

The other four sections, emphasizing beliefs and legends, are more typical of the content of the state folklore journal. The second section, "Place Names and Oral History," includes one article on legends of two places called "Devil's Hollow" near Fort Wayne and another article dealing with legends of "Hangman's Crossing" and the Reno brothers from Seymour. The third section, "Folk Belief, Medicine, and Magic," includes three articles dealing with the curative power of string measurement in Indiana, with contemporary root doctors and psychics in the Calumet Region, and with a seer from Porter County. The last two sections, "Horror Stories" and "Ghosts in the House and on the Road," consist of seven representative articles on legends collected from Hoosiers of all ages.

The editor is relatively successful in achieving her objective of introducing "the general reader to folklore as it is created, re-created, and circulated today among the people of Indiana" (p. vi); however, while most of the material is of general interest, some of the articles should have been edited for a general reading audience. The organization of some of the articles as well as the abstracts of texts and unexplained abbreviated references and annotations, although valuable to professional folklorists, will be confusing to general readers. The collection certainly fills a need for a volume on Indiana folklore, however, and the very useful appended bibliography of Indiana folklore, prepared by Nikolai Burlakoff and Carl Lindahl, lists 439 items that will be of interest to the scholar as well as to the general reader of Indiana history and culture.

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*George Rapp's Separatists, 1700-1803, the German Prelude to Rapp's American Harmony Society: A Documentary History.* Compiled and edited by Karl J. R. Arndt. (Worcester, Mass.: Harmony Society Press, 1980. Pp. xxxii, 480. Illustrations, index. \$32.50.)

Untiring in his devotion to the documentary coverage of the Harmonist Society, Karl J. R. Arndt has come out with another splendid volume. With his well-known editorial competence he offers in what he conceives as the first volume of a *Documentary History of George Rapp's Harmony Society, 1700-1916*, pertinent documents largely from the Württembergische Hauptstaatsarchiv and the Landeskirchliche Archiv Stuttgart. The present book is an in-depth illustration of the intricate

relations among representatives of established religion (Landeskirche), pietists, separatists, and government in the duchy of Württemberg, Germany, during the age of absolutism and enlightened despotism. The general background on these issues is provided by the "Prolegomena" (pp. 1-62). This introduction is followed by "The Evolution of Rapp's Separatism between 1785 and 1792" (pp. 63-226); "George Rapp's Separatist Church, 1793-1803" (pp. 227-353); and "Flight of Rapp's Separatist Church to America, 1803-1805" (pp. 355-462). A useful index concludes the work.

Although in his other books Arndt presented all documents in English, this volume provides only short English introductions to all chapters and subdivisions. With regard to language the author's assumption that "the documents are too distinctly Swabian to be translated into such a commercial language as American" (p. xxvii) is questionable. At any rate, it takes graduate-level reading power to plow deeply into the eighteenth-century language of German records, decrees, hearings, statutes, and contracts. For those who can read it, this book is a gold mine for the study of the genesis of Harmonist separatism and the political mixture of religious tolerance and intolerance in the time before the separation of church and state became a reality in Germany.

Arndt's disappointment about the lack of Swabian financial support for his meritorious publications on the Harmonists is understandable. But to brand Swabian "avarice" and to speak of "a tragic moral decline . . . symbolized in the star of materialism [Mercedes emblem] shining over the city [of Stuttgart]" in the introduction is most regrettable. The few misprints found do not endanger meaning.

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*Land of Savagery, Land of Promise: The European Image of the American Frontier in the Nineteenth Century.* By Ray Allen Billington. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1981. Pp. xv, 364. Notes, illustrations, bibliographical notes, index. \$18.95.)

Ray Allen Billington has left western scholars and students with a thought-provoking study as his last contribution to a lifetime's research and writing on the American frontier. Moving east, across the Atlantic to nineteenth-century Europe, he has turned his attention to the old continent's view of the new country. Reading travelers' accounts, guidebooks, "American