

University of Chicago Library

Guide to the Hermann Eduard Von Holst Collection 1869-1902



© 2008 University of Chicago Library

Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary	3
Information on Use	3
Access	3
Citation	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope Note	4
Related Resources	5
Subject Headings	5
INVENTORY	5
Series I: Biographical Data	5
Series II: Correspondence	6
Series III: Writings	10
Series IV: Photographs	13
Series V: Oversized Materials	13

Descriptive Summary

Identifier	ICU.SPCL.VONHOLST
Title	Von Holst, Hermann Eduard. Collection
Date	1869-1902
Size	6.5 linear feet (10 boxes)
Repository	Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Hermann Eduard Von Holst (1841-1904), Professor of History, University of Chicago. Von Holst was a German national who taught at the Universities of Freiburg and Strasbourg prior to his immigration to the United States in 1892. Upon his arrival he became Chair of the History Department at Chicago, a position he held until ill health mandated his retirement in 1900. Von Holst's master work, *The Constitutional and Political History of the United States* (1876), examined the development and operation of American democracy from a critical stance. The Von Holst collection includes his correspondence, biographical material, writings, and journals. There is also a notebook of letters pertaining to the German Patriotic Aid society, an organization of German aliens who followed the political events of their homeland.

Information on Use

Access

The collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Von Holst, Hermann Eduard. Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Hermann Eduard Von Holst (1841-1904), Professor of History, University of Chicago. Von Holst was a German national who taught at the Universities of Freiburg and Strasbourg prior to his immigration to the United States in 1892. Upon his arrival he became Chair of the History Department at Chicago, a position he held until ill health forced his retirement in 1900. Von Holst's master work, *The Constitutional and Political History of the United States* (1876), looked critically at the development and operation of American democracy. In particular, Von

Holst demonstrated the incommensurability of liberal ideals and the institution of slavery. American scholars and citizens alike were dismayed by the suggestions of immorality and self-interestedness within their leadership class. Von Holst's other publications include *The Constitutional Law of the United States of America* (1885); John C. Calhoun (1882); John Brown (1888); and *The French Revolution Tested by Mirabeau's Career* (1894).

Scope Note

The materials are divided into five series. Series I consists of biographical material. Series II contains correspondence both to and from Von Holst. Many of the letters are of a personal nature. Series III contains draft and published versions of Von Holst's writings. Many of the photographs that constitute Series IV depict Von Holst, but others are of unidentified individuals. Series V, which consists of a single box of oversized materials, contains certificates issued to Von Holst and others by various organizations.

The Von Holst collection consists primarily of biographical and scholarly material. The correspondence section includes numerous letters to and from his wife and mother, and a smaller amount of correspondence with academic colleagues. The collection also contains several journals and notebooks pertaining to his travels and research notes. There is a small amount of Von Holst's published material and unpublished writings. Finally, the collection contains newspaper clippings both extracted by and pertaining to him, and there are several folders of photographs of Von Holst and family members.

One item of particular interest is a letterbook generated by the German Patriotic Aid Society compiled during Von Holst's first period of residence in the United States, 1867-1874. Von Holst, like many other German immigrants, was deeply concerned with the unification wars in Germany. He and Theodor F.C. Petrasch (not identified) served as secretaries of the New York City-based German Patriotic Aid Society. The dates of the Society's letterbook, July 28, 1870-January 24, 1871, parallel the dates of the Franco-Prussian War, July 19, 1870-January 28, 1871. German aid societies were organized in many American cities. The letterbook contains copies of letters to representatives of aid societies nationwide.

The letters were intended to persuade all the German-American aid societies to adhere to a central organization based on the Chicago constitution of August 18, 1870. In Chicago, delegates determined that all contributions for the relief of war invalids and soldiers' widows and orphans would be channeled through New York. The 30 Chicago delegates appointed as their Berlin representative Friedrich Kapp, 1824-1884. Kapp was one of the most respected German-American leaders in New York from 1850 until 1870, when he returned to his homeland to participate in the formation of the new German state. The correspondence between Von Holst and Kapp pertaining to the German Patriotic Aid Society is housed in Series II of the Von Holst collection.

Related Resources

Browse finding aids by topic.

Subject Headings

- Von Holst, H. (Hermann), 1841-1904
- Gates, Frederick Taylor, 1853-1929
- Goodspeed, Thomas Wakefield, 1842-1927
- Harper, William Rainey, 1856-1906
- Hart, Albert Bushnell, 1854-1943
- Laughlin, J. Laurence, 1850-1933
- Schurz, Carl, 1829-1906
- Terry, Benjamin, 1857-1931
- Thompson, James Westfall, 1869-1924
- Villard, Henry, 1835-1900
- Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924
- Franco-Prussian War, 1870-1871
- Germans -- United States
- War Relief
- Historians

INVENTORY

Series I: Biographical Data

Box 1

Folder 1

Memorial to the U.S. Senate with Respect to the Spanish Treaty, Jan 30, 1899

Box 1

Folder 2

Presentation of His Portrait, Oct 14, 1903

Box 1

Folder 3

Call to the University of Chicago

Box 1

Folder 4

Lecture Notes

Box 1

Folder 5

Der Reichstagscandidat, 1890

Box 1

Folder 6

Honors, Learned Societies, etc.

Box 1

Folder 7

Banquet Programs

Box 1

Folder 8

Biographical Data

Box 1

Folder 9

Clippings and Typewritten Pages

Box 1

Folder 10

Materials pertaining to his death (1 of 2)

Box 1

Folder 11

Materials pertaining to his death (2 of 2)

Box 1

Folder 12

List of Books in the Library of Professor Von Holst

Box 1

Folder 13

Journal (handwritten in German)

Box 2

Folder 1

Handwritten list of the Unpublished Papers and Letters of Hermann Eduard von Holst

Box 2

Folder 2

Illinois Trust and Savings Bank: Letters and Statements, 1901-3

Box 2

Folder 3

Die Ameritandifche Democratie in Staat und Gefellfchft bon e.v. holst

Box 2

Folder 4

Kalendar fur das Jahr 1892; handwritten monthly account book; unlabeled handwritten notebook

Box 2

Folder 5

Three notebooks with handwritten text, lists

Series II: Correspondence

Box 2

Folder 6

Letters to his wife from New York, 1871

Box 2

Folder 7

Letters to his wife - Trip to Chicago and Milwaukee after Chicago fire, 1872

Box 2

Folder 8

Letters to his wife. Journey to Washington, March and April, 1872

Box 2

Folder 9

Letters to his wife. Journey to Berlin, 1875

Box 2

Folder 10

Letters to his wife. Journey to Berlin, 1877

Box 2

Folder 11

Letters to his wife. Journey to London, 1876

Box 2

Folder 12

Letters to his wife. Journey to the U.S., 1878-1879

Box 2

Folder 13

Letters to his wife. Journey to London, 1881

Box 2

Folder 14

Letters to his wife. Journey to U.S., 1883

Box 2

Folder 15

Letters to his wife. Journey to Europe, 1896

Box 2

Folder 16

Letters to his Mother. 1855-1884

Box 3

Folder 1

Letters to Kapp. 1869-1883

Box 3

Folder 2

Letters to Eugene Ernst Prüssing. 1886 – 1903

Box 3

Folder 3

Letters to his Son. 1879-1902

Box 3

Folder 4

Letters to Erbgrossherzog

Box 3

Folder 5

Unidentified letters

Box 3

Folder 6

Letters from his Wife. 1871

Box 3

Folder 7

Letters from his Wife. 1872

Box 3

Folder 8

Letters from his Wife. 1875 (1 of 2)

Box 3

Folder 8

Letters from his Wife. 1875 (2 of 2)

Box 3

Folder 9

Letters from his Wife. 1876 (1 of 3)

Box 3

Folder 10

Letters from his Wife. 1876 (2 of 3)

Box 3

Folder 11

Letters from his Wife. 1876 (3 of 3)

Box 3

Folder 12

Letters from his Wife. 1877 (1 of 3)

Box 3

Folder 13

Letters from his Wife. 1877 (2 of 3)

Box 4

Folder 1

Letters from his Wife. 1877 (3 of 3)

Box 4

Folder 2

Letters from his Wife. 1878 (1 of 2)

Box 4

Folder 3

Letters from his Wife. 1878 (2 of 2)

Box 4

Folder 4

Letters from his Wife. 1879 (1 of 3)

Box 4

Folder 5

Letters from his Wife. 1879 (2 of 3)

Box 4

Folder 6

Letters from his Wife. 1879 (3 of 3)

Box 4

Folder 7

Letters from his Wife. 1881-1882

Box 4

Folder 8

Letters from his Wife. 1883

Box 4

Folder 9

Letters from his Wife. 1884-1885

Box 4

Folder 10

Letters from his mother. 1867-1869

Box 4

Folder 11

Letters from his mother. 1870

Box 4

Folder 12

Letters from his mother. 1871

Box 4

Folder 13

Letters from his mother. 1872

Box 4

Folder 14

Letters from his mother. 1873

Box 4

Folder 15

Letters from his mother. 1874

Box 4

Folder 16

Letters from his mother. 1875

Box 4

Folder 17

Letters from his mother, 1876

Box 4

Folder 18

Letters from his mother 1877

Box 4

Folder 19

Letters from his mother. 1878-1881

Box 4

Folder 20

Letters from his mother, undated

Box 5

Folder 1

Letters of his wife to her mother, 1871-1885

Box 5

Folder 2

Miscellaneous family letters

Box 5

Folder 3

(von Holst. Chronik und Stammbaum der Familie von Holst. Freiburg i, Br. 1911)

Box 5

Folder 4

Letters from the Grand Duke of Baden

Box 5

Folder 5

Letters from Carl Schurz

Box 5

Folder 6

Letters from Sybel 1868-1892

Box 5

Folder 7

Letters from F. Kapp

Box 5

Folder 8

Letters from Eugene Ernst Prussing

Box 5

Folder 9

Alexander Hamilton Correspondence

Box 5

Folder 10

Letters from William Rainey Harper

Box 5

Folder 11

Letters from Albert Bushnell Hart

Box 5

Folder 12

Letters from J. Laurence Laughlin

Box 5

Folder 13

Letters from Marr

Box 5

Folder 14

Letter from George Bancroft

Box 5

Folder 15

Letters from Andrew Dickson White

Box 5

Folder 16

Letters from Henry Villard

Box 5

Folder 17

Miscellaneous letters in English that include-

Box 5

Folder 18

Benjamin S. Terry

Box 5

Folder 19

J. Franklin Jameson

Series III: Writings

Box 5

Folder 20

Biographical Studies 1, 2, 5, 6 (1 and 2 in typescript, c. 58 p. are reprints, c. 46 p.);
Educational Studies 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 (all reprints, c. 124 p.)

Box 5

Folder 21

American Studies 1, 2, 3 (ms. - 1 in German, 1 in English), 4 (typescript), 6, 9 (ms.), 10,
11, 12 (ms.), 13, 14 (ms.), 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 (ms.), 28, 29,
30

Box 6

Folder 1

European Studies

Box 6

Folder 2

Acquisitions and Lessons of 1813

Box 6

Folder 3

Newsprint re: Acquisitions and Lessons of 1813

Box 6

Folder 4

Correspondence from America for the Kölnische Zeitung 1869-1871, Nos. 1-51

Box 6

Folder 5

Correspondence for the Westliche Post Nos. 1-7

Box 6

Folder 6

Correspondence for Die Neue Welt Nos. 1-6

Box 6

Folder 7

Correspondence for Rigasche Zeitung Nos. 1-15

Box 6

Folder 8

Correspondence for Neue Frankfurter Presse No. 1

Box 6

Folder 9

Correspondence for Deutsches Wochenblatt No. 1-7

Box 6

Folder 10

Correspondence for Deutsches Wochenblatt, newsprint

Box 6

Folder 11

Collected newsprint items

Box 6

Folder 12

German Patriotic Aid Society; letterbook (copies of correspondence) 1870-1871.

Box 6

Folder 13

Ms. of History of the 19th Century

Box 6

Folder 14

Entwicklung der politischen ideale des 18. Jahrhunderts

Box 7

Folder 1

Ms. of Genesis of the French Revolution

Box 7

Folder 2

Ms. of History of the Reformation

Box 7

Folder 3

Ms. of History of the French Revolution

Box 7

Folder 4

Ms. of Preussische Geschichte (in German Shorthand)

Box 7

Folder 5

Mss. and fragments

Box 7

Folder 6

Ms. Europäische Geschichte (in German Shorthand)

Box 7

Folder 7

Ms. Deutsche Geschichte des Mittelalters (in German Shorthand)

Box 7

Folder 8

Ms. Geschichte des 19 Jahrhunderts (in German Shorthand)

Box 7

Folder 9

Ms. Miscellaneous Notes (in German Shorthand)

Box 8

Folder 1

Four blue notebooks

- 'Photographion'
- 'Diary or Letters on Journey to Italy in German Shorthand'
- 'French aphorisms'
- 'September and October 1889'

Box 8

Folder 2

Handwritten travel notes (five small notebooks)

Box 8

Folder 3

Shorthand notes on future writings

Box 8

Folder 4

Librertur (notebook)

Box 8

Folder 5

Unlabeled green notebook with handwritten notes

Box 8

Folder 6

Three small notebooks with handwritten notes

Box 8

Folder 7

Newspaper clippings by Von Holst

Box 8

Folder 8

Press Notices (1 of 5)

Box 8

Folder 9

Press Notices (2 of 5)

Box 8

Folder 10

Press Notices (3 of 5)

Box 9

Folder 1

Press Notices (4 of 5)

Box 9

Folder 2

Press Notices (4 of 5)

Series IV: Photographs

Box 9

Folder 3

Photographs (1 of 3)

Box 9

Folder 4

Photographs (2 of 3)

Box 9

Folder 5

Photographs (3 of 3)

Series V: Oversized Materials

Box 10

Folder 1

Certificate of Membership, Massachusetts Historical Society, to HVH, 13 February 1879

Box 10

Folder 2

Certificate, Friedrich von Gottes Gnaden Grolscherzog von Baden, Herzog von Boehringen, 24 April 1889

Box 10

Folder 3

Certificate, Friedrich von Gottes Gnaden Grolscherzog von Baden, Herzog von Boehringen, 24 April 1889

Box 10

Folder 4

Certificate, Friedrich von Gottes Gnaden Grolscherzog von Baden, Herzog von Boehringen, 24 April 1889

Box 10

Folder 5

Certificate, Friedrich von Gottes Gnaden Grolscherzog von Baden, Herzog von Boehringen, 17 July 1880

Box 10

Folder 6

Certificate, from Alpha Chapter, Phi Rho Sigma, Charter for Gamma Chapter at Rush Medical College, Chicago, 1895

Box 10

Folder 7

Certificate of Membership, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, to HVH, 6 January 1887

Box 10

Folder 8

Certificate, Regia Scientiarum Academia Borussica, to HVH, 25 July 1889