lists. Because of the widespread acceptance of Hinke's decipherment of the available lists and the excellence of his historiography, only a few researchers in the German language will mourn its omission.

With the bicentennial of American Independence less than a decade away amateur researchers should have little trouble starting, if not locating the arrival of their colonial German ancestors in Pennsylvania, in time to identify their permanence in American life now that *Pennsylvania German Pioneers* is again in print. The Genealogical Publishing Company instead of taking advantage of status-seeking Americans is making it possible for genealogists and local historians as well as the general public to enjoy more than another half century of satisfying family research.

*The Pennsylvania State University*  
**JAMES H. MAST**


This volume is an amateur production in the sense that it is a creation of men and women who love their theme. It is a homey book, "established on a friendly footing." Mr. Collins is ardent, and he has waved into life the enthusiasms of a long list of volunteer helpers, including Edgar A. Roth, whose aid especially on the pictorial side is a blessed imponderable for which the Western Pennsylvania public should be warmly grateful.

*Stringtown on the Pike* naturally is not faultless. It contains many regrettable errors which should be corrected in future editions. More particularly, it has the fault of numerous omissions. But these editorial blemishes may serve the useful purpose of enlisting further popular cooperation. It will be the duty of every reader to collaborate in the requisite improvement of the text. Suggestions of whatever sort should be sent without delay to the Chamber of Commerce offices as listed above.

East Liberty is a magnetic subject. Life has been vibrant there for more than two centuries. What inspired Mr. Collins through twenty years of collecting material was the human magnetism of the
place. Each resident of "the Valley," it was plain, was a story. Certainly there was a narrative value in every street if not actually in every house from the frontier days up to the arrival of the bulldozers of the Redevelopers now in control. Mr. Collins was wise in wanting to see his book in print while yet there were natives of East Liberty to appreciate it.

But "outsiders" also will enjoy this bringing together of Western Pennsylvania neighborhood lore. To demonstrate this point, it is necessary merely to mention such names as those of Washington and Lafayette, both of whom had part in the East Liberty drama. Opened at any random page, instantly there may be discovered additional items of valid human interest concerning Stephen Collins Foster, Andrew W. Mellon, Hervey Allen, George H. Clapp, Mary Croghan Schenley, Henry Clay Frick, Victor Herbert, George Westinghouse, Lillian Russell, Dick Powell, Jane Gray Swisshelm, Charles Martin Hall, Henry John Heinz, Joseph Leonard Levy, James Kelly, Andrew Carnegie, Charles Lockhart, Alfred E. Hunt, Hedda Hopper and other celebrities of authentic distinction.

Mr. Collins makes useful contributions to industrial history, too. There are substantial items of information in his book about steel, glass, coal and coke, railroads and airplanes, electric service, telephone and radio communication, printing establishments and bookstores, schools and churches, hospitals and even a small anecdote about an East Liberty resident who was proud of the area because it had four cemeteries! For genealogists he mentions interesting facts about the Aiken, Bates, Baum, Baur, Bialis, Brace, Burchfield, Burtner, Campbell, Crawford, Croghan, Dahlem, Dempster, Denniston, Dilworth, Eakin, Elliott, Ewalt, Finley, Fownes, Frazier, Fulton, Gross, Grubb, Hailman, Heth, Howe, Huss, Irwin, Jenkin, Johnston, Kable, King, Kuhn, Larimer, Leech, Lloyd, Ludebuehl, Mansmann, McCune, McKee, Mayer and Meyer, Murray, Negley, Neville, O'Hara, Parchment, Reymer, Ross, Roup, Rudy, Schlosser, Siebert, Snively, Spahr, Stewart, Taub, Trees, Ward, Warmcastle, Wayne, Werner, Wilson, Winebiddle and Young families.

To dramatize the strictly factual charm of Stringtown on the Pike it may be mentioned that Mr. Collins notes that the Highland Park Zoo began as a Christmas present ($100,000) in 1895; the Allegheny County Light Company was absorbed by the Duquesne Light Company on January 1, 1913; and East Liberty was served by 104 trains a day in 1906.
The book contains more than a few checklists of names, places, times, events. Its anecdotal significance is obvious and winning. One result of it, then, almost surely will be conversation among not East Libertarians only but among responsive folk at large. Mr. Collins is a good storyteller and sets a contagious precedent for others. One of the "oldtime" merchants to whom he refers repeatedly is Harrison J. Hays, still in the stationery business at 87.

It will bear repetition that here is a picture book of consequence, copiously illustrated by artists willing and even glad to "hold the mirror up to Nature" faithfully and not in any respect perversely. Many of the drawings are by Mr. Roth, the editor, but some likewise by Frank Marcello, Norton Peterson, T. W. Hunter, Gordon Williams, Robert B. Roth, Charles M. Stotz, all master-delineators.

Stringtown on the Pike is not perfect. It needs amendment and correction, but it is an heirloom piece and every individual connected with it merits congratulation.

Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania

JAMES WALDO FAWCETT