

With respect to the origin of the curious name, which has been given to this museum, it is certain, that this name came not from the celebrated green diamond, preserved in the Jewel-room, because this name is already mentioned in an old inventory of the y. 1610. In default of any historical document it has been thought to owe this name to the original colour of the vaults themselves.

The first stock of this rich collection of treasures was laid in the reign of Duke George the Bearded († 1539) and the Elector Morice added several things. But it is ascertained, that the Elector Augustus, who reigned between the years 1553 and 1586, was the first, who deposited in these vaults a large collection of various rare and valuable productions of art, which he partly inherited or purchased or received as presents from other princely persons. Several clocks and rarities, collected by him and incorporated in a second similar institute, called the Chamber of Art, are now in the Green Vaults and that is the reason, why the Elector Augustus can be justly considered as the founder of our museum. What this elector began, his successors completed and they made