

and colorful figures of the upper midwestern frontier. Joseph Brown's remarkable life and career as soldier, fur trader, territorial politician, and more enthusiastic than successful entrepreneur is meticulously narrated by the Goodmans in this first of an anticipated two-volume effort. Although based on extensive and impressive research, which makes for an authoritative biography, the book occasionally regresses into homilies that detract from its real value to academic historians, genealogists, and casual readers. The bibliography includes an extensive listing of pertinent manuscript collections, especially at the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, and various local and federal government documents.

Although the greater part of the lavishly footnoted book relates Brown's adventures in the region that would become the state of Minnesota, there is a significant amount devoted to his experiences in the soon-to-be states of Iowa and Wisconsin. In particular, the Quad Cities and Burlington areas and Prairie du Chien figure prominently in this reader-friendly adventure story. Brown, like many of his contemporaries, traveled extensively for business and pleasure. His frequent journeys took him on trading missions with the Sioux in the James River region of South Dakota, to the legislative chambers of Madison, Wisconsin, and to Washington, D.C. for business dealings. This account of the life of an early midwestern adventurer would be of interest to the casual reader as well as the specialist, although the professional historian might find the notes and bibliography more gratifying than the text.

*Dutch Immigrant Memoirs and Related Writings*, by Henry S. Lucas. Revised edition. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1997. xviii, 1,124 pp. Notes, appendix, index. \$45.00 paper.

REVIEWED BY BRIAN W. BELTMAN, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

This one-volume edition is a reprint of Henry S. Lucas's two-volume work originally published in 1955 in the Netherlands. Long out of print and one of the standard sources on the Dutch transplanting to America, it is a collection of 114 nineteenth-century travel accounts and personal reminiscences by Dutch immigrants who were among the pioneers in numerous Dutch enclaves in the United States. Volume one relates exclusively to developments in Michigan, but volume two includes writings about settlements in Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, and elsewhere. A unique aspect of the original work was that it provided a number of sources in Dutch,

but immediately followed them with an English translation. This recent edition reveals twenty-two new translations of documents that were not included in the original; five of these pertain to Marion and Sioux Counties, Iowa. A new introduction by Robert P. Swierenga enhances this edition by providing insightful biographical information about Lucas and offering an assessment of his selection of sources. The original index has also been augmented with subject-related entries.

This compilation by Lucas complements his full-length history, *Netherlanders in America*, first published in 1955 and reprinted by Erdmans in 1989. These books, along with the massive two-volume work by Jacob van Hinte, also titled *Netherlanders in America* and reprinted in an English translation in 1985, form an encyclopedic trilogy for students of Dutch-American history and are indispensable resources for any scholar interested in comparative ethnic studies of the Midwest. The particular appeal of this anthology of first-person observations is, of course, to hear the immigrants tell their own stories of creating new settlements and relate the experiences of beginning anew in the course of their own life histories.

*Orphan Trains to Missouri*, by Michael D. Patrick and Evelyn Goodrich Trickel. Missouri Heritage Readers Series. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1997. xiii, 112 pp. Illustrations, suggested readings list, index. \$9.95 paper.

REVIEWED BY MARILYN IRVIN HOLT, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

From the 1850s through the 1920s, charities in eastern cities, such as Boston and New York, transported homeless and destitute children and teenagers to rural communities. The "Orphan Trains" deposited these youngsters throughout the country, and there was certainly placement of children in Iowa homes.

This slim volume is a general overview of the practice, focusing on one charity (New York Children's Aid Society) and on one state (Missouri). It is meant for an adult audience, and it fulfills that intent. However, broad generalizations, misstatements (it is extremely doubtful that Missouri received one hundred thousand youngsters), and no footnotes limit its usefulness as a research tool or its interest level for anyone with more than a passing familiarity with the subject. Nevertheless, the book suggests the importance of collecting and publishing orphan train rider stories to document that unique episode in American social history.

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