FROM Robert Proud and Thomas F. Gordon,\textsuperscript{1} to contemporary students writing in our university seminars, historians, both professional and amateur, have been attracted by Pennsylvania's rich and diverse history. Their interest and fruitful research have produced a wide range of monographs. In the early decades of the twentieth century these studies usually described the political and constitutional development of the Keystone State. With the passage of time, however, the scope and method of these studies have become much more comprehensive and analytical.\textsuperscript{2} Dissertations have furthermore become more limited in their chronological scope, and their authors have been more imaginative in their use of the concepts and methodology of the social and behavioral sciences.

Although there is a wealth of published material available for use by scholars and readers in Pennsylvania history, a large segment of the unpublished work is overlooked, even by the scholar, largely because of the lack of carefully prepared guides. The failure of scholars to use this untapped research source is less acceptable today than it was, say, two decades ago, especially since most doctoral dissertations are available to historians through University Microfilms of Ann Arbor, Michigan. A researcher, to be sure, can use such aids as the retrospective index to \textit{Dissertation Abstracts International} (9 vols., Ann Arbor: Xerox Co., 1970)\textsuperscript{3} and Warren F. Kuehl's, \textit{Dissertations in History: An Index to Dissertations Completed in History Depart-

\textsuperscript{a}The author is Assistant Professor of History at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.


\textsuperscript{3}This is the guide for the first twenty-nine volumes of \textit{Dissertation Abstracts}, which now numbers thirty-two volumes. The two major schools that do not participate in the University Microfilms program are Harvard University and The University of Chicago. The latter, however, publishes its own "Dissertation and Theses List."
ments of United States and Canadian Universities, 1873-1960 (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1965). These guides, however, have not always proven to be the useful research tools they were designed to be. For the specialist the Abstracts index suffers from editorial awkwardness, computer-produced errors, and omissions, and the Kuehl compilation suffers from a format that is strictly alphabetical and limited to only history degree titles. Students of Pennsylvania history are fortunate to have Norman B. Wilkinson's major reference contribution, Bibliography of Pennsylvania History; Second Edition of Writings on Pennsylvania History, A Bibliography (Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1957), although it fails to separate unpublished from published material and is now dated. There is, moreover, no sign that an updated edition will be forthcoming soon. Lawrence C. Little's and Daniel Nelson's recent and valuable bibliographical compilations supplement Wilkinson, but they are much more narrowly conceived.

What is really needed to aid students of history and reference librarians are comprehensive guides to unpublished material prepared on a state-by-state basis. This course has already been set by Richard R. Duncan and Dorothy M. Brown. This bibliography is in part an outgrowth of their work, but even more so fulfills Philip S. Klein's request made at a Pennsylvania Historical Association Council meeting in 1966 that a cumulative listing of doctoral dissertations relating to Pennsylvania history be undertaken. This bibliography is perhaps less ambitious than the two already completed on Maryland and Virginia since it

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4 See critique by Ralph L. Scott, "A $1,000 Misunderstanding: UM's Index to Its 'Dissertation Abstracts International'" and response by Robert F. Asleson, "A One-Million-Entry 'Starting Place' for Finding Dissertations," Wilson Library Bulletin, VII (September, 1971), 73-77. I am indebted to Ludmila Barson, Inter-Library Loan Librarian at Bowling Green State University, for directing my attention to these two articles.


6 A Checklist of Writings on the Economic History of the Greater Philadelphia-Wilmington Region (Greenville: Eleutherian Mills Historical Library, 1968). It also fails to separate the unpublished from the published material, but does include some master's theses titles.

includes only doctoral dissertations. This focus was decided upon only after considerable soul-searching, and then for at least two very good reasons. First, during the 1960’s the trend in history departments has been to do away with the master’s thesis (a list of useful master’s theses for the period preceding 1957 can be found in Professor Wilkinson’s bibliography, although they are not categorized separately). Second, and even more importantly, the length of the Pennsylvania doctoral dissertation list made editorially unfeasible the inclusion of the less significant master’s theses. It seemed more important to the compiler to cite, in addition to doctoral titles in history, relevant dissertations in political science, economics, sociology, psychology, English, labor, music, speech, education and religion.

The primary object of this research guide is threefold: to indicate systematically the voluminous amount of doctoral work already completed on various topics in or related to Pennsylvania history; to expose those areas neglected by historians; and to specify the endless overworking of some topics, especially for the eighteenth century. The third objective would seem particularly timely in light of the bicentennial events to be celebrated in Pennsylvania during the remaining quarter of this century.8

Writers on Pennsylvania history have shown the greatest interest in the Colonial, Revolutionary, and immediate post-Revolutionary periods, as the table below makes clear:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>No. of Titles</th>
<th>Percentage10</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Revolution</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early National</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle Period</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civil War &amp; Reconstruction</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gilded Age &amp; Progressive Period</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twentieth Century</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


9 The doctoral titles in education have been carefully selected and by no means represent all that have been completed in this area.

10 The percentages have been rounded off to the nearest hundredth.
Another obvious conclusion to be drawn from a close reading of the bibliography is that the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries are the most promising periods for investigation by historians. Thus far the work completed in the twentieth century has largely been done by social scientists. Furthermore, it reveals that scholars have concentrated primarily on political topics and as a result have hardly touched Pennsylvania's rich social and cultural heritage. The state's urban centers, outside of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, have also been neglected as have county studies. And although a considerable amount of biographical material is to be found in this bibliography, the actual number of full-length biographies is relatively small. Finally, a considerable number of state and local figures of first- and second-rank distinction have unfortunately been ignored and perhaps need to receive their proper niche in the state's history.

In the preparation of this bibliography, departments of history were contacted at the following institutions: Bryn Mawr College, University of California, Santa Barbara, Columbia University, Duke University, Emory University, Florida State University, Lehigh University, Ohio State University, Pennsylvania State University, Rutgers—The State University, Stanford University, Temple University, University of Arizona, University of Delaware, University of Illinois, University of Maine, University of Maryland, University of Nebraska, University of North Carolina, University of Notre Dame, University of Pennsylvania, University of Pittsburgh, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wayne State University, and West Virginia University.

In this compilation the following historical periods have been used: General, Colonial, American Revolution, Early National, Middle Period, Civil War and Reconstruction, Gilded Age and Progressive, and Twentieth Century. It was decided that the division of titles along these lines, with the exception of Education and Religion, was preferable to doing it all by topics (political, economic, social, intellectual, and biographical). It should also be noted here that a number of theses have been published and may appear in print under slightly different titles. This can, of course, be easily checked in the National Union Catalogue. I had originally planned to indicate those dissertations which have been published, but this idea was later ruled
out. In addition, no effort has been made either to classify the type of doctorate degree conferred or to cross-reference titles that might fall in more than one category. In a survey of this magnitude omissions and oversights are inevitable, and the coverage is probably more complete for history than for the other areas. Yet whatever may be the shortcomings of this project, it is hoped that it will be useful to students of Pennsylvania history as well as to others.

I wish to express my deepest appreciation to Philip S. Klein of Pennsylvania State University who has been a wise friend and counselor through the completion of this project. His editorial suggestions proved, as always, invaluable and his close reading of the list of Pennsylvania doctoral titles helped to eliminate several small errors. My colleague, Bernard Sternsher, also read the introduction and improved it by his criticisms. Helen Greenway, head of the manuscripts department of University Microfilms, kindly permitted me to examine her doctoral card files which aided me in identifying the exact titles and completion dates of many dissertations heretofore only known as being in progress. The reference department at Bowling Green State University and, in particular, Dawn McCaghy, helped me in my search for numerous titles. I am also indebted to the Bowling Green State University history department secretarial staff who patiently typed the list of titles more than once. And, finally, I would like to thank the Council of the Pennsylvania Historical Association who have supported the publication of this project.

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