

pendix. The material used is indicated in a bibliographic note, but the information about books and pamphlets is incomplete. The index is inadequate.

The least satisfactory part of the book is the discussion of the Irish in America in the last chapter, which might well have been expanded into a separate book. There is no adequate account of the distribution of the Irish geographically, and little attempt is made to distinguish between the Ulster Protestants and the Catholic Irish. Although it appears that the bulk of the immigration was from Ulster and that a large proportion was Protestant, the discussion is concerned almost wholly with the Catholic element. The explanation is apparently the fact that the Scotch-Irish immigrants of colonial times "had been fully absorbed by 1814, and their successors roused no antipathies, either political or social" (p. 353).

Little systematic information about immigration to western Pennsylvania or about the Irish in the region is to be found in the book. It appears, however, that, in the advertisements of immigrant ships, "stress was laid repeatedly on the cheapest and most direct route to the Pittsburgh district" (p. 93); in 1827 "Keenan and Cassidy of Pittsburgh took a shipload of laborers for that district" (p. 182); Irish miners "lived in wretched shanties among the Pennsylvania hills and toiled long hours for a dollar a day or less" (p. 341); "in the iron and steel mills of Pittsburgh, Irishmen took some part, but they were not indispensable to the industry" (p. 356); and "the Irish of the overwhelmingly Democratic Pittsburgh area turned down a Jackson man because he was against the tariff" (p. 375). These allusions are tantalizing, and one would like to know something about the Ulster immigrants who settled on farms in the region during this period. Dr. Adams has opened up the field, but there is need of similar studies of the earlier and later periods and of more intensive studies of the Irish element (including the Scotch-Irish) in specific sections such as western Pennsylvania.

*Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey*

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*The Somerset County Outline.* By JOHN C. CASSADY, teacher in the schools of Somerset County. (Scottdale, Pennsylvania, Mennonite Publishing House, 1932. xi, 767 p. Maps.)

THE title of this book, *The Somerset County Outline*, is a bit misleading. Caught off his guard, a person might think the book was a study of the boundaries and topography of the region, while actually it is an outline "presented

to readers and students . . . to increase an interest in the study of the plants, animals, stones, and natural phenomena of Somerset County, as well as to tell, in a brief, plain, and simple way, the story of the growth and development of Somerset County, from the earliest beginnings to the present time." The resulting study is a manual designed for use in the public schools and an encyclopedia for those seeking facts about the county.

This book deviates from the usual type of county history in that it has been produced by an individual interested in the subject, rather than by a corps of "professional researchers" employed by some publishing house seeking to commercialize the history of the county. It also lacks the characteristic biographical section by which so many similar works are financed. But by no means do these differences impair the usefulness and value of the book. It has been thirty-three years since a history of Somerset County has appeared, so Mr. Cassady's outline has not been projected into an overcrowded field. The dearth of publications for the region presents the opportunity of covering a period that has not been treated heretofore and the author has wisely brought his story down to date.

The cartography, location, size, climate, natural resources, industries, products, and cities of the county are treated in the first ten chapters (seventy-four pages), chapters that are far too short and too numerous. Chapter 1 is made up of three maps and although they are of interest and importance, it is something of an anomaly to segregate maps and illustrations in such a manner, especially if a discussion of them is lacking. Chapter 2 fills but one-fourth of a page while other chapters are but one and two pages long. The chapter on industries, dealing with the subjects of farming, mining, lumbering, manufacturing, and transportation, is of special interest. Manufacturing is traced from corn meal to ice cream and transportation from the pack horse to the automobile. Chapter 11, "People and Progress," covers 172 pages. It begins with a discussion of the aborigines, covers the early history of the county in a strictly orthodox fashion without any appreciable use of documentary material, sketches the history of education, surveys the growth of internal improvements, treats of social and religious progress, and concludes with a prophecy of future development. Forty pages of this chapter are devoted to lists of taxables that might well have been placed in an appendix.

The book is handsomely bound and neatly printed. It contains a useful chronological table and an index, but the lack of references to sources of information and the absence of a bibliography are serious defects.