



An Unpublished Whitman Postcard to Karl Knortz

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ISSN 0737-0679 (Print)

ISSN 2153-3695 (Online)

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Recommended Citation

Miller, Edwin H. "An Unpublished Whitman Postcard to Karl Knortz." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 9 (Winter 1992), 154-154.

Available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.13008/2153-3695.1328>

NOTES

On the Back Cover:

AN UNPUBLISHED WHITMAN POSTCARD TO KARL KNORTZ

1216.4 To Karl Knortz

ADDRESS: Dr Karl Knortz | cor Morris Av. & 155th Street | New York
City. POSTMARK: Philadelphia | PA. | Apr 20 '83 | 2 30 PM.

431 Stevens Street | Camden
New Jersey | April 20 - 1883 -

Thank you heartily for the German renderings — which have been duly
rec'd.

Walt Whitman

At a sale at Swann Galleries in New York on September 12, 1991, this
previously unknown postcard was auctioned for \$440, Sale 1568, #272.

In 1883, Karl Knortz (1841-1918), the author of many articles on German-
American affairs, was living in New York City (*Corr.*, 3:289n). In his letters to
Whitman that year Knortz frequently included "German renderings" of poems
in *Leaves of Grass*. Later he assisted T. W. H. Rolleston in *Grashalme* (Zurich,
1889), which "marks the real beginning of Whitman's influence" in Germany
(Gay Wilson Allen, ed., *Walt Whitman Abroad* [Syracuse: Syracuse University
Press, 1955], 17.)

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