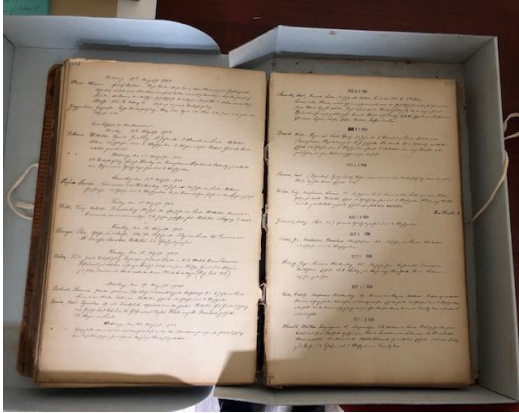


Adopt a Rare Book, Summer 2023



Hello members and friends!

Our latest **Adopt a Book** offering is a little different from what we've done in the past. This time, we are focusing our preservation efforts on one of our manuscript collections, the German Society's [Agentur Records](#). And our aim is digital preservation, rather than conserving the physical objects. The German Society's Agentur collection records information about thousands of individuals who came to the Society for financial assistance and job referrals between the years 1847 and 1947, and is a treasure trove of genealogical and historical information about aid the German Society dispensed to German speaking immigrants in Philadelphia.

The Agentur Records are a largely untapped resource, but digitizing the volumes is a critical first step to making the information they contain more easily accessible to researchers. One of these volumes has already been digitized, as it will be on loan to the **Haus der Geschichte, Baden-Württemberg** in Stuttgart beginning this fall, as part of an exhibition on Baden-Württembergers emigration to the United States, which will run from October through July 2024. Stay tuned for more information on that. We are also planning a special *Treasure Tour* on the German Society's Agentur for October 12th, as

part of [Archives Month Philly](#) programming that will take place at cultural institutions around the area during the month of October.

Through the Lutheran Archives Center in Philadelphia, we now have the exciting opportunity to digitize the rest of the Agentur's 72 volumes. The average cost of digitizing a volume will be \$200, however donations of any amount are welcome. **The Library Committee will match the first \$1000 in donations that are made.** Will you help us preserve this important piece of German Society history?

To make a donation, visit germansociety.org/donations. Please enter "Agentur" in the special instructions box. Or, you can mail a check to the German Society of Pennsylvania, indicating the purpose of your donation in the memo line. If you would like more information about this digitization program, please email Bettina Hess at librarian@germansociety.org

Thank you for your support of the Library!

Sincerely,

The Library Committee