new life, the "German Gothic" cut by the founder of the house, Johann Christian Bauer, the "Bernhard Gothic", E. R. Weiss's types, so full of refinement and restraint, Renner's "Futura", rightly acclaimed as "praesens, perfecta, sempiterna", "Concrete", full of the spirit of the age, by Heinrich Jost, who seems to have a great deal to do with the form of the "Miniature propaganda", Max Bittrof's wilful "Element", the daring, aristocratic "Gotika", the exciting, dashing "Quick" and the others. The eye takes pleasure in tracing the relationship of the individual members of type-families and admires the inevitability of the forms taken by the single letters. Letters which have sprung from the hand of a true creator proclaim their innermost nature even on the simplest sheet of paper run through the printing press. For the "script of the printer" the saying is eminently applicable which appears on one of the prospectuses of the miniature series; it is by Alexander von Humboldt: "The script became the bearer of the noblest humanity has achieved and will leave as an undying legacy to later ages, in the two great spheres of intelligence and feeling, of divine curiosity and creative imagination."

Trans. by E. T. Scheffauer.