

EDITOR'S PREFACE.

THE publishers have divided this work of Froebel in order to bring it into volumes of convenient size. The edition of Wichard Lange and the former English translations have the form and style of a music book. In separating the contents for this division, the mottoes, commentaries, and mother communings have been placed in the first volume, which may be called the Mother's volume. The songs and music are reserved for the present volume, which is the Children's volume. What it contains is suitable for children's ears and voices.

As already mentioned in the preface to the first volume, the illustrations are reproduced from the large and well-executed cuts of the Wichard Lange edition, long since out of print, and now very difficult to procure even from an antiquarian bookstore. The pictures in that edition are large enough (6 by 9 inches) to show the minute details. In order to preserve these details the publishers of the present edition (size of page $3\frac{1}{2}$ by 5 inches) have been at the pains of repeating and enlarging the parts of

certain of the pictures, making in some cases two or three new pictures, and bringing out what is obscure with greater distinctness than is found even in the Lange edition. Inasmuch as the children are expected to find all these particulars in their study of the illustrations, and trace out the motives of the artist, this feature of the work will be appreciated by all kindergartners.

The publishers have also enlarged the Lange pictures to four times the size of the original, and printed them on a series of charts for use in the kindergartens, furnishing them at a moderate price.

The new music herewith offered will justify itself as a substitute for that which has been discarded.

I have already stated in my preface to the former volume the reasons that have made it desirable to obtain new and more poetic translations of these Froebelian songs. I have gone so far as to say that "most of the literal imitations of Froebel's poetry have contributed in a greater or less degree to ruin the poetic sense of teachers and pupils." I believe that I shall be sustained in this opinion by all kindergartners possessed of genuine poetic taste, but I think that the versions here offered will be found sure to commend themselves to all who have a "literary conscience."

W. T. HARRIS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October, 1895.*