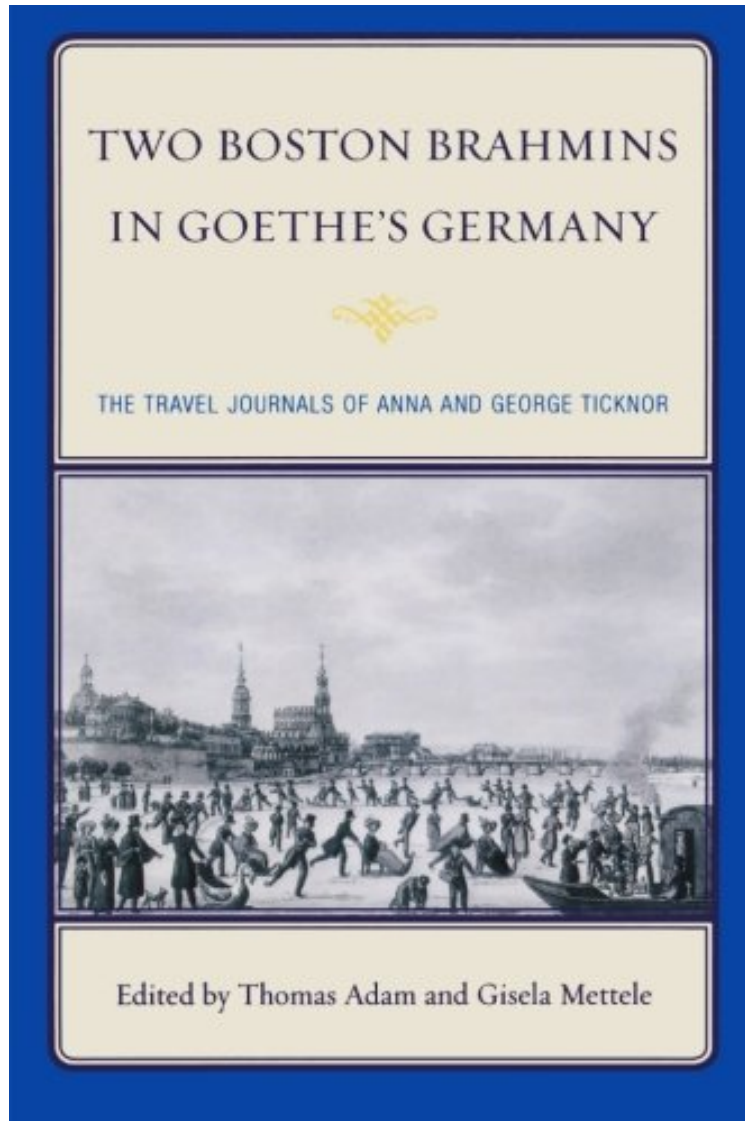


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Two Boston Brahmins in Goethe's Germany: The Travel Journals of Anna and George Ticknor

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This volume includes the travel logs of Anna and George Ticknor from two journeys to the German Confederation from 1815 to 1817 and from 1835 to 1836. As members of an exclusive social class, the Ticknors enjoyed the privilege of traveling and living for an extended period in the German-speaking world, which conferred much-sought-after cultural and social distinction on them in Boston. A valuable primary source for American and German historians alike, these journals offer insight into the construction of American identities, as well as outside perspectives on German society, culture, and politics in the Age of Goethe. Simultaneously and independently composed by this husband and wife, these journals are the only known case of parallel male and female travel writing, thus affording a unique opportunity to explore gender as a factor in shaping their perceptions. A biographical glossary and extensive explanatory footnotes make this text accessible to a wide audience.

In this work, elite Americans express their fascination with the cultural and social life they observed and experienced while on extended tour in early nineteenth-century Germany particularly in Dresden, the vibrant capital of the Kingdom of Saxony. Expertly edited, the volume introduces us to an image of a romanticized/idealized Germany that shaped the thinking of many Americans for decades after the Ticknors' travels. It makes an important contribution to our understanding of the ways in which European traditions influenced intellectual developments in the United States. (Andrew Lees, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey) Well edited by an insightful introduction and extensive annotations, these travel journals provide an opportunity to see eastern Germany through two elite Americans' eyes. Since the travelers kept separate journals a novel comparative perspective emerges on court society and the political reforms of 1830. (Dieter K. Buse, Laurentian University) This highly readable and well annotated edition of George and Anna Ticknor's journals from their travels to Germany opens a window into a world of learning, art, and personal fulfillment that seems hard to imagine in the twenty-first century. That American travelers fell in love with Old World *charme* has often been reported, but seldom so convincingly as in the case of the Boston couple in nineteenth-century Dresden, the 'Florence upon the Elbe.' The recovery and first publication of Anna Ticknor's journal adds a rare female voice and makes the encounter with princes, writers, and commoners truly come to life. (Frank Trommler, University of Pennsylvania) From the Author This volume presents the travel journals of George and Anna Ticknor, a prominent American couple, from their German tours in the first third of the nineteenth century. The parallel yet independent writing of these travel journals by husband and wife give these journals a unique character. About the Author Thomas Adam is associate professor at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he teaches modern transatlantic and German history. Gisela Mettele is a lecturer at the University of Leicester, United Kingdom, where she teaches European and American urban history.