Adopt a Rare Book Catalogue

A photo of Book Restorer Ruth Scott-Blackson’s work to repair an historic volume.

Fall 2020

Library Committee
German Society of Pennsylvania
A Note from the Library Committee

At the Horner Memorial Library of the German Society of Pennsylvania, preservation is a top priority. We strive to take care of our holdings so that future generations can learn about German-American heritage and enjoy our remarkable, thought-provoking artifacts.

By adopting one of the precious volumes highlighted in this rare book adoption catalogue, you will help us achieve our goal of German-American cultural heritage preservation across the generations. Your generous contribution will pay for Philadelphia-based Book Restorer Ruth Scott-Blackson to repair the book and return it to the Library for readers to study.

When you adopt a book, you become a part of our thoughtful community of collection stewards. We look forward to seeing you at the Library very soon. Thank you for supporting this effort!

The Library Committee
German Society of Pennsylvania
No. 89.


This charming little volume, published right here in Pennsylvania, offers advice for home vintners! It comes equipped with a beautiful engraved piece and lovely marbled-paper front and back boards. The book needs to have its spine replaced.

$175 ADOPTED!
No. 90.

Paulinus. Der Heilsamen Dreck-Apothecke
Anderer Theil/ Bestehend in einem Zusatz zu allen und jeden Capiteln des erstern Theiles.

You may want to think twice before following any of the medical recipes included in this bizarre eighteenth-century book for healing and recuperative purposes. The front board needs to be reattached and the spine repaired.

$190
No. 91.

Dr. Friedrich Anton Mesmer. (Dr. Karl Christian Wolfart, editor.) Mesmerismus. Oder System der Wechselwirkungen, Theorie und Anwendung des thierischen Magnetismus... Berlin: in der Nikolaischen Buchhandlung, 1814.

Explore a new subject with this book, published in 1814: animal magnetism, which had a substantial following in Europe and the United States into the late 1800s. While nowadays we look at the contents of this book as pseudoscience, the volume offers a fascinating glimpse into the culture of the period. It needs a spine replacement.

$205 ADOPTED!
No. 92.


Published right here in Philadelphia by German Society members Schäfer und Koradi, this book offers nineteenth-century health advice for women and children. Its spine is deteriorated, and the front board is detached, meaning that this book on health needs its own medical attention.

$215
Siberia is a place of mystery and excitement. If you’re up for a German-language adventure in the famous Russian hinterland, then adopt this book, which needs to have its seriously-damaged spine repaired and back board reattached. The book has a striking front cover and lovely frontispiece and other illustrations throughout the volume.

$225 ADOPTED!
No. 94.

Eugen Sala. *Neues Reimrätsel: Bilderbuch.*

Reutlingen: Ensslin & Laiblins Verlagsbuchhandlung.

If you love beautiful children’s books *and* are looking to practice your ability to read the old German script, then this is the volume for you! The beautiful book features compelling color illustrations and a narrative written entirely in Kurrentschrift. The text block needs to be reattached to the spine and covers. Also, the spine needs to be repaired.

$225 ADOPTED!
No. 95.


This book about water is filled with beautiful color plates, other illustrations, and fascinating observations about one of the world’s most essential, common, and mysterious resources. The book needs its spine repaired and its back cover reattached.

$245  ADOPTED!
No. 96.


This lovely volume is a typographical monument to neoclassicism. Published in Roman type in Jena in 1797, the book features an idyllic engraved frontispiece. What is more, the book offers advice that we all would love to learn: how to live a long and healthy life with sleep, exercise, fresh air, travel, cleanliness, and a balanced diet.

Won’t you help this book live a long and healthy life? Adopt it today! It needs its spine, cover, and loose front pages reattached and unsightly duct tape removed.

$275

ADOPTED!
No. 97.

Berlin: Winckelmann und Söhne.

This colorful, illustrated children’s book needs to have its front and back boards reattached to its text block, and a full spine replacement. Help return this little gem to its former glory!

$275
No. 98 a-c.


These three books figured in a series by German art critic Richard Muther. The beautiful volumes, which feature art nouveau-style decoration, need to have their spines repaired. Adopt the entire set or choose just one! Act fast to get your top choice.

**Entire set: $450**

**Individual volumes: $150**
No. 99

NEW! Group Adoption Opportunity

Sebastian Kneipp, *Rathgeber für Gesunde und Kranke*. Donauworth: Kommissionsverlag für Oesterreich-Ungarn, ca. 1891?

It takes a village to raise a child, and sometimes, it takes a community to adopt a rare book! In addition to the solo book-adoption opportunities that the Library Committee has traditionally offered as part of its adoption program, we are pleased to present this first-ever group adoption opportunity for members of our community who wish to participate in the program, but at a lower price point. Donations in the amount of $10 and above are invited to contribute to the restoration of this volume. Once we reach the total adoption cost, we will restore this book and offer another volume for group adoption.

Donors toward group adoption will not receive a printed Adoption Certificate but will have their name noted in the German Society Library’s catalog record for the book. Please contact Adoption Coordinator Dr. Alex L. Ames to discuss how much you wish to contribute.

This book, which offers advice for both the healthy and the sick, has some unfortunate illnesses of its own: duct tape on its spine and loose pages. Your donation will help us get the book the medical attention it needs to survive for many more years!

$175 (Fully adopted!)
Adoption Instructions

If you wish to adopt your book via credit card...

The Library Committee plans to update the online Adoption Catalogue regularly, to prevent the same book from being adopted by more than one supporter. However, it is recommended that you call or e-mail Adoption Coordinator Dr. Alex L. Ames (320-282-9345, alames@udel.edu) to confirm that your book of choice is still available, and so that he can reserve it for you.

Visit https://www.germansociety.org/donations/. Click on the yellow “Donate” button at the bottom of the page. Enter the full amount of your book of choice in the “Other Amount” button. Then click the “Add special instructions to the seller” button and type in the number of the book you wish to adopt. Provide all of your billing information in the boxes provided, and click “Donate Now.”

If you wish to adopt your book by mailing a check...

Please call or e-mail Adoption Coordinator Dr. Alex L. Ames (320-282-9345, alames@udel.edu) to assure that your book of choice is still available, and so that he can reserve it for you. Once your item is confirmed and reserved, mail a personal check, made out to the German Society of Pennsylvania, to:

Bettina Hess
Librarian
German Society of Pennsylvania
611 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123

Please indicate in the memo line of the check the number of the book you have adopted.

Remember: You may adopt a book in honor of a loved one! Inform us of what name should go on the Certificate of Adoption and send someone a special surprise.
Testimonial
From an Adoptive Parent

“When the Adopt-a-Rare-Book program began, I welcomed the opportunity to participate. The Horner Memorial Library is, to me, the jewel in the crown of the German Society, and I am always in awe when I am there and consider the many treasures it contains. When I think of the long history of the library, I realize there may be many books in need of repair. And I have a friend who I know will be delighted when she learns that a rare book will be rescued as a birthday gift to her.”

—Doris MacPherson, adoptive parent of 3 German Society of Pennsylvania Library rare books