

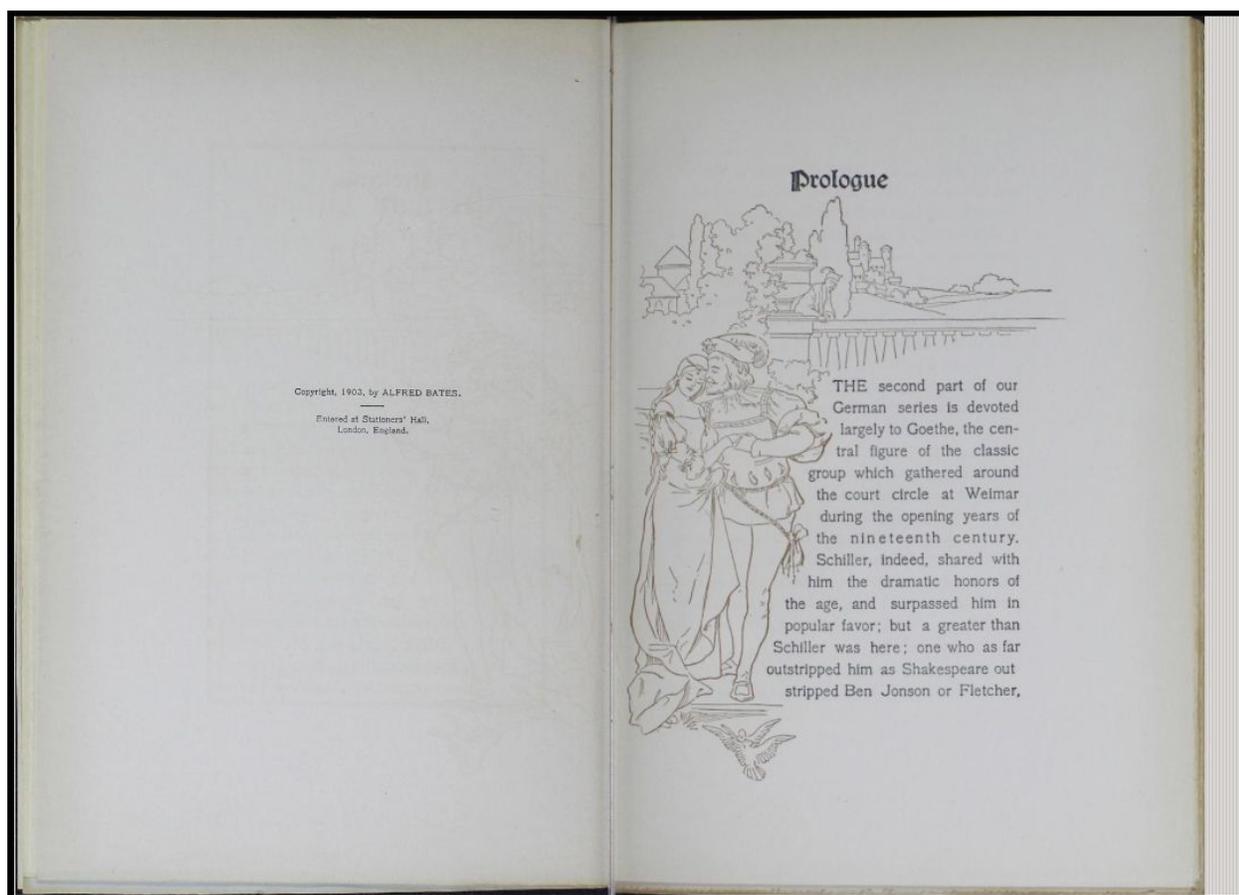
LIS 666: Projects in Rare Book Digitization  
Professor: Emily Holmes  
Pratt Institute, Spring 2018

# DIGITIZING *The Drama*

## FINAL REPORT

by Carissa Pfeiffer

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## Introduction

This report is submitted as a partial requirement of Pratt School of Information's Projects in Rare Book Digitization course. The digitized book is Volume 11 in the series *The Drama: Its History, Literature and Influence on Civilization*, the second of three volumes on German drama. The fully described, online e-book, with full metadata record uploaded to Internet Archive can be found [here](#).

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## Description of the owning library

This item is part of a non-circulating special collections division within a New York City art and design school library. Both the school and its library have locations in Brooklyn and Manhattan, with the majority of materials (including all special collections materials) housed in the main Brooklyn library. Patron population includes undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty researchers.

The overall collecting scope is broad, but ultimately aims to facilitate research into subjects emphasized in the arts and design curriculum, which broadly include the fine arts, illustration, design, architecture, and arts education. The mission statement of the school as a whole highlights the goal of educating students to be responsible contributors to society with a firm grounding in aesthetic judgment and the ability to blend creative application with theory; therefore, the curriculum also foregrounds the histories and critical theories surrounding these domains.

In addition to supporting the school's teaching and learning community, the library has a stake in fostering knowledge of arts and design and to increase awareness of the library's holdings beyond the immediate community it serves. In the long term, this will encourage additional research among specialists, and ensure the school's reputation as a leader in its field as well as a positive contributor to society.

The special collections division in particular provides resources significant for the study of the history of the book and illustration; the books contained therein often display unusual or significant bindings, typography, or illustrations. The books included range from fifteenth century incunabula to present-day artists' books. There is no formal program for preservation through digitization, nor

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funding to begin one in earnest, but staff are enthusiastic about using existing equipment and services (such as the library's book scanner, Internet Archive, and the existing ILS) to extend the reach of non-circulating materials.

## **Selection for digitization**

The primary purpose of this digitization project is to support the immediate scholarly community served by the library as a whole. This selection policy provides guidance for a consistent approach to reformatting materials, to ensure that the labor and cost of digitization are allocated appropriately to materials of enduring value with the potential to provide the most benefit to stakeholders. Benefits of reformatting include wider distribution of materials that are difficult for students to obtain, long-term preservation of materials that would be harmed by handling, and the opportunity to enable transformative uses of these materials. Risks include the potential for harm to the original physical object, the chance that digital versions do not accurately represent significant qualities of the original, and legal limitations. Priority shall be given to materials that relate to these benefits and risks in the following ways:

1. Materials that are unique to this collection and thus especially difficult for students or others to obtain through interlibrary loan or leveraging other NYC-area collections.
2. Materials that are deteriorating physically and require a digital surrogate to ensure their long-term survival (unless in such a fragile condition that digitization may destroy them).
3. Scarce or rare materials that are consulted frequently, have potential to enhance collaborative endeavors with other institutions, and are likely to increase in overall use once available to a wider audience.
4. Materials without legal restrictions imposed by donors or copyright laws that would inhibit access to the digital versions.
5. Materials that can be digitized accurately with current imaging technology, without hiding or impeding knowledge of significant qualities (e.g., pop-up books, flap-books, volvelles).

Alfred Bates' series *The Drama: Its History, Literature and Influence on Civilization's* scarcity, aesthetic quality, and historic significance, make these twenty volumes good candidates for digitization. Their themes relate to the school's interest in educating students on the social and cultural context of the arts, and would be well-suited as resources for undergraduate introductions to drama criticism.

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Additionally, each volume boasts beautiful colored and toned illustrations, and plates exhibiting Victorian style, which are valuable aesthetic resources for students of the history of book design and graphic illustration. While the pages are now in good condition, the illustrations, tissue guards, and even the printed pages, would benefit from less handling. Finally, having a digital surrogate opens the doors for aesthetic, linguistic, and thematic comparisons to other books within and beyond this series, and potentially for collaboration with other institutions that place a greater emphasis on dramatic history, Victorian studies, or other themes represented in the book that lie outside of the library's primary strengths.

### **Care and handling**

Conservation staff shall be consulted to assess risks before the start of the digitization process. If circumstances arise where the digitization process would cause irreparable harm to the object, it will not be considered suitable for digitization. The mission of the library is to support scholarship by providing continued access to the materials it stewards, and this includes material information contained within the object; therefore, any materials in such a fragile condition that digitization may destroy them should not be selected for reformatting.

Once selected, materials should be assessed using the checklist below. If conservation work is recommended, this shall take place prior to digitization.

Materials must be handled with clean hands. If books contain classes of material that require the use of gloves (such as photographic inserts or printing on parchment or vellum pages), clean unbleached cotton gloves should be worn.

Materials should not be opened beyond the limits imposed by their binding. Use book cradles when needed, and when handling, strive to prevent straining to an extreme angle.

Materials should be placed on a clean workspace with no extraneous papers or other materials in the same area. No food, beverages, pens, or other types of items with the potential to damage materials are allowed in the room.

Any damage must be reported as soon as possible to the employee's immediate supervisor, who will inform conservation staff. If damage involves the loss of pages or portions of pages, the separated materials should be kept with the original material.

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## Care and handling checklist

### Identifying information

Title	The Drama: Its History, Literature and Influence on Civilization. Volume 11, German Drama.
Author	Alfred Bates, ed.
Imprint	Athenian Society (London)
Call number	PN6111.B35 or 809.2 D763 v. 11

### Condition (check one)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Ease of opening	x			
Binding and sewing	x			
Space at inner margins	x			
Readability of text/type	x			
Paper quality	x			
Boards/covering	x			

Use this space to list notes related to condition, e.g. missing pages, water damage, detachments

Back pastedown is torn near gutter. Pages contain watermarks.

### Additional considerations (please describe)

Illustrations (color?)	Yes; some color, others sepia or otherwise tinted
Tip-ins or pasted materials	Yes; all illustrations and guards tipped in, book slip pasted to back cover
Friable media	No
Notes and marginalia	No
Additional media (e.g. Post-Its, staples, paperclips)	No

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## Proposed use

Members of the scholarly community of the owning institution may use this book online, for purposes ranging from undergraduate introductions to drama criticism to advanced analysis using digital tools. Since it will be made publicly available online, external researchers and members of the general public with an interest in the subject may also use it. Its scarcity and aesthetic quality make it likely to draw an audience beyond the walls of the school's immediate community as well. It serves research interests as varied as illustration, literary criticism, Victorian studies, Goetheforschung, German history, British perspectives on Germanic culture, and book history. Its inclusion in the Dazian Collection (transferred to the owning library via the Museum of the City of New York) might also be of interest to scholars whose research touches on the donor's history.

The act of digitizing this book adds value to the original by extending its reach significantly. Issued in edition of 500 sets only, these volumes can be accessed only by people able and willing to trek to an institution that owns it, and then only within the limitations of the reading room, as they are not circulating copies. While this owning institution holds a complete set, many others are not so lucky, and even scholars lucky enough to have access to an institution with a set may require a digital surrogate to perform research that involves every volume.

Since some other institutions have also digitized volumes from this 500-set edition, digitization enables comparative bibliographic research across the edition that would otherwise be prohibitively expensive due to travel costs. It also enables research in general terms by remote collaborators. Goethe and some of his contemporaries may be well-known, but digitization also enhances the visibility of the series' editors and the topics they address, perhaps opening avenues for future research that would not have otherwise been considered. Comparisons of interpretations of Goethe and German drama across different time periods and cultural backgrounds could benefit from access to Bates' perspective, and the inclusion of illustrations particularly opens a window for adding art historical perspectives, too.

Future projects and research uses could develop through the use of text analysis to draw out themes specific to Bates' treatment of Goethe and other German dramatists. The current OCR generated by the Internet Archive would require significant cleanup, and separating editorial words from the text of the plays would be useful, but after these steps, tools such as Voyant and AntConc

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could supply several options for exploring the text. Both can generate lists of terms in context and identify trends in the use of terms across the text. AntConc can additionally compare this text against a larger corpora, such as the rest of the digitized books in the series.

Addressing the illustrations separately could also be a fruitful endeavor, even though the use of computer vision technology for art history is still in its early stages. Image recognition tools combined with analysis against a larger corpora of illustrations could help identify characteristics of book illustration in this period and document how the paintings reprinted here have been transmitted and how their representations may have changed through remediation, as, for example, the English Broadside Ballad Archives makes use of Arch-Vision, a Content-Based Image Recognition (CBIR) platform to match impressions of the same or similar woodcuts across a corpora of broadsides, thus tracking use and reuse of specific woodblocks or the entrenchment of iconographic styles.

## Collation documentation

See attached spreadsheet: [Dazian\\_3711069\\_011\\_StructuralMetadata.xlsx](#)

## MARC record

Based on [Pratt Institute Libraries catalog record](#)

```
LEADER 00000cam 22007691 4500
001 3711069
003 OCoLC
005 20080410021913.0
007 c #b r #d m #e n #g 008 #h a #i a #j a #k d #l a
007 c #b r #d c #e g #g 008 #h a #i a #j a #k a #l p
008 780131s1903 enkacf b 000 0 eng
010 03013946
035 (OCoLC)3711069 #z (OCoLC)1464014 #z (OCoLC)1617078
040 DLC #c DLC #d OCL #d YAH #d OCL #d OCLCQ #d VZQ
049 VZQA
050 0 PN6111 |b.B35
092 809.2 D763
100 1 Bates, Alfred, #e editor.
245 14 The Drama : #b its history; literature and influence on civilization. #n 11, #p German drama /
#c Editor-in-chief: Alfred Bates
250 Victorian edition.
260 London : #b Athenian Society , #c 1903.
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300 [xiv], 336 pages, 5 unnumbered leaves of plates : †b illustrations (some color) ; †c 24 cm  
336 text †b txt †2 rdacontent  
337 computer †b c †2 rdamedia  
338 online resource †b cr †2 rdacarrier  
500 Includes special title page with imprint: London--New York, Smart and Stanley.  
500 Includes selections, epitomes, outlines of dramas, and some entire plays (all in English).  
500 Associate editors: James P. Boyd ... Prof. John P. Lamberton.  
500 Edition of 500 sets. This set numbered 35.  
505 0 v. 1. Greek drama.--v. 2. Greek and Roman drama.--v. 3. Oriental drama.--v. 4. Religious  
drama.--v. 5. Italian drama.--v. 6. Spanish and Portuguese drama.--v. 7-9. French drama.--v.  
10-12. German drama.--v. 13-16. British drama.--v. 17. Scandinavian drama.--v. 18. Russian  
drama.--v. 19-20. American drama. Indexes. Books for reference and extra reading. (p.  
327-344).  
505 Volume 11, German Drama. Consists of 22 unsigned gatherings in eights. First gathering  
contains two guarded plates and one stub. Signatures: [A]<sup>8</sup> (-A8) [B-V]<sup>8</sup>. Watermark: The  
Drama.  
506 0 Digital version available with no restrictions. †f Unrestricted online access †2 star  
533 Electronic reproduction. †b New York, N.Y. : †c Pratt Institute, School of Information and  
Library Science, †d digitized in 2018.  
538 Benchmark for Faithful Digital Reproductions of Monographs and Serials. Version 1.  
December 2002. †i Digital version conforms to: †u <http://purl.oclc.org/DLF/benchrepro0212>  
541 †3 Copy 1 of Vols. 1-20 †c gift †| a Dazian's Inc. Collection, Gift of the Museum of the City of  
New York; †d 2007. †5 VZQ  
583 Digitized. †c 2018 †h Pratt Institute †l Committed to preserve. †2 pda  
650 0 Drama †x History and criticism.  
650 0 Drama †v Collections.  
650 0 Plots (Drama, novel, etc.)  
650 0 English drama.  
650 0 Greek drama †v Translations into English.  
650 0 Latin drama †v Translations into English.  
650 0 Oriental literature †v Translations into English.  
650 0 Italian drama †v Translations into English.  
650 0 Spanish drama †v Translations into English.  
650 0 French drama †v Translations into English.  
650 0 German drama †v Translations into English.  
650 0 American drama.  
650 0 Drama †v Bibliography.  
700 1 Bates, Alfred.  
700 1 Boyd, James P. †q (James Penny), †d 1836-1910.  
700 1 Lamberton, John Porter, †d 1839-1917.  
710 2 Athenian Society (London, England)  
856 40 [https://archive.org/details/dazian\\_3711069\\_011](https://archive.org/details/dazian_3711069_011)  
909 LTI AUP 09-2009  
994 C0|bVZQ

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## Internet Archive metadata record

The fully described, online e-book, with full metadata record uploaded to Internet Archive can be found [here](#).

**The Drama: Its History, Literature and Influence on Civilization. Volume 11, German Drama.**  
by Alfred Bates, ed.

Publication date 1903

Usage <http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/mark/1.0/>

Topics Drama--History and criticism, Drama--Collections, German drama--Translations into English, Drama, German drama

Publisher Athenian Society (London)

Collection [opensource](#)

Contributor Associate Editors: Boyd, James P. & Lamberton, John P.

Language English

[xiv], 336 pages, 5 unnumbered leaves of plates: illustrations (some color); 24 cm.

This is the second of three volumes on German drama in the series *The Drama: Its History, Literature and Influence on Civilization*. This volume is devoted largely to the life and works of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe.

Includes selections, epitomes, outlines of dramas, and the text, in English translation, of *Conscience: A tragedy*, by August Wilhelm Iffland; *Iphigenia in Tauris*, by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe; *Obstinacy (Eigensinn)*, by R. Benedix; and *Egotist and pseudo-critic Herr Gottlieb Merks (Der Egoist und Kritikus)*, by August V. Kotzebue.

Contents: Section I. Goethe, Birth and Education. -- Section II. Significance of Goethe's Life and Works. -- Section III. The Romantic School. -- Section IV. Hoffmann and Fouque.

## Notes

Gift to Pratt Institute Library: Dazian's Inc. Collection, Gift of the Museum of the City of New York, 2007. From an edition of 500 sets. This set numbered 35.

Submitted as a requirement of Pratt SILS Projects in Rare Book course.

Identifier [dazian\\_3711069\\_011](#)

Identifier-ark <ark:/13960/t4nm01m8b>

Lcnum [pn6111 .b35 1903 v.11](#)

Ocr [ABBY FineReader 11.0 \(Extended OCR\)](#)

Page-progression [lr](#)

Pages [379](#)

Scanner [Internet Archive HTML5 Uploader 1.6.3](#)

Year [1903](#)