AN EARLY ACCOUNT OF PENNSYLVANIA

On a recent visit to Paris, the editor of the Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine, came into the possession of an interesting little volume treating of the Province of Pennsylvania in its early days. It is in French and is entitled, *Histoire Naturelle Et Politique De La Pennsylvanie Et De L' Establissement Des Quakers Dans Cette Contree*. The book is a translation from the German and was published in Paris in 1768. There is an introduction by the French editor in which he gives some of the authorities on which the work is based. Curiously enough neither in the introduction nor in the body of the book is there any reference to the still recent attempt of the French to obtain possession of what is now the western part of Pennsylvania. There is a complete index to the contents, something quite rare in books of this period. An invaluable feature of the work is a map of Pennsylvania, which so far as the writer knows, is the earliest map of the Province extant. A copy of the map is published herewith, and from this it will be observed that the westerly line of the Province, as given, extends only slightly beyond the Alleghany Mountains. That this was the approximate western boundary of Pennsylvania at that time is beyond question, the ownership of the land beyond that line being still doubtful. The sovereignty of this part of the country was in England, and English troops with the assistance of those from the contiguous colonies, defended the settlers from the attacks from the Indians. The claims to the land afterward asserted by both Virginia and Pennsylvania were still in abeyance.