

one and its furniture and other artifacts. Langdon's photographs and the historic photographs reproduced from various collections accompany the text throughout.

Historic building guidebooks are rarely presented so well. This book is significant for its accurate and succinct text, the fine selection of historic photographs reproduced in it, and the excellent color photographs of the building today. It is also significant for the way the text and photographs work so well together to tell their story. In years to come, *Facing East and Facing West* will itself doubtless become an important historic document of Iowa's Old Capitol.

Independent Immigrants: A Settlement of Hanoverian Germans in Western Missouri, by Robert W. Frizzell. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2007. xii, 202 pp. Illustrations, maps, tables, notes, appendix, bibliography, index. \$34.95 cloth.

Reviewer Kristen L. Anderson is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Iowa. Her research and writing focus on German Americans and African Americans in nineteenth-century St. Louis.

In *Independent Immigrants*, Robert Frizzell chronicles the experiences of the peasant farmers who migrated from Hanover to Lafayette County, Missouri, settling near the future town of Concordia. He uses a wide variety of sources—including wills, passports, ship passenger lists, and land ownership records—to recreate a detailed picture of life in both Germany and America. In doing so, Frizzell sheds light on the settlers' lives before migration, the reasons they chose to leave Europe, the resources they brought with them to Missouri, and their new lives in America. This study thus follows the trend in immigration history of studying the entire migration experience, including the migrants' place of origin and the journey itself, as well as their experiences once they reached the United States.

Frizzell begins with the migrants' lives in Hanover. He argues that most of these farmers decided to leave Europe primarily for economic reasons, as the shift to industrial production and the division of the common lands undermined the standard of living for many peasants. Frizzell traces a number of immigrants directly from Hanover to Missouri, examining their economic standing and agricultural activities in both countries. He argues that they quickly adopted the crops grown by their native-born neighbors, although unlike many Americans in Lafayette County, the Germans seldom used slave labor to work their farms.

Frizzell argues that the Germans' opposition to slavery became the strongest line of division between them and their native-born

neighbors, particularly during the Civil War. Confederate guerrillas targeted Germans in their raids, particularly once large numbers of German men joined the Union army. Frizzell describes in detail the 1864 Confederate raid on Lafayette County's heavily German Freedom Township, when Bloody Bill Anderson's band of bushwhackers killed many Germans in the settlement, massacring the wounded and raping women. Despite this hostility, many Germans remained in Lafayette County and maintained a strong ethnic identity as German. Furthermore, as the former slave owners struggled to adapt to a free labor force, the German farmers continued to prosper economically, although they became isolated politically within the county as Missouri took a conservative turn in the 1870s.

Independent Immigrants is an excellent example of both immigration history and local history, in that it successfully combines local detail with larger trends in international migration. Frizzell recreates the immigrants' world, both in Hanover and in Missouri, in impressive detail, while never losing sight of his larger arguments regarding the causes of migration. Frizzell also makes an important contribution to the literature on the participation of midwestern immigrants in the Civil War. He argues against the position that the Civil War served as an Americanizing influence for immigrants, demonstrating that the Concordia Germans maintained their ethnic identity throughout the nineteenth century. He argues instead that the hostility the German-born faced during the war served to subordinate regional identities as Hanoverians or Westfalians to an identity as German American. He further demonstrates how this German identity varied from place to place. In Lafayette County, for example, being German meant being Protestant, living a rural life, and speaking a north German dialect. The detailed portraits Frizzell creates of individual families and migrants challenge our assumptions about the causes of German migration and shed new light on the lives these individuals led in Europe and America.

Skim Milk Yankees Fighting: The Battle of Athens, Missouri, August 5, 1861, by Jonathan K. Cooper-Wiele. Iowa City: Camp Pope Bookshop, 2007. xii, 165 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, appendix, bibliography, index. \$14.95 paper.

Reviewer Kenneth L. Lyftogt is a lecturer in history at the University of Northern Iowa. He is the author of several books on Iowa and the Civil War, including *Iowa's Forgotten General: Matthew Mark Trumbull and the Civil War* (2005).

A frequent question asked of scholars of Iowa and the Civil War is: "How close did the fighting come to Iowa?" The question is answered