photographs, *Gardner's Photographic Sketch Book of the Civil War*. It consisted of two volumes with 100 plates selected from the Gardner and the Brady collections. Expensively produced, few sets were sold and very few survive, one being in the University of Pennsylvania Library. With the current mania for exploiting, commercially and otherwise, the centennial of the Civil War, it has seemed appropriate to Dover Publications with the cooperation of the University of Pennsylvania Library to reproduce the work with improved methods of photographic printing, in one volume. One hundred fine plates, each one faced by the original description supposedly written by Gardner himself, make an item which should be of considerable interest to various people. Somewhat padded with beautiful but rather meaningless scenes, it still has interesting items for the technological historian, heartrending groups of dead soldiers for the sentimental, some fine portraits of well known figures of the War. It should probably be included in any reasonably complete collection of Civil War illustrations. For practical use for its ostensible purpose, the teacher or the general student of Civil War history would better save his money and buy the David Donald volume containing 500 pictures of Civil War scenes, incidents, events, and people.

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As indicated above, 1958 was the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the Church of the Brethren in Schwarzenau, Germany. This book was authorized by the Anniversary Committee. It therefore represents an official report to that committee, and it also represents, in some respects, to the members of the church, and to others, an authorized history of their European background.

The first attempt at a comprehensive history of this church was made in 1899 by Dr. M. G. Brumbaugh, eminent educator and former governor of Pennsylvania, under the title of *A History of the German Baptist Brethren in Europe and America*. This indi-
cates their official name until 1908. That volume, in the words of the author, was “given to the public with the prayerful desire that it may quicken our love for the church and, under the blessing of God, be the means of doing some good for the Master.” This appropriately expresses, in their words, the purpose of the Anniversary Committee.

The former work, though wielding a prime influence, did not go deeply into the “European Origins,” recognized by the church to lie buried there. This book is primarily a “Source Book.” As such, we are fortunate in having as its author, Donald F. Durnbaugh, presently a teacher of Church History at Juniata College. His efforts have been materially aided by five years of experience in Brethren Service in Europe, and also by the indispensable aid of his wife, the former Hedda Raschka, native, student, and certified teacher of Vienna, Austria. She had special training in, and familiarity with, the language, and a much desired gift of being able to read and transcribe old German script.

In this book, European Origins . . . , we have for the first time a live, authenticated collection of data, minutely and clearly presented, with incidents, personalities, and dates, all with the detail that is almost beyond belief. So, whether the records were found in Germany, Switzerland, Holland or Strassburg in France, there seemed to be a concerted effort to break opposition to the status quo. Though a few protested ineffectively, in favor of the Brethren, they really found no place to go. There seems to be no effort on the part of the author, to discolor the facts or to prejudice the reader, who must necessarily frequently find himself sitting in judgment. Incidentally, in all fairness, and in sharp contrast to that earlier day, the consideration accorded the Brethren by Europeans in these same areas, during their 250th Anniversary celebration, was most generous. By this we understand that this book, and particularly the Brethren principles, and their practice of Brethren Service, in which they have been most generously joined by other groups, have been highly acceptable. The “brotherhood” of the founding fathers is becoming a reality.

The Church of the Brethren, whose founders were mostly of the Presbyterian (Reformed) and Lutheran faith, is not a large group, as denominations go. They have, however, been accorded a position of leadership, far beyond their numerical strength, especially in practical religion of relieving human suffering in a war-torn
world. Since Western Pennsylvania is one of their major strongholds, especially in the Somerset-Cambria area, this book review may be a welcomed Anniversary gesture, especially since some of their number, namely the Eckerlin Brothers and others were pioneers as at the Dunkard settlement, on the Monongahela, before Washington's youthful visit to the "Forks," and also the "Brothers of the Valley," who were so called reportedly by the Indians, in Somerset County used their influence to sway the Indians' support from the French to the English. The noted Conrad Weiser for a time adhered to them as did the intelligent colonial John Peter Miller, and the colonial publisher Christopher Sauer (Sower).

This book on "Origin" of this people should be read, not only by every student of the history of Brethren and other minority groups. It will no doubt also be welcomed by, and prove enlightening to, students of the history of Catholic, Lutheran and Reformed faith, of the post-Reformation days. Principles have not changed much over the years. Problems of liberty of conscience and freedom of worship, against that of regimentation; the right of choice of the individual, against the established order of institutions; or of the "Eternal Word" against creed and dogma, all stand out in bold relief. The seriously minded reader may conclude that the cost of our freedom comes high; he may ask: Could it happen again? Students both for and against a united Christendom, as it looms today, may find food for thought. Those seeking European genealogical information may find some hints here.

It seems proper to stress, by way of summary, these highlights of enthusiastic and intelligent search for original data, excellent organization and transcription of the same, thus yielding a valuable source book on unpublished data, covering a critical period of religious controversy. The development of this group is traced under the headings of Separation, Formation, Expansion, Suppression, Emigration, and Publication. There is also a cogent discussion on the political, economic, social, cultural, and religious conditions, as well as movements and personalities affecting the times. These are set forth in the Introduction, which in itself gives a live and meaningful background. The work is indexed and well documented.

Pittsburgh

Alvin G. Faust