Adopt a Rare Book

At the German Society of Pennsylvania Library

The German Society’s rare books require care if they are to survive the test of time. Some of our texts need attention from a professional conservator to repair damage and prevent decay. Now, you can adopt a book to fix it up and make sure it survives long into the future. Adopt a book in your own name, or in honor of a loved one. Book adoption is the perfect gift for a bibliophile!

Choose a Book You Care About: Books for Every Taste and Budget

A variety of books and manuscripts are currently up for adoption. Choose the one you care about most!

Receive a Certificate of Adoption: Proof of Parentage

Your certificate will come complete with photographs of the book you adopted, and information about its history and use. Have the certificate mailed to a friend or family member as a very unique gift!

Be Commemorated with a Digital Bookplate: Online Adoption Recognition

Your donation will be honored with a note in the online catalog record for the book you adopted, so future researchers will know that you have helped preserve the item for their use.

Celebrate with Us at the Library: Exhibition and Conservator Lecture

View adoptable books and manuscripts on display in the Library reading room. In June, 2018, join us for an exclusive lecture about rare book conservation, focusing on books adopted by Society supporters like you!
Payment Instructions

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

Click on the “Donate” button on the German Society’s homepage. 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.”

The Library Committee plans to update the online Adoption Catalogue regularly, to prevent the same book from being adopted by more than one supporter. If you wish, however, you are free to e-mail Adoption Coordinator Dr. Alex L. Ames at: alames@udel.edu to assure that your book of choice is still available, and so that he can reserve it for you.

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

It is recommended that you e-mail Adoption Coordinator Dr. Alex L. Ames at: 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 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.
Adoptable Books

At the German Society of Pennsylvania Library

Rare books are available for adoption at a variety of price points. The Library Committee has prepared a special lineup of items that you can love, care for, and preserve for future Library users! Visit https://www.germansociety.org/donations/ to adopt your book today.

#1 - *Das Bier. Geschichtliches, Statistisches, Wirtschaftliches.*
Published in Leipzig, 1894
9” H x 6” W
Do you love beer? If so, consider adopting this pamphlet. Your donation will pay for to have a preservation copy of the pamphlet made.

**Cost: $50**

#2 - Johann Caspar Veltheusen, *Predigten u. Homilie oder Predigerjournals*
Bound 1783, rebound 1917
6 1/2” H x 4” W
This wonderful little book was rebound in 1917, but time has come to fix it up again. Your donation will pay for repair on the 1917 binding, to keep it in good shape for another century.

**ADOPTED!**
#3 - Johann August Becker, *Briefwechsel zwischen Arthur Schopenhauer und Johann August Becker*

Published in Leipzig, 1883  
8 1/2” H x 6” W

This book sheds light on an important era in German philosophy. Your donation will help us to reattach the spine to this beautiful book.

**Cost: $100**

#4 - Wilhelm Müller, *Kaiser Wilhelm, 1797-1877*

Published in Berlin, 1877  
7 1/2” H x 5” W

This book about the Kaiser needs to have its spine reattached.

**Cost: $100**

#5 - Dr. C. Loewe, *Commentar zum zweiten Theile des Goethe’schen Faust*

Published in Berlin, 1834  
7” H x 4” W

This book offers commentary on Germany’s most famous literary achievement: Goethe’s *Faust*. Its edges need to be repaired, and its boards reattached.

**ADOPTED!**
#6 - Ad. Brennglas, *Berliner Volksleben. Ausgewähltes und Neues*

Published in Leipzig, 1847
7 1/2” H x 5” W

This insightful perspective on Berlin and its inhabitants needs to have its spine reattached and boards reinforced. It also has beautiful color prints!

ADOPTED!

#7 - Alex Moszkowski, *Die 333 besten Witze der Weltliteratur*

8 ½” H x 5 7/8” W

If you love a good joke, then this book is for you. It would love to be adopted by a wise-cracking German Society member! Your adoption will pay for the book to have a purpose-built box, so that its fragile pages will be safe and secure for many years to come.

ADOPTED!

#8 - F. Büttner, *Die Feuerwerkerkunst für Dilettanten*

Published in Ilmenau, Germany, 1823
7 ¼” H x 4 ½” W

Looking for a wild child? Then adopt this pamphlet and watch the fireworks fly. It’s full of instructions about how to start fires. Its pages are very fragile, so your donation will pay for the pamphlet to have its own box. Adopt at your own risk.

ADOPTED!
#9 - Dr. G.A. Lange, *Der Spiritismus im Lichte der Wahrheit*

Published in Berlin, ca. 1904
9 1/2” H x 7” W

If you’re into spirituality and the occult, then you’ll get along great with this special book. Your adoption dollars will pay for long-overdue binding repairs.

**Cost: $150**

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#10 - Dr. Karl von Hollander, *Karoline Bauer: Aus meinem Bühnenleben*

Published in Weimar, 1917
7 1/2” H x 4 1/2” W

This book about famous actress Lina Bauer needs its binding repaired.

**Cost: $150**

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#11 - Dr. P.J. Möbius, *Über den physiologischen Schwachsinn des Weibes*

Published in Halle, 1907
9” H x 6” W

This book offers a very dated perspective on women’s health issues, but that makes it an important part of the historical record for women’s and gender history. Both of its covers have fallen off.

**Cost: $175**
#12 - Johann Friedrich Stark, *Tägliches Handbuch*
Published in Stuttgart, 19th century
8” H x 5” W
This delightful religious book needs to have its spine reattached.
ADOPTED!

#13 - Gustav Schwab, *Die Schildbürger*
Published in Dresden, 1908
9 1/2” H x 7” W
This children’s book is filled with delightful color illustrations, but its binding needs repair. Your donation will help create a new spine for the book, and get its covers and loose pages reattached.
Cost: $180

#14 - Dr. Joh. Müller, *Atlas zum Lehrbuch der kosmischen Physik*
Published in Braunschweig, 1856
9” H x 7 1/2” W
If you like science, then you’ll love this beautiful book, which is filled with incredible maps...and a beautiful illustration of the Northern Lights in Norway. Help get its covers reattached to the book!
Cost: $195
#15 – G. Erlenkötter, *Liederbuch für deutsch-amerikanische Schulen*

Published in Philadelphia, 1883
5 1/2″ H x 8″ W

Published by the famous Philadelphia printing house Schäfer und Koradi, this book documents the musical and religious history of Philadelphia and German America. Its binding needs to be repaired.

**Cost:** $195

#16 – Karl Ruß, *Waarenkunde für die Frauenwelt*

Published in Breslau, 1868
7″ H x 5″ W

This two-volume set sheds light on gender roles in nineteenth-century Germany and America. The bindings on both books have broken and are in need of repair.

**Cost to Adopt 2 Volumes:** $200

#17 – Fr. Permanne, *Philothea vom heiligen Franz von Sales*

Published in Augsburg and Munich, 1880
6″ H x 5″ W

This little book on Christian living would be a perfect fit with a pious household. Your adoption will allow us to create a new spine for the book and reattach the covers.

**Cost:** $225
#18 - Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Onkel Tom’s Hütte*

Published in Fürth, 1890’s

8 1/2” H x 6” W

This is a special piece of German Americana that deserves to be adopted and preserved for future generations. A remarkable translation of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s famous work that stirred the American conscience about the horrors of slavery, unfortunately the book’s cloth covers are deteriorating, and the paper is brittle. Help us preserve this treasure by repairing the spine and building a purpose-built box.

**Cost: $225**

#19 - Dr. Georg Hartwig, *Das Leben des Meeres*

Published in Frankfurt, 1859

9” H x 7” W

This delightful book is full of wonderful images, some in color, of life under the sea. It even includes an historic German Society bookplate. Your adoption donation will pay for the book’s binding to be reattached to the text block.

**Cost: $235**
#20 - J.J. Ebert, *Physikalische und Technologische Mannigfaltigkeiten*

Published in Leipzig, 1813
7” H x 4” W

This lovely children’s book comes complete with a color, engraved title page, but its spine needs to be reattached.

**Cost: $235**

#21 - M. von Strantz, *Die Blumen in Sage und Geschichte*

Published in Berlin, 1875
8 3/4” H x 6” W

Do you enjoy flowers? If so, then adopt this book, which tells the history of flowers and comes complete with a beautiful illustrated title page. The book’s spine and boards need to be reattached, and the entire binding repaired.

**Cost: $250**

#22 - Richard Wagner, *Deutsche Kunst und Deutsche Politik*

Published in Leipzig, 1868
8 1/2” H x 6” W

It would be hard to imagine a more consequential—and controversial—figure in nineteenth-century German arts and letters than Richard Wagner. This book needs its binding reinforced.

**ADOPTED!**
#23 - Friedrich Schiller, *Don Karlos, Infant von Spanien*  
Published in Carlsruhe, 1820  
6 3/4” H x 4” W  
Adopt a beautifully printed work by one of Germany’s most famous authors. Your donation will pay for conservation of the book’s very damaged binding.  
**Cost: $250**

Published in Cassel, 1853 (2 volumes)  
6” H x 4” W  
Explore some strange and fascinating ideas with these mysterious little books. Your adoption will pay for repairs to both volumes’ bindings.  
**ADOPTED!**

#25 - Constantin Sander, *Geschichte des vierjährigen Bürgerkrieges*  
Published in Frankfurt am Main, 1865  
8 1/2” H x 6” W  
This fascinating book about the U.S. Civil War needs to have its front board reattached and spine replaced.  
**Cost: $250**
#26 - Berühmte Deutsche Vorkämpfer für Fortschritt, Freiheit und Friede in Nord-Amerika. Von 1626 bis 1888.

Published in Cleveland, 1891
8 1/2” H x 6” W

This book sheds light on German contributions to American society. Its front board needs to be reattached, and its spine repaired.

ADOPTED!

#27 - Wilhelm Rapp, Illustirte Geographie von Nörd- und Süd-Amerika

Published in Philadelphia, 1854
7” H x 4 1/2” W

Published by Schäfer und Koradi in Philadelphia, this book offers an introduction to the geography of the Americas. It includes fascinating illustrations. The volume needs a new spine, among other repairs.

Cost: $265

#28 - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Faust

Published in Stuttgart and Tübingen, 1854
17” H x 12 1/2” W

This is a big book for a big-hearted adoptive parent! The beautiful edition of Faust, bound in gilt red leather, is filled with fantastic engraved prints. Adopt this iconic library collection item today to repair its fragile and worn spine.

Cost: $295
#29 – Dr. G.H. Otto Volger, *Handbuch der Naturgeschichte*

Published in Stuttgart, 1855
9 1/2” H x 5 3/4” W

This fascinating guide to the natural world is filled with 2,200 entertaining and informative woodcut images. It needs to have its front cover reattached.

**Cost: $295**

#30 – P.M. Wolsieffer, *Deutsche Musik-Zeitung für die Vereinigten Staaten*

Published in Philadelphia, 1856-1857
10” H x 8” W

This bound volume of music periodicals from right here in Philadelphia needs to have its front and back boards repaired and reattached.

**Cost: $295**

#31 – Richard Otto Spazier, *Jean Paul Friedrich Richter: Ein biographischer Commentar zu dessen Werken*

Published in Berlin, 1883
7 1/2” H x 4 1/2” W

Jean Paul is one of Germany’s literary greats, and this biography of the famous author needs its brittle, crumbling spines repaired.

**Cost: $320**
#32 - Fanny Lewald, *Meine Lebensgeschichte*

Published in Berlin, 1871
7 1/2” H x 5” W

Fanny Lewald (1811-1889) was a prominent female German-Jewish author. This memoir of her life in three volumes is in need of significant binding repair. Adopt all three volumes to stabilize the bindings and make the books ready for reader use.

Cost to Adopt 3 Volumes: $350

#33 - Vollständiges Koch-Buch für die Deutsch-Amerikanische Küche

Published in Philadelphia, 1857
7” H x 5” W

This cookbook intended for German-American families reveals much about culinary and social history. Your donation will pay for its binding to be repaired and its text block to be reassembled.

Cost: $375

#34 - E.G. Happelii, *Gröste Denkwürdigkeiten der Welt*

Published in Hamburg, 1683
8” H x 7” W

Bound in vellum, this mysterious book is full of curiosities, including pull-out maps and prints that need to be conserved. The binding itself, which is over three hundred years old, also needs treatment.

Cost: $400
#35 - Dr. Constantin Hering, *Homeopathischer Hausarzt* with manuscript annotations by the author

Published in Jena, 1852
9 1/2” H x 7 1/2” W

This remarkable book by German Society Member Dr. Constantin Hering has annotations by the author in the margins. It has been heavily damaged by water and fire and needs a purpose-built box for preservation purposes, in addition to possible basic conservation treatments. Help conserve this important piece of German Society heritage!

**Cost: $520**

#36 - Washington Irving, *Lebensgeschichte Georg Washington’s*

Published in Leipzig, 1856
7” H x 4” W

Help us conserve the spines and bindings of this interesting five-volume set of Irving’s famous biography of President Washington.

**Cost to Adopt 5 Volumes: $850**
#37 – *Constitutio Criminalis Theresiana*

Published in Vienna, 1769
13 ¾” H x 9” W

This large, rare, fragile, and disturbing eighteenth-century legal tract is in need of extensive conservation work. The book details the Austrian Empire’s criminal code and comes complete with graphic images of instruments of torture, and their implementation. The book provides somber insight into one of the many dark sides of early-modern European life.

Cost: $750

#38 – J.G. Woerner and Chs. Gildehaus, *Die Rebellin*

Unpublished typescript printed in St. Louis, 1894
8” H x 11” W

This unpublished play about the American Civil War offers a German perspective on the sectional conflict. It seems that the Society’s copy is a unique item and thus merits the attention of a conservator for long-term preservation.

Cost: $850
#39 - Dr. Emil Perils, *Bericht über die Weltausstellung in Philadelphia 1876*
Published in Vienna, 1877
9” H x 6” W

This four-volume set, product of Vienna’s Faesy & Frick publishing house, has a special Philadelphia connection: it documents the Centennial Exposition of 1876. The volumes are in need of rebacking and other basic conservation work.

**ADOPTED!**

#40 - Georg Andream Böckler, *Nützliche Haus- und Feld-Schule*
Published in Nuremberg, 1678
7” H x 8” W

This superb book—one of the oldest up for adoption—features a grand red-and-black Fraktur title page (see below) and numerous whimsical engraved prints. Its vellum binding has almost entirely fallen off the book, however, and it has many detached pages. Your adoption will help preserve this ancient treasure for future generations.

**Cost:** $1,500