The German-American Connection

Spring, 2020 Adopt a Rare Book Catalogue

Library Committee, German Society of Pennsylvania
German-American Items from the German Society of Pennsylvania Library’s Collection

The German Society of Pennsylvania is a monument to the long heritage of German-American relations. The Horner Library is filled with books that showcase the history of Germans in the United States, and the interest of Germans in American culture across time.

This new Adopt a Rare Book catalogue, assembled by the Library Committee at the German Society of Pennsylvania, features books from the collection that document the German-American connection. By adopting one of these precious volumes, you will help keep awareness of German influence on American life alive for future generations. Your dollars will pay for Philadelphia-based Book Restorer Ruth Scott-Blackson to repair the book and return it to the Library for readers to enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you at the Library very soon. Thank you for supporting this effort!

The Library Committee
German Society of Pennsylvania

This book offers devotionals for Pentecost, including lovely illustrations. A piece of black tape needs to be removed from the title page (see photo), and the hinge that attaches the front cover to the book must be repaired.

**Adoption Cost:** $125

This method book for instruction in the German language needs a spine replacement. Adopt it and then brush up on your German! The book was published by John Weik in Philadelphia in 1855.

**Adoption Cost:** $140

This wonderful volume offered German immigrants to the United States useful information about life in America in 1891. It is filled with fascinating insights about American culture at the time, and how Germans may have responded to it. The book’s spine needs to be re-glued to the text block, among other minor repairs.

Following restoration of the book, it is highly recommended that you visit the Library’s reading room to spend some time exploring this bilingual book and its fascinating, at-times remarkably outdated insights about Americans. “The character of the well-bred American has some noble qualities. As a rule, the American is very comprehensive, practical, displaying great energy in all his undertakings.... The American ladies in general, are very pretty, fascinating, attractive, sociable and refined.”

**Adoption Cost: $145**  
ADOPTED!
No. 82: Wm. Odell Elwell, *Neuestes vollständiges Amerikanisches Wörterbuch…* 
Braunschweig: George Westermann, 1850.

This German-to-English dictionary needs its front board reattached and its spine repaired. An inscription on a front fly leaf reads: “This book belongs to my father, Christian Schurz who died in 1881. Presented to Wilbur R. Thomas, Sec. & Tres. of the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation. … Phila. Pa. 6-15-41 by Fred J. Schurz.” Mr. Schurz gifted this volume to an institution in the hope that it would be preserved as a memento of his father, and German-American life. Will you make a donation to help it survive another generation in accordance with Schurz’s wishes? Adopt it today!

Adoption Cost: $150
No. 83: *Allgemeines Viehartzneibuch...*  
Glogau: Carl Flemming; Philadelphia: Schäfer und Koradi, 1853.

Published in Philadelphia by the well-known local German publishers (and German Society members) Schäfer & Koradi, this book offers guidance on the care of various domesticated animals including horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs.

The volume needs its binding restored, and some tape from previous repair work needs to be removed.

**Adoption Cost: $175**

What American figure from the nineteenth century could have offered immigrants more hope for economic prosperity than the famous Andrew Carnegie, himself an immigrant from Scotland? This German translation of Carnegie’s assessment of American life needs its homemade cardboard cover removed and a clamshell box constructed for safe storage. Note the lovely image of the Statue of Liberty on the book’s cover.

**Adoption Cost:** $175
Did you know that many immigrants from Luxemburg settled in the United States in the nineteenth century? Adopt this book to learn more! Its spine needs regluing, and some old library tape must be removed to return the book to its former elegance.

**Adoption Cost:** $175  **ADOPTED!**
German immigration to North America had tremendous consequences for the religious history of the continent. This book, published in Philadelphia in 1816, documents the history of the German Lutheran church in Nova Scotia. The book’s boards need to be securely reattached to make this object usable for researchers.

**Adoption Cost:** $210

This German children’s book offers readers a history of the exploration of the Americas and includes maps and color illustrations. Unfortunately, the book’s spine has almost completely deteriorated and needs to be replaced. The frontispiece illustration needs to be reattached as well.

**Adoption Cost:** $225

The first and third volumes of this book about one of the United States’ best-known natural sites—Niagara Falls in New York—are in need a full spine replacement so that they can be more safely used by researchers.

**Adoption Cost:** $395
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