ert L. McCook, Stallo's law partner and one of the famous "Fighting McCooks." Military expertise for the regiment's training came from an ex-Prussian officer and Forty-eighter exile, Augustus Willich. Between its formation in Cincinnati in April, 1861, and its mustering out there more than three years later, "Die Nuener" enjoyed popular community support, won laurels on several major campaigns and battlefields, and earned national admiration for its role in the Battle of Chickamauga. At Missionary Ridge the Ninth Ohio suffered more casualties than any other Union regiment.

"We Were The Ninth" is a curious book. It is not a history so much as a collective memoir. Author Constantin Grebner was not a member of the outfit, but he wrote the narrative in a first-person style as if he were a witness to and a participant in the events described. He used newspapers and documents, but much of his information came from interviews with veteran survivors, years after the war. These reminiscences, collected and arranged by Grebner near the end of the century, are a classic example of filiopietism. Their greatest value lies in the numerous anecdotes of military life at the level of the common soldier.

There is an Indiana connection. Augustus Willich, described by Ella Lonn as one of the most appealing personalities of the Civil War, left the Ninth Ohio to organize the Thirty-second Indiana Infantry, the Hoosier state's only German regiment.

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The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History. Edited by David D. Van Tassel and John J. Grabowski. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press; in association with Case Western Reserve University, 1987. Pp. lv, 1127. Bibliographies, maps, tables, figure, subject guide to entries, index. $35.00.)

During the past ten to fifteen years encyclopedias of political history, southern history, and western history as well as dictionaries and almanacs of the Civil War, World War II, and the Vietnam War have appeared on bookshelves as publishers and historians have warmed to the possibilities of fact-filled, special-purpose reference works. David D. Van Tassel and John J. Grabowski have carried the fashion for such works one step further by compiling the first encyclopedia dedicated to the history of a single city. An obvious labor of love, their *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History* offers just about everything any aficionado of the Ohio metropolis would want to know. Moreover, it provides a model for other students of local history who may want to perform an equal service to their city.

With over 2,500 articles filling more than 1,000 double-columned pages, the work of Van Tassel, Grabowski, and more than

250 other contributors is truly encyclopedic. About 2,300 of the articles are short entries limited to four hundred words each. These sketches describe the history of hundreds of local businesses, leaders, and institutions. In fact, the breadth of coverage is awesome, and it also reflects the richness of the city's diverse past. For example, the encyclopedia portrays Cleveland's ethnic heritage. Included are citations for such obscure groups as the Aitaneet Brotherhood Association, a society made up of immigrants from Aitaneet, Lebanon, as well as accounts of such figures as Ivan Zorman, who lived in the United States from age four but achieved his place in the encyclopedia because of his internationally acclaimed poetry in the Slovene language. At first glance some may dismiss this volume as a collection of trivia about a city that by the 1970s had become the butt of jokes throughout the nation, yet the encyclopedia actually is a rich mine of material for the social historian as well as the student of America's political and economic development.

In addition to the short entries the encyclopedia includes 167 signed interpretative essays that examine broader topics such as education, music, philanthropy, and religion. These entries as well as the 40,000-word narrative history of the city at the beginning of the volume are invaluable because they piece together myriad factual fragments to form a larger picture. Thus the editors have successfully explored both the microcosm and macrocosm of Cleveland's past. Anyone interested in urban history or local history certainly should consult this work. It is both a monumental and a model effort.

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La Salle, the Mississippi, and the Gulf: Three Primary Documents. Edited by Robert S. Weddle; Mary Christine Morkovsky and Patricia Galloway, associate editors; Ann Linda Bell and Robert S. Weddle, translators. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1987. Pp. x, 328. Notes, maps, illustrations, tables, bibliography, index. $39.50.)

In 1684 René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle, undertook an expedition to found a French colony on the Mississippi. This ill-fated mission has intrigued historians since Francis Parkman's time. Although several accounts of both this venture and the explorer's overland trek to the Mississippi delta in 1682 are well known, the answers to several important questions concerning the leader's character, the choice of location of Fort Saint-Louis, the assassination of La Salle, and the fate of the settlers remain unclear. The documents in this volume help resolve some of these