

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # *84 M 34

Location Annex 23-1-2/3

Title Lebzelter Family. Papers.

Approximate inclusive dates 1834-1925 Bulk dates- 1835-1863

Date of receipt April 1941

Received from Mrs. Frederick Adams Woods
(Marie Lebzelter Woods)

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 7 AB, 1 RC

Condition fair Some letters should be disbound, others need to be pressed

Restrictions Publication rights to Victor Lebzelter's translation of his father's letters (known as the "Lebzelter Letters") remain with the donor.

Description Baron Edward de Lebzelter-Collenbach was a member of the prominent aristocratic Lebzelter family of the Austrian Empire. His father, Francis and uncle, Louis were close associates of Prince Metternich, Austrian foreign minister and architect of the political reaction and restoration of European monarchs which followed the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte. Edward entered the diplomatic service at the age of 23 and was assigned to a post in the Austrian embassy in London in 1835. He spent nine years there but found his path to advancement blocked by preferential treatment of the more powerful and wealthy Esterhazy family. In 1844 he was granted a promotion and transfer to the position of first secretary of the Austrian legation in St. Petersburg, Russia. By 1846 he had achieved the rank of chargé d'affaires under Ambassador Colloredo. Lebzelter married Marie Bierzynska (daughter of Katherine Dolgoruky) in 1849 and remained in St. Petersburg until 1854 when he was assigned to duties in the Italian states of Parma and Modena, and finally in Lisbon, Portugal. His daughter, Marie, married into the Portuguese aristocracy, becoming Vicomtesse de Chancelleiros. His son, Victor, eventually settled in the United States.

The Lebzelter Family Papers contain correspondence to and from Edward Lebzelter, his wife, his daughter Marie, his son Victor, and Victor's daughter Marie, and a few items of memorabilia. The vast majority of the correspondence consists of letters sent by Edward to his father, 1834-1863. They provide an almost daily journal of his activities while in London, St. Petersburg, Lisbon, and other European cities. The letters from 1835-1849 have been translated from the German by Victor Lebzelter. They provide abundant details of life at the Austrian embassy, social life among the British and Russian aristocracy, and glimpses of the courts of King William IV, Queen Victoria, and Tsar Nicholas I. The remaining letters in Edward's "journal" have not been translated.

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

England-Social Life and Customs

Aristocracy

Diaries

Gt. Britain-Social Life and Customs

Nobility

Gt. Britain-History

Diplomacy

Russia-History

Russia-Social Life and Customs

Accessioned by Melanie J. [Signature]

Austria-Foreign Relations

Austria-History

Upper Classes-Gt. Britain

Upper Classes-Russia

Upper Classes-Austria

Date 5-21-84

Letters written by other members of the Lebzelttern family and their friends, 1844-1925, are predominantly in French. These include letters to Edward from his wife Marie, Marie's letters to her daughter the Vicomtesse de Chancelleiros, and the latter's correspondence with her brother Victor and his daughter Marie Lebzelttern Woods.

In addition to the correspondence are an essay written by Victor Lebzelttern on the life of Jacques Casanova, an autograph album belonging to Edward's sister Wilhelmina (Mina), and death notices and eulogies for Alexandrine Lebzelttern, Vicomtesse de Cara, and Marie Lebzelttern, Vicomtesse de Chancelleiros.

LEBZELTERN FAMILY PAPERS

- Boxes 1-6 Letters of Edward de Lebzelter-Collienbach to his father,
Baron Francis, 1834-1863
- Box 1 1834-1837
Box 2 1838-1841
Box 3 1842-1844
Box 4 1845-1851
Box 5 1852-1858
Box 6 1859-1863, n.d.
- Box 7 Other Lebzelter Family correspondence and memorabilia
- Box 8 Holograph manuscript, corrected typescript, and
final typescript of the "Lebzelter Letters," a
translation of Edward de Lebzelter's letters to
his father (1835-1849) by Victor Lebzelter