

Guide to the William A. Speck Papers

YCGL MSS 20



by Christa Sammons

September 2007

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: YCGL MSS 20

CREATOR: Speck, William A. (William Alfred), 1864-1928

TITLE: William A. Speck papers

DATES: 1848-1951

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 9 linear feet (24 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Collection consists of correspondence, notes and drafts, card files, personal and family papers, documenting the founding of the Speck Collection and William A. Speck's activity as a Goethe collector and interpreter.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.speck>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.speck>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The William A. Speck Papers consist of material brought to Yale by Speck and generated by him while he was curator of the Speck Collection. The papers were left in the library when Speck died, except for a small section of personal papers purchased from a descendant in 1960.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The William A. Speck Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

William A. Speck Papers. Yale Collection of German Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

The correspondence series was preliminarily processed by Christa Sammons in the 1970s or 1980s. The rest of the collection was preliminary processed and described by Christa Sammons in 2007.

WILLIAM A. SPECK (1864-1928)

William Alfred Speck, the founder of the William A. Speck Collection of Goetheana, was born in New York City to German immigrants, Otto Speck, a pharmacist, and Natalie Adolphine Haase. He was married twice, to Lillie Day Robinson in 1893 (she died three years later) and to Sara Rennie Speck, the widow of his brother Oscar. His professional training was at the Pharmaceutical College in New York City, and from 1883 until 1912 he worked in the family drug store in Haverstraw, New York. All the while, he was amassing a major Goethe library, and in 1913 he accepted Yale's invitation to come to the university and deposit his collection in the library. He acted as its curator from 1913 until his death in 1928 and as lecturer in the Yale Graduate School beginning in 1916.

A more detailed biography of Speck may be found in the *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography* (vol. 29) and in *Goethe's Works with the Exception of Faust: A Catalogue*. Edited by Carl F. Schreiber (New Haven, 1940), p. 21-42. Schreiber's account of Speck's early years is based on a text written by Sara R. Speck and preserved among the Speck Collection manuscripts (YCGL MSS 6, folder 657).

History of the William A. Speck Collection of Goetheana

Yale acquired the Speck Collection in 1913 through a set of fortuitous coincidences. Speck's niece, Charlotte Keeney, belonged to the Vassar College Class of 1912. Perhaps at her uncle's suggestion, she took several Goethe courses in college, at least one of them taught by Marian Parker Whitney, a daughter of Yale's distinguished Sanskrit scholar William Dwight Whitney. In February 1912, Charlotte Keeney arranged for Ms. Whitney and a group of Vassar students to visit Uncle Will's Goethe collection, already numbering some 6,000 items, at his home in Haverstraw, New York. Recognizing the importance of the collection and perhaps encouraged by her father (who had studied in Germany and taught German at Yale), Marian Whitney suggested to the Yale University Librarian John Christopher Schwab (Class of 1886 and grandson of the German writer Gustav Schwab) that he might visit the remarkable collection on the Hudson. The German literary scholar Julius Petersen, visiting professor at Yale during the year 1912/13, also saw the collection and arranged for part of it to be exhibited at the University. Hanns Oertel, another native German and dean of the Yale Graduate School, lent his support to the project, as did Alfred Lawrence Ripley, Yale Class of 1878, who had taught German at Yale before becoming a banker and Fellow of the Yale Corporation. Within a year, Yale had negotiated the acquisition of the Speck Collection, bringing William Speck to New Haven as its first curator. These events are documented in the correspondence files of Marian Whitney, John Christopher Schwab, Julius Peterson, Hanns Oertel, Anson Phelps Stokes, and the material filed under Yale University, Office of the Secretary, which includes the drafts of the original contract between Speck and Yale.

Scope and Contents

The William A. Speck Papers document the founding of the Speck Collection and Speck's activities as a Goethe collector and interpreter, both before he came to Yale and during his tenure as curator at the University Library. The collection consists of card files, personal and family papers, correspondence, and notes and drafts for articles and lectures.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into four series: I. Card Files, circa 1914-1927. II. Personal and Family Papers, 1848-1951. III. Correspondence, circa 1893-1928. IV. Notes and Drafts for Articles and Lectures, circa 1870-1927.

Collection Contents

Series I: Card Files, circa 1914-1927

(5 boxes)

b. 2, 1	Card file of the Ehrhardt Faust Collection, arranged by the collector's numbering system, mostly in an elegant German hand, probably the collector's. (paper slips approximately 4x6 inches)	
b. 3	Early card file of the Speck Collection, in two hands, neither of them WAS's; the earlier cards have prices in code. (5x7 index cards)	
b. 3	Cards listing William A. Speck's activities relating to the collection year by year, including publications issued, courses taught, and lectures given. In some cases, student attendance records are present.	1914-1927
b. 3	Cards headed "special funds," which appear to record individual monetary gifts and what was purchased with each.	
b. 3	Card file of donors in kind, listing the donated items.	
b. 3	Paper list of the collection in William A. Speck's hand recording 2,021 items. Incomplete?	
b. 5, 4	Card file of Speck Collection. This file appears to supplement rather than duplicate the one in Box 3. The cards for manuscripts are in William A. Speck's hand. (3x5 index cards)	

Series II: Personal and family papers, 1848-1951

(1 box)

b. 6	Botanical specimens collected by William A. Speck around Haverstraw, NY	1880s
b. 6	Personal papers and documents Includes medical bills, a certificate of introduction from the State Department (1897), a testimonial from the College of Pharmacy, City of New York (1883), and a certificate concerning Otto Speck's apprenticeship at a pharmacy in Germany (1848)	1848-1897
b. 6	William A. Speck, printed obituaries and testimonials	
b. 6	Sara R. Speck, letters of condolence to her after William A. Speck's death	1928
b. 6	Sara R. Speck, letters to her from Yale librarians Schreiber and Keogh	1929-1940
b. 6	Sara R. Speck, letters to her from Alice Raphael	1929-
b. 6	Sara R. Speck, miscellaneous correspondence, including one letter from her to William A. Speck.	
b. 6	Correspondents include William Lyon Phelps and the <i>National Cyclopedia of American Biography</i>	
	Family Papers These family papers were found in an envelope marked as follows in the hand of Hedwig S. Dejon, then librarian of the German Literature Collection: "This material concerning Mr. Speck and his family (including some photographs) was sold to YUL [Yale University Library] for a nominal sum by one of the descendants (unidentified) now living in Tennessee. Received 2/23/60 from Accessions Division."	
b. 6	Photographs. Included are persons and houses	
b. 6	Silhouettes of William A. Speck's grandparents, in oval frames (identified in acknowledgment to Sara R. Speck, 1949)	
b. 6	William A. Speck, family letters File includes letters from his nephew William, 1907 March 16; two letters to his sister Augusta, 1897 and n.y.; two letters to Sara R. Speck, 1928 and n.y.	1897-1928
b. 6	Sara R. Speck, correspondence from Yale librarians Schreiber and Keogh	1930-1949
b. 6	Sara R. Speck, family letters: from and about her son Oscar O. Speck and his wife Eleanor H. Speck; "Bill," possibly her son William; and "Annie," possibly William's second wife	1936-1951
b. 6	Sara R. Speck, miscellaneous letters to her. Correspondents include Ethel Rowe, Anne Pratt, Ellen Battell Stoeckel, Alice Raphael, and a lawyer.	1928-1951

Series III: Correspondence, circa 1893-1928

(13 boxes)

This series contains a mixture of business, academic, and institutional correspondence, with a few letters from old friends who have nothing to do with Yale or Goethe but often relate to Speck's other interests, such as botany and geology. The correspondence sometimes gives brief glimpses into his politics, especially the letters from Oswald Garrison Villard.

Orders, invoices, offers, and letters from antiquarian dealers in Germany, England, France, the United States, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Japan document the growth of the Speck Collection from its inception in the late 1880s until Speck's death in 1928. The earliest evidence of his collecting is in the file for E. Steiger & Co. in New York City, with whom William Speck placed a subscription to the Weimar Edition of Goethe's works in 1887. Many of the earliest invoices in the collection are for coins and medals, suggesting that portraits and likenesses of Goethe were among Speck's earliest collecting interests. The most extensive dealer files are Maggs Brothers in London, Joseph Baer in Berlin, and Leo Liepmannsohn in Leipzig. These files, along with many shorter files of correspondence with other dealers, bridge the private and Yale years of Speck's collecting activity.

The correspondence also documents acquisitions from private individuals, such as the extensive negotiations to acquire a group of Goethe-related autographs from the Chicago collector Oliver R. Barrett in exchange for U.S. Presidential letters. A similarly wide-ranging correspondence preceded the purchase of the manuscript of Bayard Taylor's Faust translation. Private collections were also purchased in Germany during Speck's Yale years, among them the 6,000 pieces of Faustiana gathered by G. W. Ehrhardt (acquired in 1922) and 4,000 prints, maps, and ephemera amassed by Karl Berg and purchased from his widow Anna in 1928. The Ehrhardt purchase is an example of the way many Germans were forced to sell their collections because of the severe inflation in Germany after the First World War. Speck's correspondence files of the 1920s are, in fact, full of letters from private individuals offering Goethe-related possessions, in the hope of obtaining small amounts of hard cash in dollars. While Speck took advantage of this situation to augment the collection, it is also clear that he rescued numerous people in extremely difficult circumstances.

In developing the Goethe collection at Yale, Speck had solid support from several faculty members and officers of the University. Among the notable correspondence files in this regard are the letters from Professor Gustav Gruener of the German Department; from Carl F. Schreiber, who was to succeed Speck as curator of the collection; from Anson Phelps Stokes, Secretary of the University; from Hanns Oertel, Dean of the Graduate School; from John Christopher Schwab, University Librarian; and from William Lyon Phelps, perhaps Yale's most illustrious professor of English at the time. Phelps often wrote in German, and once signed himself "Wilhelm Löwe Phelps."

Special mention should be made of the extensive file of letters from Alice Pearl Raphael, whose translation of Goethe's *Faust* I was published in New York by J. Cape and H. Smith in 1930. Alice Raphael adopted Speck as her principal advisor as she worked on the translation, often traveling to New Haven for consultations. After Speck's death, she continued to write to Sara R. Speck and to Carl F. Schreiber. Related letters are to be found in the Wilson Follett file. Alice Raphael's papers are part of the Yale Collection of German Literature. (In the Speck correspondence, Alice Raphael's letters are filed under her married name, Eckstein.)

Speck's interest in English translations of Goethe has, in fact, given enduring shape to the Speck Collection, with its particular strength in the reception of Goethe's works in Great Britain and the United States. His research on the English novelist, traveler, and linguist George Henry Borrow, for instance, threads through both the correspondence and the essay series of the papers and led to an exchange of letters with the notorious forger Thomas Wise, who made a gift to the collection of several Borrow manuscripts. George Borrow translated Ferdinand Maximilian Klinger's 1791 novel *Fausts Leben, Thaten und Höllenfahrt*, and manuscripts of Borrow's English renderings of scenes from Goethe's *Faust* are present in the Speck Collection (YCGL MSS 6, folders 225-27).

Files are arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

b. 7	A general (includes James R. Angell, Yale president, 2 letters, 1922)	
b. 7	Ackermann, Theodor (book dealer, Munich)	
b. 7	Addresses and calling cards, miscellaneous	
b. 7	American Art Association, The American Art Galleries, Inc.(dealer, NYC)	
b. 7	Asakawa, Kan-ichi (clipping)	
b. 7	B general	
b. 7	Baer, Joseph (book dealer, Frankfurt a.M.)	1893-1928
b. 7	Bangs, Archie R. (Yale PhD, 1928, taught at Trinity College in Hartford)	
b. 7	Barrett, Oliver R. (collector, Chicago)	
b. 8	Baumgärtel, Otto (Collective Exhibition of the German Book Trade)	
b. 8	Beall, Edgar C. (phrenologist; collector with Bayard Taylor interests)	
b. 8	Behrend, Fritz (Faust collector, Berlin)	
b. 8	Belwe, Max (offers of 1480 Bible)	
b. 8	Berg, Anna Concerning the purchase of her late husband's collection of prints and maps in 1928. Related material can be found in YCGL MSS 8, folder 659 (Speck's account of the Berg Collection); and in YCGL administrative files	
b. 8	Berlin Photographic Company (NYC)	
b. 8	Bewer, Julius A. Regarding the sale of Goethe letters on behalf of Professor Karl Budde, whose letters are also filed here	
b. 8	Bloch, Richard (collector: medals, Faust)	
b. 8	Bochum (Goethe Week there in 1928)	
b. 8	Bonaventure, E. F. Inc. (art dealer, NYC)	
b. 8	Boucke, Ewald A. (U. of Michigan; Goethe scholar)	
b. 8	Brandegge, Emily (Byron's rose)	
b. 8	Breslauer, Martin (book dealer, Berlin)	
b. 8	Briggs, Walter B. (Harvard College Library)	
b. 8	Brick Row Book Shop (NYC)	
b. 8	Brigham, Clarence S. (librarian, American Antiquarian Society)	
b. 8	Brooke, C. F. Tucker (Yale English Department, Shakespeare scholar)	
b. 8	Brown, Carlton (Modern Language Association, Chaucer scholar)	

b. 8	Bruderhausen, A. (book dealer, NYC)
b. 8	Budde, Karl. See Bewer, Julius
b. 8	C general (including Bruno Cassirer)
b. 8	Cadmus Book Shop (NYC)
b. 8	Cahn, Adolph E. (dealer in medals, Frankfurt)
b. 8	Campbell, T. M. (German Dept., Wesleyan University)
b. 8	Canby, Henry Seidel (manuscript of Bayard Taylor's Faust translation)
b. 8	Carey, Frederic and Margaret (Trippel bust)
b. 8	Carpenter, Fred Donald (Yale PhD 1918, taught at U. of Vermont)
b. 8	Carus, Paul (Open Court Publishing Company)
b. 8	Chaney, Ann Elizabeth (Lake Erie College)
b. 8	Church, Howard Wadsworth (Yale 1904, PhD 1913, professor; with studio photograph)
b. 8	Clark, John Mowbray (sculptor)
b. 8	Claudy, C. H. (son of Frank Claudy, Faust translator)
b. 9	Cohen, Friedrich (book dealer, Bonn)
b. 9	Connecticut Library Association (with draft of Speck's lectured in Waterbury in Feb. 1916)
b. 9	Cook, Albert Stanburrough (Yale English Department)
b. 9	Cooper, W. A. (German Dept., Stanford University)
b. 9	Croke, William J. D.
b. 9	Cross, Wilbur L. (at that time, Professor of English at Yale and dean of the Graduate School)
b. 9	Curts, Paul Holroyd (German Dept., Wesleyan University)
b. 9	D general
b. 9	Day, George Parmly
b. 9	Davies, James (University of Minnesota)
b. 9	Dartmouth College (correspondence with Warren Austin Adams)
b. 9	Danielson, Henry (book dealer, London)
b. 9	Deutsche Gesellschaft der Stadt New Haven
b. 9	Dice, J. Howard (University of Pittsburgh Library)
b. 9	Dobell, P. J. & A. E. (book dealers, London)

b. 9	E general
b. 9	Eckstein, Alice Raphael (also known as Alice Pearl Raphael, Faust translator). Related material in Alice Pearl Raphael papers, Uncat Zg MS 22; in the Carl Schreiber papers, Uncat Zg MS 20 and in the Speck Collection. Books classed in Speck Tr are from her collection
b. 9	Ettinghausen, Maurice L. (Maggs Bros., Napoleon's copy of <i>Werther</i>)
b. 10	F general
b. 10	Farr, Hollon A. (Yale College faculty)
b. 10	Fife, Robert Herndon (Columbia and Wesleyan)
b. 10	Fischerauer, Friedrich (Austrian Consul General, concerns Franz Aschner)
b. 10	Fittbogen, Gottfried (German scholar)
b. 10	Fock, Gustav (book dealer, Leipzig; agent in purchase of Ehrhardt Faust collection)
b. 10	Follett, Wilson (Yale University Press; concerns Alice Raphael's Faust translation)
b. 10	Fleischer, Fritz (artist; Yale purchased his painting <i>Mehr Licht</i> ; see also Francke, Otto)
b. 10	Francke, Kuno (Harvard University)
b. 10	Francke, Otto (concerns Fritz Fleischer portrait of Goethe, <i>Mehr Licht</i>)
b. 10	Frossard, Edward (dealer in coins and medals, NYC)
b. 10	G general
b. 10	Gardner, F. L. (book dealer, London)
b. 10	Gerring, Rudolf (book dealer, Basel)
b. 10	George, C. E. (sale of books)
b. 10	<i>Germanic Review</i>
b. 10	Glaser, Edward L (donor, Chicago)
b. 10	Godard, Georg S. (Connecticut State Library)
b. 10	Goethe Gesellschaft, Weimar
b. 10	Goethe- und Schiller-Archiv, Weimar
b. 10	Goodspeed's Book Shop (Boston)
b. 10	Gottschalk, Paul (book and autograph dealer, Berlin)
b. 10	Gougy, Lucien (book dealer, Paris)
b. 10	Gräf, Hans Gerhard (Goethe scholar, poet, Weimar)
b. 11	Graham, Alexander S. (purchase of a drawing)

b. 11	Grant, John (book dealer, Edinburgh)
b. 11	Graupe, Paul (book dealer, Berlin)
b. 11	Gray, Milton (book dealer, West Norwood, NJ)
b. 11	Grolier Club (Byron exhibition, 1924)
b. 11	Gruener, Gustav (Yale 1884, PhD 1896, Yale German Dept. faculty. His papers are at Manuscripts & Archives, SML)
b. 11	H general
b. 11	Hadley, Arthur (Yale president)
b. 11	Hamburger, Leo (dealer in coins, Frankfurt a.M.)
b. 11	Harrassowitz, Otto (book dealer, Leipzig)
b. 11	Hatfield, James Taft (Northwestern University)
b. 11	Hauhart, William F. (University of Michigan)
b. 11	Hecker, Max (professor, Weimar)
b. 11	Hector, E. (book dealer, Birmingham)
b. 11	Heise, John (autograph dealer, Syracuse, NY)
b. 11	Hellersberg (book dealer, Charlottenburg)
b. 11	Hensel, Bruckmann & Lorbacher, Inc. (custom brokers, NYC)
b. 11	Hess, Adolf, Nachf. (dealer in coins, Frankfurt a.M.)
b. 11	Heuer, Otto (Freies deutsches Hochstift; related material filed under Hochstift)
b. 11	Hiersemann, Karl W. (book dealer, Leipzig; file goes back to 1891, among earliest material in the collection)
b. 11	Hinrichs, Frederic W. (donor of Goethe portrait by Julius Zuber)
b. 11	Hinsdale, Ellen C. (Mount Holyoke College)
b. 12	Hochstift, Freies deutsches (see also Otto Heuer)
b. 12	Höfer, Conrad (sale of a Höllenzwang manuscript by Kippenberg)
b. 12	Hohlfeld, A. R. (Alexander Rudolf) (University of Wisconsin)
b. 12	Houben, H. H. (scholar; offers to sell Eckermann papers)
b. 12	Howes, C. (book dealer, Hastings)
b. 12	Hünich, Fritz Adolf (Insel Verlag)
b. 12	I-J general
b. 12	International Book Review

b. 12	K general
b. 12	Kartzke, Georg (Amerika-Institut, Berlin; acted as agent for Speck, especially in purchase of the Ehrhardt Faust collection)
b. 12	Kasten, Hans (collector, Bremen)
b. 12	Kellermann, Fritz (University of Kansas)
b. 12	Kemp, James Furman (geologist)
b. 12	Keogh, Andrew (Yale University Librarian)
b. 12	Kiliani, Lilian (daughter of Bayard Taylor) With the letters is her translation of Auguste Mariette's "Outline History of Egypt," autograph manuscript, 149 numbered leaves.
b. 13	Kippenberg, Anton (Insel Verlag)
b. 13	Kintzel O. R. (book dealer, Hartford)
b. 13	Klenze, Camillo von (City College)
b. 13	Knortz, Karl (folklorist)
b. 13	Krumpelmann, John T. (scholar with interest in Bayard Taylor)
b. 13	Kuhn, Grete (offers lock of Goethe's hair; with hair sample, not Goethe's)
b. 13	Kurrelmeyer, William (Johns Hopkins)
b. 13	L general
b. 13	Ladd, Benjamin Franklin (Yale graduate student)
b. 13	Landau, Toni, Photographic Co.
b. 13	Libbie, C. F. & Co. (auction house, Boston)
b. 13	Liepmannsohn, Leo (book dealer, Berlin)
b. 13	Long, Orie William (Williams College)
b. 13	Loughridge, Charles (mining executive, donor)
b. 13	Luyster, S. B. (book dealer, NYC; invoices going back to 1890)
b. 14	M general
b. 14	Mackall, Leonard L. (bibliophile, collector, writer) Correspondence continues with Carl Schreiber after Speck's death. There is a group of Mackall's papers at Manuscripts & Archives and correspondence in the Harvey Cushing Papers at the Medical Library
b. 14	Mackowsky, Hans (Nationalgalerie, Berlin; Rauch bust)
b. 14	Madigan, Thomas F. (autograph dealer, NYC)

b. 15	Maggs Bros. (book dealer, London) <i>2 Folders</i>	1906-1927
b. 15	Malkan, Henry (book dealer, NYC)	
b. 15	Marc, Hedwig (sale of autographs)	
b. 15	Markham, L. O. Concerns Speck's plan to create a natural history museum in a school near Haverstraw, 1913.	
b. 15	Maruzen Company (book dealer, Kyoto)	
b. 15	Mensel, Ernst Heinrich (Smith College)	
b. 15	Merwin Sales Company (book, autograph, coin dealer, NYC)	
b. 15	Meyer, Friedrich, Buchhandlung (Leipzig)	
b. 15	Muel, Charles (book dealer, London)	
b. 15	Mincieux, C. A. (book dealer, Geneva)	
b. 15	Modern Language Association (programs)	
b. 15	Monahan, James (attorney; sale of Bayard Taylor's Faust manuscript)	
b. 15	Monrad, Anna M. (Yale University Library cataloguer)	
b. 15	Morford, Eben P. (acquisition of Braille books)	
b. 15	Morgan, Alice W. (facsimile Schiller letter)	
b. 15	Morgan, Bayard Quincy (University of Wisconsin)	
b. 16	N general	
b. 16	Nettleton, George H. (Yale English Dept. faculty)	
b. 16	Neumann Bros. (bookbinders, NYC)	
b. 16	New England Modern Language Association	
b. 16	Nijhoff, Martinus (book dealer, The Hague)	
b. 16	North, Ernest Dressel (book dealer, NYC)	
b. 16	O general	
b. 16	O'Connell, Richard D. (Yale 1923)	
b. 16	O'Donnell, George H. F. (Yale PhD, 1921)	
b. 16	Oertel, Hanns (dean, Yale Graduate School)	
b. 16	Oettingen, Wolfgang (director, Goethe Museum, Weimar)	
b. 16	Olmstead, Anna E. (Vassar College)	

b. 16	Ormes, Ferguson R. (Yale 1913)
b. 16	P general (including Frederick A. Pottel and Eduard Prokosch)
b. 16	Palmer, Arthur Hubbell (Yale German Department faculty)
b. 16	Penny, George B. (Rochester Institute of Musical Art, old friend)
b. 16	Petersen, Julius (visiting professor at Yale when Speck Collection was acquired)
b. 16	Phelps, William Lyon (Yale English Department faculty)
b. 16	Picard, Auguste (book dealer, Paris)
b. 16	Pleadwell, F. L. (U. S. Navy; has to do with Byron's rose)
b. 16	Plée, M. (book dealer, Paris)
b. 16	Presbyterian Church, Stamford, NY (lecture, January 1921)
b. 16	Press clipping agencies
b. 16	Princeton University Library
b. 16	Priest, George M. (Princeton University)
b. 17	Quaritch, Bernard, Ltd. (book dealers, London)
b. 17	R general
b. 17	Raschen, John F. L. (University of Pittsburgh)
b. 17	Redpath Lyceum Bureau
b. 17	Reeves, Harold (dealer in books and music, London)
b. 17	Richards, Alfred E. (Yale 1898, U. of New Hampshire faculty)
b. 17	Ries, H. (professor of geology, Cornell University)
b. 17	Ripley, Alfred Lawrence (Yale 1878, banker, donor)
b. 17	Ritti, Paul (book dealer, Paris)
b. 17	Rogers, Arthur (book dealer, Newcastle on Tyne)
b. 17	Rogers, John Gamble (architect)
b. 17	Royal Library, Stockholm (acknowledgments)
b. 17	Rühl, E. (offer of Schiller item)
b. 17	Runze, Maximilian and Anita (offer of Carl Loewe manuscript scores)
b. 17	S general
b. 17	Sachs, R. (book dealer? NYC)
b. 17	Salkeld, John (book dealer, London)

b. 17	Salter, William W. (offer of autograph collection)
b. 17	Sandberg, L. Oscar (dealer in coins and medals, NYC)
b. 17	Savage, Henry (Yale PhD, 1924?)
b. 17	Schaatts, G. (sale of autographs)
b. 17	Schaefer & Koradi (book dealers, Philadelphia)
b. 17	Schneider, G. (offer of Theodor Storm manuscript)
b. 17	Schock, K. L. (offer of autographs)
b. 17	Schoeder, Paul and Elisabeth (old friends)
b. 17	Schreiber, Carl F. Speck's successor at Yale; file includes third-party correspondence and other enclosures.
b. 17	Shiras, Winfield (Yale 1923)
b. 17	Schuchard, Gottlieb Carl Ludolf (New York University)
b. 17	Schüddekopf, Marie (sale of materials)
b. 17	Schulte-Strathaus, Ernst (scholar, bibliographer)
b. 17	Schwab, John Christopher (Yale University Librarian) File contains letters about the acquisition of the Speck Collection.
b. 18	Shepard, Aline (College of Industrial Arts, Denton, TX)
b. 18	Silbermann, B. (book dealer, Chicago)
b. 18	Southern, Henry & Co. (book dealer, London)
b. 18	Spaulding, John A. (Trinity College, Hartford)
b. 18	Stammer, P. & Son (book dealer, NYC)
b. 18	Stargardt, J. A. (book dealer, Berlin)
b. 18	Steckert, G. E. & Co. (book dealer, NYC)
b. 18	Steiger, E. & Co. (book dealer, NYC) File includes invoices going back to 1887, the oldest in the collection.
b. 18	Steigerwald, Charles (Lancaster, PA; purchase of medals)
b. 18	Stevens & Brown ("Library and Literary Agents")
b. 18	Stokes, Anson Phelps (Secretary, Yale) File includes a letter from William Howard Taft to Stokes, 1927 March 5.
b. 18	Stone, H. (book dealer, NYC)
b. 18	Stuckenberg, Mary G. (offer of material)

b. 18	T general
b. 18	Taylor, Bayard, centennial exhibition, 1925
b. 18	Taylor, Bayard. Acquisition of the manuscript of his Faust translation. Correspondents include Speck, William Lyon Phelps, Peter Meagher, S. G. Raines, J. B. Francks, and Curtis Walters.
b. 18	Taylor, Marion Lee (teacher, translator)
b. 18	Thorpe, Henry (book dealer, Brooklyn)
b. 18	Tiedemann, Heinrich (book dealer, Berlin)
b. 18	Tinker, Chauncey Brewster (keeper of rare books, Yale)
b. 18	Tondeur & Säuberlich (book dealers, Leipzig)
b. 18	Trumble, Alfred (publisher of the journal <i>The Collector</i>) File contains an example of Speck Brothers letter head, 1894.
b. 18	Turner, Arthur E. (collector, London)
b. 18	U general
b. 18	Union Square Book Shop (NYC)
b. 19	V general
b. 19	Vagts, Alfred (author and historian)
b. 19	Vaihinger, Hans (offer of Goethe portraits)
b. 19	Van Nosedall, George A. (book and autograph dealer, NYC)
b. 19	Vereinigung der Freunde des Goethehauses zu Weimar
b. 19	Villard, Oswald Garrison (editor of <i>The Nation</i>)
b. 19	Vollbehr, Otto H. F. (incunable collector)
b. 19	W general
b. 19	Wadepuhl, Walter (University of Illinois)
b. 19	Wahl, Hans (director, Goethe-Nationalmuseum, Weimar)
b. 19	Wahle, Julius (Goethe-Schiller Archiv, Weimar)
b. 19	Walters, Curtis (book dealer, NYC)
b. 19	Waters, Robert (former teacher of William A. Speck)
b. 19	Weg, Max (book dealer, Leipzig)
b. 19	Weigel, Adolf (book dealer, Leipzig)
b. 19	Weigold, Julius (sale of Goethe power of attorney)

b. 19	Wells, Gabriel (book dealer, NYC; Rauch bust)
b. 19	Wendte, Charles W. (clergyman, concerning papers of Charles Timothy Brooks)
b. 19	Werner, Percy (lawyer, St. Louis; offer of Goethe letter)
b. 19	Westermann Co. (book dealer, NYC)
b. 19	White, Lucy S. (donor)
b. 19	Whitney, Marian (Vassar College faculty)
b. 19	Weibe, Carl (dealer in medals, Hamburg)
b. 19	Williams, Frederick W. (with an account by his cousin of Bayard Taylor)
b. 19	Wise, Thomas J. (forger; the correspondence is about George Borrow)
b. 19	Wright, Herbert G. (University College, Bangor; topic is George Borrow)
b. 19	<i>Yale Review</i>
b. 19	Yale University Graduate School
b. 19	Yale University Library
b. 19	Yale University, Office of the Secretary Files contain the original agreement with Speck about bringing the collection to Yale and the records of his employment as curator.
b. 19	Yale University Press
b. 19	Yale University, miscellaneous
b. 19	Z general
b. 19	Zahn & Jaensch (book dealer, Dresden)
b. 19	Zschiesche & Köder (dealer in medals, Leipzig)

Series IV: Notes and drafts for articles and lectures, circa 1870-1927

(5 boxes)

The files in this series range from short bibliographic jottings and transcriptions such as scholars necessarily made before the advent of the copy machine, to fully formed lectures. They are all handwritten by Speck, usually in pencil on half sheets of yellow paper.

William A. Speck had no graduate degree in German literature and published little in the field, aside from the series Facsimiles and Reproductions of Unique or Rare Items from the William A. Speck Collection of Goetheana (Yale University Press, six numbers, 1915-27) and an article on the Faust translator George Borrow. Yet both his correspondence and material in the notes and drafts series of his papers show that Speck was an active teacher and popular speaker. He addressed several Modern Language Association meetings, spoke at colleges and schools in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York State, and gave lectures before the Yale Germanics Club, church and women's groups, and the Yale library staff. The lectures and notes also include several series of talks: twenty-one essays on the portraits of Goethe; a packet of twenty-three lectures on Goethe's personality; twelve lectures on Faust, from the sources of the legend to the completion of Goethe's *Faust II*, and two on Faust in art; and six biographical lectures on Goethe. These series represent Speck's presentations in the two courses he offered at the Yale Graduate School, "Goethe's Personal Appearance" (1916/17 and 1919/20) and "Goethe and His Personal Influence," given first in 1917/18 and in several subsequent years. The biographical lectures on Goethe appear to have been presented almost annually in one of Gustav Gruener's courses beginning in the fall of 1919.

Files are arranged alphabetically by title or subject.

b. 20	Additions to our Goetheana	1925
b. 20	Anster, John	
b. 20	Bayard Taylor in Weimar	
b. 20	Bernays, Adolphus	
b. 20	Birch, Jonathan	
b. 20	Blackie, John Stuart	
b. 20	Borrow, George	
b. 20	Brooks, Charles Timothy	
b. 20	Carlyle and Eckermann (2 essays)	
b. 20	Coleridge and the Faustus Books of Boosey and Sons	
b. 20	Collecting, Collectors & Collections (notes for 4 lectures, 1914)	
b. 20	Den fünfzehn englischen Freunden	1916?
b. 20	[Drawings] Two supposedly lost drawings by Goethe	1927?
b. 20	English Faust translations (1833-1843)	
b. 20	Faust in Art: two lectures Includes: I. Faust in Art and II. Goethe's Faust in German Art	

b. 20	Faust: a lecture series Includes: 1. Faust. History and bibliography; 2. The historical Faust; [3?] The Faust-Buch of 1587; 4. Literary as distinguished from the biographical sources of the Faust Buch of 1587; 5-6. Marlowe's . . . Faustus and its influence on the development of the "Faust-Stoff" in Germany, parts I and II; 7. Faust dramas after Marlowe (through 1808); 8. Faust. Its Beginnings, "The Ur-Faust"; 9. Faust 1775-1790 "Fragment"; 10. Faust "The Complete First Part; 11. Faust, "Helena"; 12. Faust. The Complete Second Part
b. 21	The Faustiana in Yale University Library (MLA lecture, 1922; 2 drafts)
b. 21	Goethe - Motley
b. 21	George Borrow & Goethe's Faust (MLA lecture, 1925)
b. 21	Goethe and the Graphic Arts
b. 21	Goethe's Personal Appearance
b. 21	The portraits of the child Goethe
b. 21	Goethe the boy
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1768-1775)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1775-1779)
b. 21	Klauer's bust, May's portraits
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1780-1785)
b. 21	The Roman Goethe
b. 21	The Goethe masks, the busts of Weisse and Schadow . . .
b. 21	Angelika Kauffmann, Alexander Trippel, Klauer, Hackert
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1790-1800)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1801-1808)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1808-1810)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1811-1816)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1817-1819)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse: The authentic foundations
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1820-1828)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1821-1822)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1823-1825)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1826-1829)
b. 21	Goethe Bildnisse (1829-1832)

b. 21	Portraits of the old Goethe	
b. 22	Goethe's Personality	
b. 22	Introduction	
b. 22	Packets numbered 1-23	
b. 22	Collection of clippings, mostly newspaper	
b. 23	Goethe: a set of biographical lectures	
b. 23	Frankfurt am Main	
b. 23	Leipzig - Weimar	
b. 23	Goethe und Weimar	
b. 23	Goethe in Italy	
b. 23	Goethe's return from Italy 1788 - the death of Schiller 1805	
b. 23	Goethe (1805-1832)	
b. 23	[Notes on early Werther translators]	
b. 23	Hayward, Abraham	
b. 23	Holcroft, Thomas	
b. 23	Jameson, Anna	
b. 23	John Rutter Chorley and Goethe's Ideal of World-Literature Yale Germanic Club lecture; with notes in Schreiber's hand and transcriptions in another hand	1921
b. 23	Dr. [N. H.] Julius of Hamburg, H. C. Robinson, and Carlyle's "German Romance" Coleridge Contains notes and transcriptions in various hands (with the record of purchase for YCGL MSS 6, folder 85, one page on notes by Coleridge on Goethe)	
b. 23	Lefevre, Sir George William	
b. 23	[Leveson] Ellesmere, Francis Egerton (Gower Leveson)	
b. 23	Martin, Sir Theodore	
b. 23	Melchior's Goethe medallion (1775)	
b. 23	J. L. Motley on Goethe	
b. 23	Motley's Commonplace Book	
b. 23	Müffling, F. K. F. Contains 2 sets of notes on his Faust drama of 1831 (Speck Collection Sg7.M6.831), the one, "An unedited Faust-Drama of 1831" apparently earlier than the other, which includes a complete transcription	

b. 23	Notes on rare items	
b. 23	Oer, Theobald von	
b. 23	Offene Gegend. A Fragment of the Second part of Faust	1926
b. 23	On the portraits of the Young Goethe (1765-1775) (Library staff lecture)	
b. 23	Original drawing by Goethe with a short paper on Goethe and the graphic arts,	1917
b. 23	[Pens] Goethe, Johann Heinrich Friedrich Schütz, and three pens (Yale Germanic Club lecture)	1921
b. 24	Reade, John Edmund	
b. 24	Recollections of a literary collector	
b. 24	Roman portraits of Goethe (library staff lecture)	
b. 24	Schopenhauer as Goethe's friend	
b. 24	Schütz, Hermann	
b. 24	Schütz, Johann Heinrich Friedrich	
b. 24	Swanwick, Anna	
b. 24	Taylor, Bayard. Notes on his proposed Life of Goethe	
b. 24	Two old bibliographical questions answered (about early Werther translators Richard Graves and William James)	
b. 24	Some new English Wertheriana (Yale Germanic Club lecture)	1925
b. 24	Some English Wertheriana frequently mentioned but seldom seen (Smith College lecture)	1927
b. 24	Zerffi, George Gustavus	
b. 24	Drafts for early newspaper articles – in packet	1870s-1880s
b. 24	Miscellaneous notes and clippings	

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Authors, German
German literature -- 18th century
German literature -- 19th century

Names

Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von, 1749-1832
Speck, William A. (William Alfred), 1864-1928