

NEWS ON LEIBNIZ TEXTS

Leibniz Microfilms at the University of Pennsylvania

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Thanks to the efforts of Paul Schrecker and John W. Nason some half century ago, the University of Pennsylvania is home to microfilm reproductions of over one hundred thousand hand-written pages drawn from the collection of Leibniz's papers presently housed in the Niedersächsische Landesbibliothek, Hannover. The microfilms are to be found on the mezzanine floor of the reference section in the Van Pelt Library and are readily accessible to visitors. Xerox copies may be made, although the Van Pelt Library stresses that the microfilms remain the property of the Niedersächsische Landesbibliothek, and that permission to copy must be obtained from Hannover beforehand.

In 1955, Collen Grimm Sterling compiled a concordance that links each microfilm item to the Bodemann volumes. The concordance is an essential tool for anyone who wishes to search for specific manuscripts, and, in conjunction with Bodemann, it provides a useful 'table of contents'. Unfortunately, this document was never published, and, until now, it has been necessary to visit the Van Pelt Library in order to access the information that it contains. However, through the kind permission of the Van Pelt library, it is now possible to make this information more widely available. To this end, I have listed below the Bodemann number of each item that Sterling lists in the concordance, starting with the *Briefwechsel* and moving on to the *Handschriften*. I have also given a brief summary of the one hundred and two items included on the microfilms that Sterling lists as absent from Bodemann. Readers should note that I have followed Sterling to the letter in what follows. Thus, references are made to the original Bodemann volumes, including the 1867 edition of the *Handschriften*.

Schrecker and Nason's primary concern, when they compiled the U.Penn. microfilms, was the preservation of those of Leibniz's papers that were either unpublished at the time, or that they deemed to have been published inaccurately. For this reason, one should not expect to find microfilms of Leibniz's most famous works in the Van Pelt library.² However, one should not expect to find any shortage of fascinating documents either. The items from Leibniz's *Briefwechsel* that are listed

by Sterling include correspondence with luminaries such as Isaac Newton, John Toland, John Wallis, and Christian Wolf, as well as lesser figures, who are nonetheless well known to students of Leibniz—such as Nicolas Remond, Johann Christopher Sturm, and Henri Basnage de Beauval. The selections from Leibniz's *Handschriften* are equally generous. As well as numerous writings on Mathematics, Medicine, Philology, Physics, and Theology, there are philosophical writings of obvious significance (such as the early criticisms of Locke and various writings on the philosophy of Malebranche), as well as many others whose significance still remains to be determined.

Part I. Briefwechsel

Listed in Bodemann E, *Der Briefwechsel des G.W. Leibniz in der königlichen öffentlichen Bibliothek zu Hannover*, Hannover 1889.

a) Correspondence (General)

4, 5, 8, 12, 15, 17, 18, 21, 23, 27, 31, 35-6, 38, 41-2, 46, 49, 50, 54-5, 60, 62-4, 68, 73, 77, 79, 82, 89, 105, 109-10, 114, 116-17, 120-1, 125, 128-30, 131(memorial omitted), 136-7, 139, 142, 145-6, 149-50, 153-4, 156-7, 161, 163, 168, 172, 179, 182-9, 191, 197, 207-8, 216, 218, 221, 232, 236, 250, 252-3, 257-8, 262-4, 270, 275, 277, 280, 282-3, 291, 321, 326, 328, 330, 341-2, 345, 354, 365, 369-70, 373-74, 384, 389-90, 396 (only Leibniz's letter of March 4, 1711), 398, 405-7, 410, 411 (only the 2 letters from Leibniz), 413, 420, 424, 426, 430-1, 433-6, 438, 444-5, 447-50, 452-4, 456-7, 458 (7 letters from Justel to Leibniz), 463-4, 469-70, 474, 483, 486-7, 491-2, 497, 499, 500-1, 503, 506, 508, 512, 517, 519, 529, 531-2, 536, 538, 540 (only Leibniz's letter of Oct. 5, 1697), 541-2, 549, 551-4, 556-9, 561, 567-8, 571 (only the 9 letters from Leibniz), 573-4, 578, 583-6, 590, 592-4, 601-4, 606, 608-9, 611, 614, 618-9, 621, 625, 629, 631-3, 635-7, 639, 641-2, 644, 646, 649-51, 653, 655, 658, 662, 664, 666, 671, 674, 675, 678-80, 683-4, 687-9, 699, 702-3, 705, 707-8, 712, 716-17, 719-20, 722, 724, 725 (only the letters from Leibniz), 728, 730-2, 735, 741-3, 747-9, 751-3, 755 (without the printed material), 756-68, 770, 774, 781-5, 787-91, 793-4, 796-801, 804-9, 811-13, 815 (only the 4 letters from Leibniz), 816-17, 822, 827, 829-30, 832-6, 838-42, 847-50, 852-3, 854 (only the letters from Leibniz), 858, 860-2, 865-71, 872 (only the originals), 874, 876, 879-85, 888, 891, 893, 895-6, 898-9, 901, 903, 905, 908-10, 912, 915-16, 921-37, 939-49, 954-60, 962, 964-6, 968, 971, 973 (only the letters from Leibniz), 976 (only the correspondence after 1685), 977-80, 984-6, 988, 990, 992, 994-8, 1000, 1002-7, 1010 (only the letters not published by Gerhardt), 1014-17, 1020-2, 1026, 1027.

b) Leibnizens Correspondenz mit fürstlichen Personen.

2, 10, 15, 17-19, 22, 24, 30-3, 35

Part II. Handschriften

Listed in Bodemann E, *Die Leibniz-Handschriften der königlichen öffentlichen Bibliothek zu Hannover*, Hannover 1895.

I.I.III. 4b incomplete, 5, 7

I.I.IV.

I.III. 1-5, 7 [a, c, e-g, k], 8 [a, b3-6, c, d1-2, e]

I.IV. 2, 4, 5b, 6, 7b-d, 8a-e

I.V. 2 [a, d-g], 4 [a-b]

I.VI. 1, 4, 9, 10, 12, 17-20

I.VII. 1, 3, 5, 6

I.VIII. 2

I.XII. 4

I.XX. B1. 1-71, 99-101, 110-13, 132-4, 141-55, 249-52

III.I. 1-4, 5a-b, d-e

III.II.

III.IV. 3a

III.V. B1. 12, 17-20, 49

IV.I. 4 [B1.30-1], 5, 6, 8, 9 [B1.1-7], 14b-c

IV.II. 2f, 3e, 6b, 7a-c, 8, 9, 11

IV.III. 2-5, 7-9, 12

IV.IV. 1, 2, 4i&k, 5-7, 10, 12, 13a&d

IV.V. 6c.ff. 14-19, 11b

IV.VI. 3-6, 13

IV.VII. Fasc.A. ff.21-30; Fasc. B.VI.; Fasc. C. ff. 20-100, 103-34, 139-47, 156-63;
Fasc. D. ff. 5-15

IV.VIII. 3, 11, 14-16, 18, 20, 22, 26-7

V.I. 1

V.II.

V.III. 2-3

V.IV. 1-2

V.VI. 3-5

VII. f. 25-6

IX. 2

X. 4-6

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- XI.I.** 1-3, 5 [ff.1-4], 6, 9
XI.II. 1[ff.1-8], 2 [ff.1-2]
XI.IV. ff. 69-74, 170-4
XI.V. 2, 4, 6
XI.VI. A.1. [ff.27-8], A.2. [ff. 98-107, 159-72, 189-94, 208-15, 234-47, 250-3, 255-8], B. [ff.7-14, 32-3, 121-6, 133-4, 139-42, 155-8, 178a, 179-90, 202-3]
XII.I. 1 [ff.1-11], 2 [ff.85-6]
XII.III. 4 [ff.73-9]
XIII. 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 18, 19, 24-6, 27 [ff. 109-10, 116-8, 125-35, 149-50, 157-8, 164-7, 168-73, 180-1]
XIX. 3, 5, 9, 10, 14 [ff. 87-8, 91, 103-4, 109, 189, 213-17]
XX. 2, 3
XXIII.I.
XXIII.II. 7, 11 [ff.18-28], 14, 15 [ff. 1-5, 12-25, 29-30, 33, 38-45], 16 [ff. 5-15], 16a. [ff. 1-3, 35, 41, 46-8], 17 [ff. 1-19]
XXIII.VII. ff. 22-38
XXIV. 10 [ff.41-2]
XXV. 2
XXXIV. 2.BI.9-10, 3.BI.11-12, 4.BI.13, 5.BI.14-17, 7.BI.26-7, 12.BI.50-51, 14.BI.60-4, 15.BI.65-72, 16.BI.75-6, 18.BI.88-94, 21.BI.111-2, 23.BI.119-25, 25.IV.BI.131-4, 27.BI.141, 28.BI.142-5, 29.BI.146, 30.BI.147-66, 31.BI.167-8, 32.BI.169-74, 33.BI.175-6, 35.BI.181-96, 37.BI.203-07, 38.BI.208-11, 40.BI.219-20, 41.BI.221-3, 42.BI.224-5, 43.BI.226-7.
XXXV.I. 2-6, 8-10, 14, 18, 19, 21, 25-9
XXXV.III. A.[1-13, 15-25, 27-36], B.[1-21]
XXXV.IV. 1-4, 7, 8, 10, 12-14, 17, 19
XXXV.V. 1-24, 26-7
XXXV.VI. 1-7, 11, 14, 21, 22
XXXV.VII. 1-5, 7, 9-12, 14, 16-25
XXXV.VIII. 2-4, 6-29
XXXV.IX. 9-12, 14-18, 20-8
XXXV.X. 1-10, 13-18
XXXV.XI. 1-12, 14-16
XXXV.XV.I. ff.1-27
XXXV.XV.II. Bl.[1,12-15,16f.,18,24-8]
XXXV.XV.III. ff.1-32
XXXV.XV.IV. ff.1-28

- XXXV.XV.V. ff.1-84
XXXV.XV.VI. ff. 5-6, 18-74
XXXVI. ff. 1-57, 78-146, 170-230
XXXVII.I. ff. 9-17, 27
XXXVII.II. ff. 1-15, 63-76, 93-100, 125-31
XXXVII.III. ff. 1-8, 11-17, 19-119, 123-69
XXXVII.V.
XXXVIII. ff. 1-9, 17-233, 298-376
XXXIX. 1, 2, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20
XL. 3, 6
XLI. 2, 3, 7, 10 [ff.1-2]

Listed in Bodemann E, *Die Leibniz-Handschriften der königlichen öffentlichen Bibliothek zu Hannover*, Hannover 1867.

- IV. 379 (the two pages by Leibniz), 604 (the 56 pages by Leibniz)
XII^c. 727-8
XIII. 772, 835, 839 [5]
XX. 1193
XXIII. 1203
XXXIII. 1749 [ff. 5-9, 12, 18-21, 35-42, 96-8, 115, 116, 119, 121-4], 1752, 1753
XXXIV. 1778 [ff.1-7]
XXXV. 1793
XXXVII. 1810 [Fasc. 2]

Part III. Items not listed by Bodemann

In addition, Sterling mentions one hundred and two items that are not listed by Bodemann. Unfortunately, the concordance is not very clear in its description of these items. However, eighty-five of them *are* identified explicitly as letters, and it appears that the remainder should be understood as falling under this category as well. Twenty two of the items are attributed to Leibniz (including one letter each to Ernst Auguste, Des Bosses, and John Wallis), and another seven are letters that have Leibniz identified as the recipient. The remainder are either partially, or wholly, unidentified (including three that are attributed to Molanus), or come from correspondences that do not involve Leibniz directly. The names mentioned in connection with these items are those of minor figures in the history of ideas.

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² One notable exception, according to Sterling's concordance, is the *Discourse on Metaphysics* (item IV.III.7. in the 1895 edition of Leibniz's *Handschriften*).