

Otto H. F. Vollbehr Collection of Printers' and Publishers' Marks

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2014

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.rbc/rbc.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2012659634>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.rbc/eadrbc.rb015001>

Compiled by Barbara Paulson

Finding aid encoded by Elizabeth Gettins, Library of Congress, Rare Book and Special Collections
Division, 2015

Collection Summary

Title: Otto H. F. Vollbehr Collection of Printers' and Publishers' Marks

Span Dates: 1490-1820

Bulk Dates: 1536-1699

ID No.: RB015001

Creator: Library of Congress. Rare Book and Special Collections Division

Extent: 21 containers

Extent: Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 8.4

Extent: Approximate number of items: 15,000

Language: Collection material is primarily in Latin

Location: Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/2012659634>

Summary: The Otto H. F. Vollbehr Collection of Printers' and Publishers' includes samples of such in nearly all of the major European countries. They chronicle the early example of printing through the seventeenth century.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Vollbehr, Otto H. F. (Otto Heinrich Friederich), 1869-1946

Völcker, Georg

Subjects

Colophons--Specimens.

Engraving--Printing--Specimens.

Imprints (Publishers' and printers' statements)--Specimens.

Printers' marks--Specimens.

Title pages--Specimens.

Wood-engraving--Printing--Specimens.

Titles

Printers' and publishers' marks

Vollbehr collection of printers' and publishers' marks

Form/Genre

Engravings.

Woodcuts.

Provenance

Otto Vollbehr, the donor of this collection, was a German industrialist whose family had made a fortune in the dyestuff industry; he took up book collecting when his physician recommended that he adopt a hobby following a railway accident which left him with a serious nervous condition. In addition to collecting books he acquired "ready-made" collections of 15th-18th century book illustrations and of printers' marks, which Vollbehr gave to the Library of Congress in 1928.

Processing History

This collection was put together by Georg Völcker, who organized the collection and inserted full-page printed dividers bearing his name. The printers' marks, (for the most part single leaves and cuttings) were hinged to stiff paper backings, which had become quite brittle and have been removed. Multiple hinges on the backs of the leaves and evidence of earlier paper backings make it clear that Völcker's collection was in part assembled from additional ready-made collections.

Single items in the collection were used occasionally for staff presentations, but the collection was not otherwise processed until 2010.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the Otto H. F. Vollbehr Collection of Printers' and Publishers' Marks is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.)

Access and Restrictions

The Otto H. F. Vollbehr Collection of Printers' and Publishers' Marks is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Rare Book and Special Collections Reading Room prior to visiting.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Otto H. F. Vollbehr Collection of Printers' and Publishers' Marks, Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The Printers' and Publishers' Marks Collection of Otto Vollbehr (1872-1945) spans the years 1490-1820, with the bulk of the material dating from 1536-1699. The specimens are organized into a single alphabetical series, by country, city, printer, and date.

The content of the volumes from which they were taken, to infer from the title pages, is primarily religious or legal. It is likely that these title pages and other cuttings were taken from volumes that were destined to be discarded; many of them are stamped as duplicates.

[Printers' and Publishers' Marks](#)

Arrangement of the Records

This collection is arranged in 1 series:

- Printers' and Publishers' Marks (1536-1699)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1 through 21

Series

Printers' and Publishers' Marks, 1490-1820

Arrangement of the records:

Cities are associated with their current political unit (i.e., Gdansk is in Poland, not Germany.) Names of countries and cities are rendered in English (i.e., Cologne, not Köln.)

Those marks which lack identifying information are filed at the end of whatever category for which there is information (i.e., a title page that lacks a date, but has country, city, and printer, is filed at the end of the examples of that printer's work.)

The collection is arranged alphabetically by country, city, printer, and date.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1 through 21	Printers' and Publishers' Marks, 1490-1820 Arrangement of the records: Cities are associated with their current political unit (i.e., Gdansk is in Poland, not Germany.) Names of countries and cities are rendered in English (i.e., Cologne, not Köln.) Those marks which lack identifying information are filed at the end of whatever category for which there is information (i.e., a title page that lacks a date, but has country, city, and printer, is filed at the end of the examples of that printer's work.) The collection is arranged alphabetically by country, city, printer, and date.
BOX 1	Austria Graz, Salzburg, Steyr, Vienna Belgium Antwerp, Bruges, Brussels, Ghent, Liege, Louvain, Mons, Ypres Czech Republic Carlsbad, Prague, Trappau Denmark Copenhagen England Birmingham, Cambridge, Eton, London, Oxford
BOX 2	France A-V (except Lyon and Paris) Amberes, Angers, Arran, Avignon, Bordeaux, Bouillon, Caen, Carpentras, Dijon, Douai, Firmi, Gaii, Goa, Grenoble, La Rochelle, Liege, Lille, Limoges, Lisieux, Marseilles, Metz, Mons, Montpellier, Nancy, Nantes, Nice, Orange, Orleans, Pézenas, Poitiers, Pont-à-Mousson, Reims, Rennes, Rouen, St. Germain, Saumur, Soissons, Tetonville, Toulouse, Tournon, Tours, Trevoux, Troyes, Valence, Ville-Franche
BOX 3	France Lyon
BOX 4	France Paris
BOX 5	Germany A-C Altdorf, Altenberg, Altona, Amberg, Augsburg, Bamberg, Bautzen, Bayreuth, Berlenburg, Berlin, Blankenburg, Braidenberg, Braunschweig, Bremen, Breslau, Büdingen, Bützow, Carlsbad, Celle, Coburg, Cologne, Colmar
BOX 6	Germany D-G (except Frankfurt) Darmstadt, Dessau, Dessavia, Dresden, Duisberg, Düsseldorf, Eichstadt, Eisenach, Eisleben, Erfurt, Erlangen, Esslingen, Frankenthal, Frankfurt am Oder, Freiberg, Freiburg im Breslau, Freisengen, Geldern, Gera, Giessen, Görlitz, Goslar, Gotha, Göttingen, Greisswald, Groningen, Grottkau
BOX 7	Germany Frankfurt
BOX 8	Germany H-K Hagenau, Halberstadt, Halle, Hamburg, Hanau, Hanover, Heidelberg, Helmstadt, Herborn, Hermanstadt, Hildberghausen, Hof in Bayern, Idstein, Ingolstadt, Jena, Karlsruhe, Kassel, Kempten, Königsberg, Konstanz

Printers' and Publishers' Marks, 1490-1820

Container	Contents
BOX 9	Germany, L-M Landau, Landshut, Lauingen, Leipzig, Lemgo, Liegnitz, Lübeck, Ludwigsburg, Luneberg, Magdeburg, Mainz, Mannheim, Marburg, Meiningen, Mengerlinghausen, Mühlhausen, Munich, Neuberg an der Danau, Münster
BOX 10	Germany, N-S Neuberg an der Danen, Nuremberg, Oettingen, Offenbach, Onolsbach, Oppenheim, Osnabruck, Passau, Pedeponti, Pforzheim, Posen, Quedlinburg, Raufbeuren, Regensburg, Reutlingen, Rinteln, Rodelheim, Rostock, Schleswig, Schlettstadt, Siegen, Solingen, Speyer, Stettin, Stralsund, Strassburg, Straubing, Stuttgart, Sulzbach
BOX 11	Germany, T-Z Trier, Tübingen, Ulm, Uelsen, Wahrenberg, Wandsbeck, Weimar, Weinheim, Weissenburg, Weissenfels, Wesel, Wittenberg, Wolfenbüttel, Worms, Würzburg, Zerst, Zulichau, Zweibrücken, Zwickau Hungary Budapest, Eger Ireland Dublin
BOX 12	Italy, A-Fe Alexandria, Alvisopoli, Amitem, Ancona, Aquila, Arezzo, Bassano, Belluno, Bergamo, Bevagna, Bologna, Bracciano, Brescia, Cagliari, Camerino, Campania, Carpoi, Carrara, Cassalmaggiore, Catona, Cesena, Cherasco, Como, Cremona, Cuneo, Este, Faenza, Fano, Fermo, Ferrara
BOX 13	Italy, Fl-M Florence, Foligno, Forli, Fossamprone, Genoa, Gorizia, Guastalla, Gubbio, Imola, Jesi, Livorno, Loreto, Lucca, Lugano, Macerata, Mantua, Massa, Messina, Milan, Modena, Montereale, Montisfuscoli
BOX 14	Italy, N-Ri Naples, Orvieto, Padua, Palermo, Parma, Pavia, Perugia, Pesaro, Piacenza, Piombino, Pisa, Pistoia, Ravenna, Reconate, Reggio, Rimini
BOX 15	Italy, Ro Rome, Roveredo
BOX 16	Italy, S-V (except Venice) Siena, Sora, Terni, Turin, Udino, Urbino, Vercelli, Verona, Vicenza, Viterbo
BOX 17	Italy Venice, A-L
BOX 18	Italy Venice, M-Z
BOX 19	Luxembourg Netherlands, A-H Amsterdam, Arnheim, Delft, Deventer, Dordrecht, the Hague
BOX 20	Netherlands, L-Z Leyden, Maastricht, Nijmegen, Rotterdam, Utrecht, Zutphen Poland Bunzlau, Gdansk, Krakow Portugal Coimbra, Lisbon Scotland Edinburgh

Printers' and Publishers' Marks, 1490-1820

Container

Contents

	Slovakia
	Trnava
	Spain
	Alcala, Baeja, Barcelona, Cadiz, Caragoca, Cartusia Maioricarum, Gerona, Grenada, Madrid, Medina del Campo, Orihuela, Salamanca, Saragossa, Segovia, Seville, Toledo, Valencia, Valladolid
BOX 21	Sweden
	Lund, Stockholm, Uppsala
	Switzerland
	Basel, Bern, Biel, Einsiedeln, Geneva, Lausanne, Yverdon, Zurich
	Ukraine
	Lemberg
	Unidentified