

# THE GERMAN AMERICAN COLLECTION— PAMPHLETS

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The Pamphlet Collection is certainly a jewel of the German American Collection. It consists of thousands of entries on all types of German-American associational life (mostly within the Philadelphia area). There were German associations for almost every conceivable purpose, and the Pamphlet Collection reflects this fact. There are pamphlets on reading societies, worker societies, women societies, building societies, fire insurance societies, life insurance societies (some differentiated by gender such as the Germania Sterbe-Kasse and the Germania Frauen-Sterbekassen-Verein), etc.

The vast majority of the collection lies within the “AE” or “German Societies” catalog category.

Helpful searching tip:

Researchers interested in any particular section are advised to go through the Shelf-List by hand because entries for specific associations will be found interspersed throughout the AE section. For example, researchers interested in studying the “Order of the Heptasophs, or Seven Wise Men,” a German-American association of the nineteenth century, should go to Shelf-List “GAC PAMPHLET AE” and then go through by hand. This researcher will find entries around AE 800, AE 810, AE 825, AE 940, and so on. The various entries are separated by entries for completely different associations.

A—Zeitschriften—Kalender (Periodicals—Calendars):

There are no holdings under this heading.

AA—United States of America:

Total: Approx. 80–90 Distinct Entries

There is a wide variety of items covering the late eighteenth- and especially nineteenth-century United States of America. The holdings consist of letters, historical pamphlets, political pamphlets, printed speeches by prominent political figures, German translations (of laws, speeches, etc.), essays, literature pertaining to the American Civil War, materials pertaining to industry (patent laws, gold prices, Northern Pacific Railroad Company), essays on the German element in the United States of America.

Notable entry:

There is a large collection of printed speeches of Carl Schurz (1829–1906).

Aa—Periodicals:

There are no holdings under this heading.

AB—Pennsylvania:

Total: Approx. 90–100 Distinct Entries

Contains holdings on county histories, the German element in Pennsylvania, Germantown, anniversary commemorations of the German Society of Pennsylvania, the Battle of Gettysburg, and printed political speeches of Pennsylvania Governors

The collection is particularly strong for Pennsylvania Germans (aka. the Pennsylvania “Dutch”). Under this heading researchers will find much on the language and its variants, culture, cookbooks, arts, and crafts.

Ab—Kataloge—Nachschlagewerke (Catalogs—Reference Works): There are no holdings under this heading.

AC—Philadelphia:

Total: Approx. 40–50 Distinct Entries

[Note: This is particularly strong for scholars interested in urban studies. There is material on Fairmont Park, water works, trial accounts, monuments, public buildings, city sections, and public ceremonies.]

Some interesting miscellaneous items:

Yellow Fever of 1793 (death lists), German translation of the Will of Stephen Girard (1750–1831), and a business directory for 1840

AD—Expositions, Fairs, etc.:

Total: Approx. 40–50 Distinct Entries

Almost all materials relate to the United States Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia (1876), including commission reports, catalogs, and items pertaining to the exhibits of various U.S. states and foreign countries (esp. Germany).

AE—German Societies:

Total: Approx. 450 Distinct Entries

Pamphlets pertaining to German celebrations (such as German Day and Steuben Day)

Notable entry:

*Die erste Frucht der Teutschen Gesellschaft* (Germantown, Pa.: Christoph Saur, 1765)

Categories:

1. German societies in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania (reports, constitutions, statutes):

These vary in purpose from cultural associations, savings bank associations, and worker associations to religious associations. Extensive collection on German Orders in the Philadelphia Area

Most numerous entries for the following:

Ancient Order of Good Fellows

Deutscher Orden der Harugari

Freemasons

Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Including some holdings from the Order's publication "Der Odd-Fellow"

Improved Order of Red Men

Order of the Heptasophs, or Seven Wise Men

Orden der Hermanns-Söhne

Turngemeinde

United Ancient Order of Druids

There are many entries for religious associations in Pennsylvania.

[Note: The following list is by no means exhaustive.]

Protestant:

Brüder-Unterstützungs-Verein der Deutsch-Evangelisch-Lutherischen Gemeinde in Philadelphia

Jewish:

Congregation Rodeph Shalom (Philadelphia, Pa.)

(Includes holy sermons delivered by Henry Berkowitz to the Congregation Rodeph Shalom)

Jewish Chautauqua Society (Philadelphia, Pa.)

Roman Catholic:

St. Bonifazius Deutsche Römisch-Katholische Wohlthätige Unterstützungs-Gesellschaft in der Stadt und Grafschaft Philadelphia, im Staate Pennsylvania

[Note: There is more material pertaining to male and female religious orders.]

Miscellaneous Philadelphia entries of note:

Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies

Deutsch-Amerikanischer Zentral-Bund von Pennsylvania

2. Societies located outside of Pennsylvania:

Local:

Deutsche Gesellschaft von Chicago

Germania Club (Chicago, Ill.)

German Society of the City of New York

Deutsche Gesellschaft von St. Paul-Minneapolis

German Society of Maryland

German Society of New Orleans

Deutsche Gesellschaft der Stadt New Haven

German Mutual Insurance Company of Cincinnati

Deutscher Pionier-Verein von Cincinnati

Buffalo Historical Society (Buffalo, N.Y.)

Oneida Historical Society at Utica (Utica, N.Y.)

Wyoming Historical and Geological Society

Deutscher Gesellig-Wissenschaftlicher Verein von New York

German General Benevolent Society (San Francisco, Calif.)

Maumee Valley Pioneer and Historical Association (Toledo, Ohio)

Astor Library. Trustees. Annual Reports. (New York, N.Y.)

Das Baltimorer Blumenspiel 1904

3. National societies:

[Note: The following is just a sampling.]

National-Verband Deutsch-Amerikanischer Journalisten und Schriftsteller

United States Brewers' Association

National Association of German-American Technologists [Note: There are 14 entries for this association.]

National German-American Alliance

## 4. Government:

United States. Congress. House. *Committee on the Library Monument at Germantown*

## 5. Foreign:

Central Committee of Sudeten German Organizations in Canada  
Canadian-German Folklore

AF, AFa, AFb, AFc—German Hospitals and German Homes  
(old age, etc):

[Note: Orphanages are placed under this heading.]

Total: Approx. 30–40 Distinct Entries

## Hospitals in Pennsylvania:

Includes State Hospital for the Insane for the South-Eastern District of Pennsylvania, German Hospital of the City of Philadelphia, Lankenau Hospital, Pennsylvania Hospital (Philadelphia, Pa.), St. Luke's Hospital, Hospital of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, Homeopathic Hospital of Philadelphia for Sick and Wounded Soldiers, St. Joseph's Hospital, Wills Hospital, Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane (Philadelphia, Pa.), Jewish Hospital Association of Philadelphia, Jewish Maternity Association of Philadelphia, Franklin Reformatory Home for Inebriates of Philadelphia, Home for Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, Mary J. Drexel Home and Philadelphia Motherhouse of Deaconesses, Jewish Foster Home and Orphan Asylum (Philadelphia, Pa.), Orphans' Home and Asylum for the Aged and Infirm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (Philadelphia, Pa.)

## Hospitals in New York:

St. Luke's Hospital (New York, N.Y.), Long Island College Hospital (Brooklyn, N.Y.), German Hospital and Dispensary in the City of New York

## AG—Singing Societies, Theatre:

[Note: Includes music societies]

Total: Approx. 90–100 Distinct Entries

[Note: Most of the societies are centered in Philadelphia; however, there are also some for New York, Baltimore, Cincinnati, etc.]

Includes magazines devoted to the Arts (for example, *Der Barde* published in Brooklyn, N.Y.)

Miscellaneous:

Includes songbooks and some printed musical scores (including Franz Joseph Haydn, *Die Schöpfung*, librettos (including Albert Lortzing, D. F. E. Auber, Etienne Nicolas Méhul, Peter von Winter, and many others)

AH—Individual States of USA and Canada:

Total: Approx. 50 Distinct Entries

The materials vary widely, but the majority of them pertain to Germans in various states of the United States of America. The materials date from the mid-nineteenth century to as late as 1986. The pamphlets/articles are predominantly secondary source studies of subjects varying from "Handicraft printing in Texas" to "The earliest German newspapers of Baltimore." There are numerous entries for St. Louis and Gloucester Farm and Town Association (New Jersey).

AI—Central and South America:

There are no holdings under this heading.

AJ—Immigration:

Total: Approx. 40–50 Entries

Contains travel accounts and immigration advice accounts dating predominantly from the second half of nineteenth century (especially for Minnesota during the 1860s)

Contemporary secondary source reports of immigration (especially Tennessee and Nebraska)

Frankfurter Verein zum Schutz der Auswanderer, Jahresberichte for 1867/68, 1868/69, 1872/73

Various government reports:

A copy of the 1871 report of the Hamburg Deputation für das Auswandererwesen

A copy of the 1877 annual report of the Commissioners of Emigration of the State of New York

Castle Garden (New York): 1868 Jahres-Bericht des Superintendenten des Castle Garden Arbeits-Büreaus

United States Bureau of Immigration Annual Report of the Commissioner-General of Immigration to the Secretary of the Treasury (1901)

United States: Department of the Treasury. Immigration laws and regulations (1903)

Secondary source literature on the German element in the United States of America

AK—Indians:

Total: 5 Distinct Entries

AL—Black History:

Total: 8 Distinct Entries

Notable Entry:

*The Constitution for the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery* (Philadelphia, Pa.: Joseph James, 1787)

There are various entries from the 1850s and 1860s describing the practice of slavery in the United States of America.

AM—Biographies of German Americans:

Total: Approx. 100–110 Distinct Entries

Contents include printed biographies, autobiographies, memoirs, addresses, memorials, funeral sermons, and letters pertaining to the lives of German Americans. The subjects vary from United States presidents, political figures, military figures, religious figures, doctors (the collection is particularly strong in this area), and even a “patriotic gingerbread maker.” I have listed below some subjects of particular note.

[Note: An “\*” denotes those subjects with five or more entries.]

\* Franklin, Benjamin (1706–1790)  
 Fremont, Colonel John C. (1813–1890)  
 Hahnemann, Samuel (1755–1843)  
 \* Hering, Constantine (1800–1880)  
 Jackson, Andrew (1767–1845)  
 \* Lincoln, Abraham (1809–1865)  
 List, Friedrich (1789–1846)  
 Muhlenberg, Gotthilf Heinrich Ernst (1753–1815)  
 Muhlenberg, Henry Melchior (1711–1787)  
 Muhlenberg, General Peter (1746–1807)  
 \* Neumann, [Saint] John (1811–1860)  
 Pastorius, Francis Daniel (1651–1720)  
 Sangmeister, Ezechiel (1723–1784)  
 Schurz, Carl (1829–1906)  
 Sower [Saur], Christopher (1693–1758)  
 von Steuben, Friedrich Wilhelm (1730–1794)  
 Taylor, Zachary (1784–1850)  
 Tyler, John (1790–1862)

\* Washington, George (1732–1799)  
Zeisberger, David (1721–1808)

AN—Denominations:

Total: Approx. 145–165 Distinct Entries

Notable entry:

Democritus, Christianus [pseud. for Johann Conrad Dippel] (1673–1734), *Geistliche Fama* [Note: This was published in Sarden in 30 parts from 1730 to 1744. The library has various parts dating from 1732–1739]

Large Collection:

German Evangelical Lutherans

Medium-Sized Collections:

Amish/Mennonites

Small Collections:

German Evangelical Reformed  
Independent German Congregation  
Methodists  
Moravians  
Roman Catholic  
Schwenkfelders

AO—AR:

There are no holdings under these headings.

AS—Education, Schools, Universities:

Total: 12 Distinct Entries

Limited material on the School District of Philadelphia, Sunday Schools for German Evangelical Lutherans, English and German language in schools, and the Massachusetts Board of Education

AWA—German Americans in Germany, Americans on Germany:

Total: 1 Distinct Entry

AY—Yearbooks:

Total: Approx. 420–430 Distinct Entries

Extensive almanac collection from mid-eighteenth century through the twentieth century