

**KARL FOLLEN: A BIOGRAPHICAL STUDY;
THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL
FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
IN GERMAN IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS 1916**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649621330

Karl Follen: A Biographical Study; Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in German in the Graduate School of the University of Illinois 1916 by George Washington Spindler

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GEORGE WASHINGTON SPINDLER

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BX
9869
F6
S7

THE LIFE
OF
KARL FOLLEN

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS
CHICAGO, ILL.

Agents:

THE BAKER & TAYLOR COMPANY
NEW YORK

THE CUNNINGHAM, CURTISS & WELCH COMPANY
LOS ANGELES, CAL.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
LONDON AND EDINBURGH

THE MARUZEN-KABUSHIKI-KAISHA
TOKYO, OSAKA, KYOTO, FUKUOKA, SENDAI

THE MISSION BOOK COMPANY
SHANGHAI

KARL W. HIERSEMANN
LEIPZIG

KARL FOLLEN

A

Biographical Study

BY

GEORGE WASHINGTON SPINDLER

A. B. Indiana University, 1900

A. M. Indiana University, 1908

THESIS

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
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1916

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Published April, 1917

FOREWORD.

The following work is based upon Follen's writings, contemporary references to him hitherto uncollected, and previous biographical material. With all the available sources gathered from various libraries in the United States I have sought to present Follen's life as a whole and at the same time to throw new light upon both his European and American career. Through the kindness of Professor Julius Goebel I had access to a number of Follen's recently discovered letters which made it possible for me to explain Follen's much criticised and misinterpreted turn to the ministry. On account of the European war some of Follen's early essays are at present inaccessible; some of his later ones are extant only in various old American periodicals. These along with several of the more valuable, though almost forgotten, essays in his published works I hope to give to the public at some future time.

Follen's literary remains, including some of his diaries, his fragmentary work on psychology, and other valuable writings, probably lie buried in some unmarked grave. The late John Cabot of Brookline, Massachusetts, who had charge of the Follen family possessions, sought in vain to locate these papers for me. He informed me, however, that to the best of his recollection this material had been turned over either to Professor Kuno Francke or to the librarian of Harvard University, but I have been assured by both of these gentlemen that they have no knowledge of its whereabouts.

To my friend and teacher, Professor Julius Goebel, at whose suggestion it was undertaken, is due the credit for whatever merit this work possesses, and I take this occasion to express my deepest gratitude for his kindly direction and scholarly criticism. To Dr. Alexander Green, my friend and former colleague, I am under obligation also for helpful suggestions.

G. W. S.

Purdue University, January 1917.

*William's Univ. Hist. 7-11-17**

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