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Prefatory note

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Prefatory Note

The final issue of Volume 34 of the *SAHS Review* commemorates, first, the transformation of the Swiss polity undertaken a hundred years ago, that is its transformation from a league of states into a federal state. Simon Netzle explores specifically how the bicameral system adopted in 1787 by the framers of the second constitution of the United States became a feature also of the Swiss political system in 1848.

Next, Dr. Marianne Burkhard, OSB, presents two captivating portraits of Swiss who have made Peoria, Illinois, their home. Although Emil Locher's life evolved quite differently from that of Albert Zeller, both stories mirror their successful adaptation to a world quite different from the Swiss *Heimat*.

Erdmann Schmocker and Châu Nguyen then present two collages reflecting place names of the United States that have been derived from Geneva, mostly in honor of the theologian John Calvin (1509-1564), who strove to transform that city into a model theocracy. They also created a valuable map and list of place names derived from that Swiss city.

The issue concludes with a review by Barbara Dobschütz, MA, M.Div., of Gary Pranger's study of Philip Schaff, a renowned late nineteenth century theologian. A Ph.D. candidate at the University of Illinois at Chicago, she assesses Pranger's work with analytical skill and expertise.

To the contributors to this issue and to Natalie Hector, the creator of the camera ready copy, sincere thanks!

Leo Schelbert
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Editors