

relied upon as rally-day orators. Their eloquent appeals for the Union were heard not only throughout the Union but in Paris and London.

Besides these more important phases of the church work, Dr. Sweet has added chapters on the less well-known work of the church. The trials and persecutions of the ministers in the Border States during the period between the separation of the church and the opening of the war make a thrilling chapter. Another chapter deals with the church periodicals, another with the work and personalities of the war bishops, some of whom stood close to the Lincoln administration. Some valuable source material is included in an appendix of 37 pages. A bibliography of twelve pages is given in addition to the foot-notes.

The necessity of crowding a large volume into the compass of a doctor's thesis has in many places left its painful evidence. On the whole it is an excellent little volume, the material in which would be hard to find in so convenient a form.

*Our Old School.* By Theodore Stein. (Indianapolis.) pp. 211. 1914.

This is an historical sketch of the German-English Independent school of Indianapolis. This school opened January 21, 1854 and continued to July 14, 1882. The author has sought in this small book merely to treasure up a few of the memories of a congenial band of immigrants and refugees, who, in most cases, fleeing from the tyranny of the reactionary government of the Fatherland built up a small community in what to them no doubt seemed a frontier town. This volume is a mere sketch, a fragment from the history of that large number of radical Germans who came to America at this opportune time.

One of the significant things in connection with the coming of these Germans was the suspicion and distrust with which they were regarded by the Americans. Although they usually exceeded the community in which they lived in education, industry and energy they were called anarchists by many newspapers. Others pointed out that they were irreligious, clannish, given to meeting in secret conclaves where no doubt sedition, and treason, to say nothing

of lesser crimes, would be hatched. The fact that they did not enter with the usual western spirit into the political campaigns made them suspicious to the politicians.

When these men petitioned the school authorities of Indianapolis to have their children taught German the city fathers refused their request for the reason that nothing would do more toward making good citizens of these same Germans than to deprive them of their native language.

It was this narrow policy that drove them to the old Independent school.

One is surprised at the long list of well-known names connected with this school—Seidensticker, Vonnegut, Koehne, Meyer, Lieber, Metzger, Strauss, Haueisen, Schull, Mayer, Hielscher and scores of others, the substantial citizens of the city for the last half century. One can scarcely believe that much the same cry was raised at their coming as we hear now against the "ignorant foreigners."

Mr. Stein does not confine himself strictly to the recitation room but gives us a pretty full picture of the life of the times. The "Helvetia Bund" the "Weinachtsfest," the "Volksfest," the "Turnverein" the "Maennerchor", the "Freier Maenner Verein", their newspapers, their songs, their picnics, are all remembered by the author. Doubtless the most valuable part of the book to those for whom it was prepared is the album of pictures including most of the teachers, trustees and others closely connected with the school. Lists of teachers with dates, trustees, subscribers, and friends are given.

The book is not a history and makes no pretense to be but when the history of the Germans in Indiana is undertaken much valuable material will be found in this little volume.

*Virginia Under the Stuarts.* By Thomas J. Wertenbaker, (Princeton University Press. 1914.)

As the author states in the preface, the work is a political history of Virginia written from the documents. Hence, the author does not attempt to describe how the early settlers lived or made a livelihood. He does not describe affairs and institutions in England that throw light upon or had indirect influence in bringing about events in America. He limits himself very closely to his documents, mak-