felt no loss of dignity. She waged a long and bitter campaign for
an increase of pension. Her case became famous. She fought not for
herself alone but for pensions for nurses who had also served in the
War. At the age of 66 she was awarded $20 a month. "Though small,"
Dr. Snyder notes, "it came in time to ease financial burdens of her
diminishing years."

She died on February 21, 1919, at the age of 86. She had
weathered many storms. She lived to see New York State give women
the ballot. She saw women in her profession not only accepted but
honored. The innovations she suggested during a brief period as
postal clerk are still in use. She must have rejoiced to see the women
in war work; in factories, and even in the home comfortably clad
in slacks. "For 60 years, Mary had been doing a solo performance in
pants; now she had thousands of confederates."

While Dr. Snyder writes of his subject with gentle humor, there
is also evident a genuine respect for her decision of character and her
indomitable courage. Observing the present generation the reader
wonders if this breed of woman has perished from the earth.

Pittsburgh
Loretta P. Byrne

A Picture of the Pennsylvania Germans. By Russell Wieder
Gilbert. Third Edition. (Gettysburg: Pennsylvania History Stud-

This is the third edition of a highly successful booklet. It is "A"
picture of an early Pennsylvania minority group. Of any subject
there may be many pictures, depending on the angle, the motif, the
lighting effect, and the general composition. The artist determines the
highlighting and other factors, but what the viewer actually finds
depends so much on what background and experience is brought to
the picture. The comments of this reviewer, as well as the reflections
of the many readers, must be considered in the light of the above
comments.

The subject of the "Pennsylvania German" or the "Pennsylvania
Dutch" seems to be one of growing interest. The author explains the
relationship and meaning of these two terms. This is the type of book
to be read at one sitting. Having read practically everything German-
American that comes to hand, the reviewer can say that this is
probably the best over-all, briefly stated, but balanced account that he has read. The main captions, abbreviated, are Background, Difficulties, Pennsylvania German (P.G.) Firsts, Achievements of Personalities, Role in War, in Peace, Characteristics, Folklore and P.G. Names.

Under subheadings the reader learns who the P.G. really are, where they came from, who came, and why? (Incidentally, Oliver Huckle, a biographer in *A Dreamer of Dreams*, says that Penn made a third invitational trip to Germany in 1786.) Readers learn the conditions that forced these settlers out, the groups and leaders who led the way, the reasons for and extent of ship-list records. Readers note the importance of limestone soil, and of religion in their lives, also the handicaps of prejudice, language, politics and education. (By way of constructive criticism, since this work deserves to be produced again and again, the reviewer suggests a revision of the listed subheadings, especially under “Difficulties,” to read more coherently, and so, more invitingly.)

Apparently one of the chief interests of many people in the P.G.’s or “Pennsylvania Dutch” is their *peculiarities*. The author wisely and ably stresses their *contributions* instead. Thus he emphasizes the production of the Conestoga wagon; the “Kentucky” (Pennsylvania) rifle; early printing, as the first complete Bible in America and 200 other works before 1758 by Sauer, the Dunker printer, or the 1,300 copies of the voluminous *Martyrs’ Mirror*, 1748 by the Ephrata Society, thus printing more books before the Revolution than New York and New England, combined; also fine music, as well.

Even though the colony of Pennsylvania has had a “complex life that makes our history unique and renders comparative study unfair and inadequate,” to quote Dr. M. G. Brumbaugh, yet the author has succeeded in putting the national contributions of this group in the center of his *picture* and has highlighted it with many fine illustrations. Names like Rittenhouse, Sauer, Muhlenberg, John Peter Müller, Conrad Weiser, Eisenhower, and Hoover all testify to this contribution.

If such peculiarities as the “hex” had a meaning, it is lost in the dim past to the present Pennsylvania Germans. The symbols are likely intended “chust fur nice.” The special characteristics of the group, as “queer but sincere” are largely explained on the basis of a rugged European background or perhaps their colonial isolation.
The "Church People" are also a part of this group, though, in contrast to the "sects," were more generously accepted in Europe than in America. Space forbids the listing of the conditions of hardships, and of the sterling traits thus developed.

In closing, this quote has meaning: "The chief contribution of the Pennsylvania Dutch to the American way of life is not in the value of their folkways nor in individual achievement, great as these are, but in their mixing in marriage and still retaining the good in their heritage." Referring to the "interaction of many nationalities and religions," . . . "as one of these varied groups, the Pennsylvania Germans have been a significant factor in the progress of the state and the nation. It is this diversity in which lies the greatness of both Pennsylvania and America." "To see them as an indigenous and developing part of American life, gives the reader a true perspective." (pp. 70, 71)

The reviewer agrees with the Committee (Standing Committee on Publications, Pennsylvania Historical Association) in the foreword, that this "is the most scholarly, all-inclusive, and readable account of the Pennsylvania Germans . . . in one small volume." A must on the P.G.'s!

Accompanying this brief 71 page story is a valuable, select and classified bibliography of twelve pages.

A number of books might be added for the interested researcher but particularly European Origins of the Brethren (a source book), compiled and translated by Donald F. Durnbaugh; Die Deutschen, Ihr Werden und Wesen, Ernest Jockers, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of German, University of Pennsylvania; Two Centuries of Brothers-valley Church of the Brethren (1762-1962), H. Austin Cooper, Times, Inc., Westminster, Maryland.

Pittsburgh

Alvin G. Faust


For the reader interested in the wars of the eighteenth century in America but who has not time to delve into their correlation with