

prejudice, the more infighting. We need to cooperate. (176-177)

After the Holocaust is an excellent example of how peoples who have harbored prejudices for many years can meet and discuss, how they can begin to understand the reasons for these feelings and finally how they can work to change them. The reader too will begin to understand the sufferings both sides had to endure, and how peoples must work to overcome feelings of prejudice. A book worth reading. ■

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George Rapp's Years of Glory: Economy on the Ohio 1834-1847 okonomie am Ohio

Compiled and edited by Karl J.R. Arndt.

New York: Peter Lang, 1987. Pp.xxxi, 1,163. Introduction, illustrations, notes, index. \$193.

THE present volume continues Karl Arndt's long involvement with the copious documentation of George Rapp's Harmonist Movement and the communities Rapp formed first in Pennsylvania, then in Indiana, and finally again in Pennsylvania. Rapp's Separatist communal society constitutes one of the most interesting and successful, if generally misunderstood, chapters in the history of nineteenth century America's experiments with communal societies.

As part of the German-American experience in the New World, it has been neglected, as have been German-American studies in general. The broad picture of American life is not complete without an understanding of the ethnic contribution to American social and

cultural structures. One can justifiably argue that there is nothing more "ethnic" about the German-American experience than that of Anglo-America because of the large numbers of German immigrants and their intense involvement with American life. However, residue of anti-German propaganda, primarily stemming from World War I, and the language of the documentation — German — have made German-American studies less interesting to generally monoglot historians. Arndt is an exception. He has devoted a life's work to understanding the unique nature of the German culture in America and its role in the formation of the tenets of American life.

It is particularly difficult when the material to be researched is in the German script used commonly until the 1930s. Arndt's transcriptions are very welcome even to those who do know German, and Arndt has transcribed much material in the archives at Economy, Pennsylvania, which was not included in this collection.

George Rapp was a charismatic, dedicated man, very ambitious in his way. Even at great age, with the communal society he led under attack from within and without, he remained clear-headed, shrewd, and convinced of the correctness of his approach to religion and life. There is something at once so German and so American about his combining considerable talent as a businessman with great religious fervor, viewing the world through the clear focus of business necessity and through the eye of the religious visionary. He chose his associates well and understood the often litigious ways of the Anglo-American society from which he wished to keep distanced. It is not without reason that some of his followers also joined the Mormon sect and pioneered their way to Utah.

Rapp was often called upon to provide loans to the Anglo communities nearby and to such cities

as Pittsburgh. His community was both respected and feared for its ability to vote in a block. He was courted by Whigs and Democrats alike. He received guests from all over the world who were interested in the successful farming and textile manufacturing activities of the community. He and his agents made good use of their lobbying in Washington, for example, in raising a tariff to protect their blossoming silk industry. The ability of the Harmonist Society to control regional, and to affect even national, politics has not yet been fully explored. Indeed, Arndt has provided the materials for much more research in the nature of communal societies, particularly in their relationship with the surrounding society.

Rapp's communal efforts had a worldwide effect as well. Friedrich Engels used the Harmonists as an example of a successful communal society. Engels states: "We also see that the people who live communally while working less live better, have more leisure for the development of their minds, and they are better and more moral people...." As Arndt points out, Engels does not mention the religious basis of the Harmonist society, nor does he understand the amount of effort that went into maintaining the considerable wealth of Economy. Cultivation of the mind was also not the end goal of Rapp; rather it was the development of a trusting piety that included celibacy. It also included very stringent controls on individuals who went against the dicta of "Father" Rapp.

From this collection of materials the reader does gain a much better sense for Rapp, his times and followers. The items presented are from varying sources — letters, daybooks, newspaper articles, excerpts from published books, sermons, etc. The arrangement is strictly chronological. This sometimes makes it difficult to follow themes and issues from one cita-

tion to another, although an index and some textual cross-references do help. Much of the material is in German and some is translated, although a lot is not. Among items of importance that are not translated is the very interesting excerpt from Traugott Bromme's description of the Harmonist settlement contained in her book *Nordamerika* (Stuttgart, 1839). The book was extremely popular in Germany. Where translations are provided they are accurate and stylistically adequate.

There is, in general, a problem with the frame in which the materials are embedded. The English introduction is followed by a different, short introduction in German. The illustrations between the two introductions have German captions only. The illustrations elsewhere in the book have English captions only. In spite of what appears to be an attempt at a bilingual approach to the descriptions of the materials, this is not carried through. The result will be a bit of frustration for both American and German researchers.

Similar inconsistencies exist in the style of language Arndt uses, particularly in the relatively small amount of German. The researcher who wishes to make use of these rich materials would also appreciate a bit more clarity about the criteria for selection of materials as well as a brief description of the archives themselves.

While the concerns listed above are serious, Arndt has done a yeoman's task in sorting through a great amount of material and has contributed greatly to our knowledge of the Harmonists. He has made available to a wide audience of researchers primary sources needed to understand better the nature of German-American and Anglo-American life in the first half of the nineteenth century. ■

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The Diary of William Maclay and Other Notes on Senate Debates, March 4, 1789-March 3, 1791

Kenneth R. Bowling and Helen E. Veit, editors
Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988. Pp. xxxii, 522. Introduction, appendixes, notes, index, illustrations. \$39.50, \$10.95 paper.

KENNETH R. Bowling and Helen E. Veit, editors of William Maclay's record of the earliest transactions of the U.S. Senate, have prepared a study of much significance to understanding the early politics and constitutional history of the new nation.

The work describes Pennsylvania's part in the first two years of government under the Constitution. The editors help us comprehend the work of the Senate and the contributions of Pennsylvania's first two senators to the legislative achievements of March 4, 1789, to March 3, 1791. The diary "is the preeminent unofficial document of the First Congress and fundamental to the historical record of the United States Senate" (page xiii). The role of William Maclay and the contents of his invaluable private diary, kept during his Senate term, are of special interest. The political, social, and economic values revealed by Maclay and his observations on the personalities of his contemporaries — the other founding fathers — make this work appealing. The diary is "a valuable source of information about both the work of the first Senate and the social life at the seat of government" (xiii). Maclay's revelations place him in the mold of a revolutionary, imbued with the spirit of 1776, and in some ways an Antifederalist. He was possibly the first Jeffersonian Democrat, even though he went to the Senate as a Federalist. In political attitudes and values, he

was much more like John Smilie, William Findley, Robert Whitehill, and other Western Pennsylvania Antifederalists, than he would admit. Maclay was more "democratic" than other Federalists such as John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, and Robert Morris. Clearly, if any doubts remain, Maclay's diary "establishes without question that the founding fathers practiced the art of legislative politics" (xiii).

Bowling and Veit's edition is organized in two parts. Part I, the core of the volume, is the diary Maclay kept during the first through the third Senate sessions. This section also includes supplementary material organized in five appendixes, including miscellaneous records, some of the newspaper articles Maclay authored, and extant letters he wrote and received. Genealogical data and a biography of Maclay are also included. In Part II, one may find other records of Senate debates, with notes kept by John Adams, Pierce Butler, William Samuel Johnson, Rufus King, William Paterson, and Paine Wingate. The editors' introduction places the Maclay diary and other notes in the economic, social, and political context of the period, 1789 to 1791.

This book obviously evolved over many years of scholarly effort, and it represents a major improvement over earlier texts. The diary is well edited, updated, and timely. An abbreviated version was first edited by G.W. Harris in 1880. The full text was first edited by Edgar S. Maclay in 1890 and reprinted with an introduction by Charles A. Beard in 1927. The Bowling and Veit edition brings improvements in several areas, most conspicuously in the detailed annotation. While the notes kept by other senators are sparse relative to the extensive Maclay notes and analysis, they may profitably be compared with Maclay's account of Senate business. Finally, the index is useful but not neces-