



## An Unpublished Whitman Postcard to Karl Knortz

Edwin Haviland Miller

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## 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*AN UNPUBLISHED WHITMAN POSTCARD TO KARL KNORTZ*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.)

*New York University*

EDWIN HAVILAND MILLER