

[Free and download] Immigrants in the Valley: Irish, Germans, and Americans in the Upper Mississippi Country, 1830-1860

Immigrants in the Valley: Irish, Germans, and Americans in the Upper Mississippi Country, 1830-1860

Mark Wyman

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



#4136017 in Books Rowman Littlefield Publishers 1984Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.76 x .99 x 9.36l, #File Name: 0830410236258 pages | File size: 21.Mb

Mark Wyman : Immigrants in the Valley: Irish, Germans, and Americans in the Upper Mississippi Country, 1830-1860 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Immigrants in the Valley: Irish, Germans, and Americans in the Upper Mississippi Country, 1830-1860:

Thousands of newcomers flocked into the Upper Mississippi country in the decades leading up to the Civil War. Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, and Minnesota received immigrants from most areas of Europe, as well as Americans from the Upper South, New England, and the Middle Atlantic states. They all carried with them religious beliefs, experiences, and expectations that differed widely, attitudes and opinions which often threw them into conflict with each other. German and Irish settlers predominated in the European influx, fleeing oppression and hard times in their homelands. Author Mark Wyman shows how the early struggles with the British, the potato famine, and a difficult land tenure system made Irishmen quick to take offense when proselytizers and employers pressured them in America. Germans, Wyman explains, frequently came from a tradition of religious dissension and areas of overly-fragmented landholdings-a background crucial to their reactions to Midwestern events. New Englanders, who

dominated much of the economic and political life in Upper Mississippi communities, tended to look down on the Southerners and Europeans who moved into the region with them. The Yankees, as they were called, often arrived with a reforming mission in mind—a mission others resented. As these diverse groups spread across the Midwest in the years between 1830 and 1860, they frequently clashed over such issues as drinking, public schools, and the proper observance of the Sabbath. Even slavery, the issue that became overriding by 1860, affected the newly arrived peoples of the "Great Valley" in differing ways. Drawing extensively on family letters sent home to Europe, missionary reports, employment records, and other diverse materials, this book shows the interplay between the major groups traveling the roads and waterways into the Upper Mississippi Valley during those crucial decades. *Immigrants in the Valley* is a lively, extensively-illustrated account which will help Americans everywhere better understand t

Immigrants in the Valley is a first-rate work of synthesis. . . . One of the strengths of the book throughout is its sensitivity to the interaction of groups, a comparative dimension too often lacking in case studies. Besides distilling a large secondary literature, Wyman has done a good deal of primary research, particularly in newspapers. . . . The author's journalistic background shows through in his lively, sometimes lyrical prose, spiced by frequent observations from contemporaries. The nearly forty photographs and other illustrations increase the attractiveness for the general reader to whom it is addressed." *Journal of American History* *Immigrants in the Valley* is an easily readable account with numerous short quotes from early letters and other sources which provide interesting perceptions and insights into different situations. . . . The book provides an excellent story of how immigrants interacted in a fairly large region, rather than just in one city as in many other studies. This regional study should be on the shelves of both general public and research libraries. *Journal of American Culture* Mark Wyman has painted a vivid picture of settlement in the Upper Mississippi Valley. He traces the origins, settlement patterns, and economic and cultural activities of migrants from Ireland, the German states, New England, and the South. *Illinois Historical Journal* This is a traditional account, told with clarity, the eye for human detail, and the fast pace of a newsman. *Irish Historical Studies*