
The appearance of Professor Stephenson's study has been awaited with high expectation by scholars who are in touch with what is being done in the field of immigration history. Those expectations have not been disappointed. In the copious footnotes and the impressive bibliography there is ample evidence of the author's thoroughness and industry. In every chapter there is proof of the understanding that comes only with fullness of knowledge. With certain details the student of general Swedish history might be inclined to differ. Thus it would seem that Professor Stephenson accords rather more importance to the work of George Scott, the Wesleyan pastor in Stockholm (1830-42), than is clearly demonstrable, especially in the field of the temperance movement. It is probably a mere slip that the krona is mentioned as the currency of Sweden as early as the eighteen fifties (p. 18); it was not adopted until 1873. The author's preference for the revivalistic, pietistic dissenters is a trifle too obvious, and occasionally results in some injustice to the state church. It is no doubt largely due to the nature of the sources used that his language sometimes becomes rather apostolic, smacking of the pulpit and the religious journals, but it creates an impression of incongruity in a sober historical treatise. The word "insignia" (p. 389) is plural in number, never singular.

There is much in Professor Stephenson's book that should be stimulating to the student of local history and suggestive of sound methods of procedure. Thus, for example, his analysis of the religious history of Sweden in the nineteenth century (chapters 1-10) accomplishes the absolutely essential task of describing the religious background of the departing emigrant. No study of racial groups in western Pennsylvanina should begin in New York, or Pittsburgh; it should begin in Poland, or in Italy, or in Czecho-Slovakia. As Stephenson does with the Swedes in the Middle West (chapters 11-30), so should the
student of western Pennsylvanian history discover how the European cultural heritage of immigrant groups has been modified by transplantation to American soil, and how that heritage has operated to determine their adjustment to the new environment. The truly historical process of Americanization is not the superficial "assimilation" represented by the adoption of a mixed jargon and of football enthusiasms, but the reciprocal reactions upon one another of two distinct types of civilization. Stephenson's book should certainly be recommended to every student who prepares to enter this large phase of American history.

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