

Von Heuerleuten und Farmern: Emigration from the Osnabrück region to North America in the 19th century. By Walter D. Kamphoefner, Peter Marschalck, and Birgit Nolte-Schuster. (Osnabrück: Landschaftsverband Osnabrücker Land, 1999. Pp. 120. Illustrations. \$14.80. Order from NCSA Literatur, 430 Kelp Grove Road, Nashville, Indiana 47448.)

Published in conjunction with the Osnabrück- and Quakenbrück-sponsored exhibit by the same title, this attractively illustrated bilingual hardcover book is a welcome addition to the literature on nineteenth-century German immigration to the United States. Next to Baden, Württemberg, and Hesse, the German Northwest with its Osnabrücker Land provided a major share of immigrants to Indiana.

Peter Marschalck of the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies at the University of Osnabrück contributes the opening chapter on "Population and Social Structure." In it the human conditions, especially of the lower strata, are related to economic developments in post-Napoleonic times, presenting a number of causes for massive emigration. In Tecklenburg County, e.g., some 2,900 persons left for America "between 1832 and 1848, about one third of those without the consent of the authorities" (pp. 21-22). Those with little familiarity with peculiar northwest German socioeconomic terminology will benefit from the translation of words such as *Heuerleute* (poor tenant farmers), *Colonen* (farm proprietors), *Hollandgängerei* (seasonal migration work in Holland), and others.

Birgit Nolte-Schuster, a social historian at the University of Osnabrück, who developed the concepts for the permanent exhibit on "Heuerleute und Farmer" and the travel exhibit on "Amerika über Bremen," writes the chapter on "Ships and Agents." In it she describes the means of transportation to America, roles and types of legal and illegal agents, governmental regulations, hidden agendas of communities supporting poor or undesirable emigrants' passages, and the price tags for different accommodations, a fine travel supplement to the history of the emigration of families.

Immigration historian Walter Kamphoefner contributes a chapter entitled "Chain Migration, Settlement Patterns, Integration" that reflects his long scholarly interest in German migration. While new settlers quickly adapted to proven American building and farming practices, for quite some time their interaction with Anglo-Americans was mainly economic rather than social. Among northwest Germans ethnic cohesion continued for the first three generations through homogenous settlement and the retention of cultural and religious heritage by maintaining German-language churches and parochial schools well beyond World War I. In Missouri and elsewhere it is not uncommon to still hear *Plattdeutsch* (Low German) spoken in the fifth generation.

The last part of this volume is the nicely illustrated biography of an emigrant: "From Gehrde to New York—and back," adding a concrete family case showing the hopes, joys, and sorrows of migration. The volume achieves a fine balance of scholarship and readability. It is well suited for the genealogy section of public libraries.

EBERHARD REICHMANN, professor emeritus at Indiana University, Bloomington, serves as editor-in-chief for the publications of Indiana University's Max Kade German-American Center, Indianapolis, and the Indiana German Heritage Society.

Antislavery Violence: Sectional, Racial, and Cultural Conflict in Antebellum America. Edited by John R. McKivigan and Stanley Harrold. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1999. Pp. 322. Notes, selected bibliography, index. \$30.00.)

The familiar images of "Bleeding Kansas," black slaves in chains, whippings and psychological abuse, and the beating of Charles Sumner by Preston Brooks on the floor of the Senate chambers have all underscored the extent to which violence characterized the struggle over slavery in the United States between the 1830s and the outbreak of the Civil War. John Brown has served as the dramatic symbol of those abolitionists who resorted to violence. Until recently, Brown has stood as an anomaly within a movement that has historically been largely perceived as nonviolent. Less well understood, therefore, is how many abolitionists, white and black, male and female, accepted violence as a legitimate antislavery tactic.

In this collection of essays, historians explore various manifestations of violent antislavery action by whites, slaves, former slaves, and free blacks from the late eighteenth century to 1860. In so doing, they challenge the prevailing myth that the movement was primarily a pacifist crusade until the 1850s, the height of antislavery militancy. The book is divided into two parts. Part one examines efforts by blacks, both slave and free, to use violence as a means of resistance to slavery. Such action ranged from slave revolts to the participation of free blacks in vigilance committees, which were organized after the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850 to combat fugitive slave recapture and the kidnapping of blacks. Part two illustrates the various dimensions of white abolitionists' use of violence. Radical white men like Joshua Giddings and Charles Sumner, for example, used their positions as politicians to engage, enrage, and embattle proslavery representatives on the floor of Congress, an opportunity that was denied to all women, most rank-and-file white male abolitionists, and even the best-known black abolitionist men like Frederick Douglass. Other essays in this section illustrate how white abolitionists' discussions over the most effective antislavery tactics were part of a much broader debate about American cultural identity, which included such issues as Christian evangelicalism and