the pre-Civil War "Cotton Snob" "ranged from the pompous to the overbearing" (p. 165). Baldwin later notes that most Americans today have stereotyped views about Mexicans and blacks, but historian Justin Smith also stereotyped the Mexicans and Americans in his 1919 two-volume history of the Mexican War.

In discussing the book's general layout, one might note that it contains an index and scattered footnotes, but there is no formal bibliography. The reviewer also found eleven minor typographical errors, a shortcoming which occasionally detracts from this well-written volume. In defiance of the current practice of viewing history through a microscope, it literally embraces the cosmos with its telescopic probings.

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As Professor Philip S. Klein stresses in his foreword to this excellent bibliography on Centre County, local history is of significance as a laboratory in which broader themes in the American experience can be analyzed. Yet specialists in local studies have been hampered by a dearth of good bibliographies and finding aids.

Part of the Penn State Libraries' bibliography series, Joan Lee's compilation of Centre County materials could and should serve as a model for similar undertakings in other Pennsylvania counties. More than twenty-three hundred entries include both published and unpublished sources, books, pamphlets, articles, public documents, dissertations, theses, and manuscript holdings. Arrangement is alphabetical by broad subjects, beginning with agriculture and ending with water and sewage. Each entry has its own number and each adheres to standard bibliographic form. Annotations, where they appear, are succinct and helpful to the researcher who must make judgments about which sources would be most germane to his or her subject. Repository location abbreviations follow each entry, and there are thorough author and subject indexes by entry number.
The illustrations, though few in number, are, for the most part, representative, and they are nicely reproduced. The cover photograph is especially striking — a “contrasty” black-and-white view of Mount Nittany with a spectacular cumulus cloud hovering above it. With the flat farmland in the foreground, one is reminded of similar shots of the high plains of Wyoming with buttes and mesas in the distance.

Two — admittedly niggling — criticisms are perhaps in order. There seems to be some inconsistency with the brief biographical summaries that follow a number of the entries relating to individuals. The Valentine family of artists, for example, receive nine lines, while Andrew Gregg Curtin, surely the county’s best known figure, gets barely three lines. Also, while the abbreviations for most repositories are logical, one cannot help but wonder what the D stands for in the DLC abbreviation for the Library of Congress. These points do not, however, meaningfully detract from the work’s great value as a research tool for all who are interested in central Pennsylvania history.

Pittsburgh

William F. Trimble


This volume grew out of the Pennsylvania Ethnic Heritage Studies Dissemination Project at Bloomsburg State College and includes nearly three thousand entries dealing with the ethnic history of the commonwealth. If only because of the large number of individuals who represent the various nationality groups in the state, ethnicity should be of concern to historians. The 1970 United States census revealed that 3.2 million Pennsylvanians (28 percent of the state’s population) had Slavic origins, while 1.1 million were of Polish extraction, and 1 million were black.

The Peoples of Pennsylvania is broken down into forty-six separate ethnic groups, with entries listed alphabetically by author in each category. Perhaps half the entries are annotated with what effectively are capsule reviews. Additionally, an attempt is made to evaluate the works on a scale of one-to-ten, according to their relevance, accuracy, and contribution to intercultural understanding. The contributors are acknowledged experts in their areas of interest, but their