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## COLLECTION OF CORRESPONDENCE OF HERBERT VON BISMARCK, 1881-1883

### Introduction

The collection consists of about 5 linear inches of letters and handwritten notes, a few printed newspaper pages and newspaper clippings and miscellaneous items, as envelopes without letters. Most of the material is either clearly addressed to Herbert v. Bismarck or it is a fair assumption that he is the recipient of the letters. The exception to the foregoing is H v B/19 and H v B/20 which are letters written by Wilhelm v. Bismarck and apparently addressed to Rottenburg (H v B/19) and letters written by Rottenburg presumably addressed to Wilhelm v. Bismarck.

Herbert v. Bismarck was born 28 December 1849, oldest son of Otto v. Bismarck, the "Iron Chancellor." His younger (and only) brother Wilhelm (Bill) v. Bismarck was born 1 August 1852. During the period 1880-1884, which is the time the collection originates, Herbert mostly acted as private secretary to his father. He was a member of the "Reichstag" during that period. In 1882 he was in London as counselor to the embassy (Botschaftsrat). His intention to marry Fürstin zu Carolath-Beuthen, a divorcee, failed in 1881, due to the passionate objections of his father. He married in 1892 and died in 1904.

Wilhelm v. Bismarck was a member of the "Reichstag" from 1878 to 1881, and from 1882 to 1885 he was a member of the Prussian parliament (Preussisches Abgeordnetenhaus). He married in 1885, and died in 1901.

Their mother was Johanna v. Bismarck 1815-1898, nee v. Puttkamer. Their only sister was Marie v. Bismarck 1848-1926

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