

THE CULTURAL AND POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SUDETEN GERMANS FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Thousands of American immigrants from Bohemia, Moravia and Austrian Silesia contributed their share to the shaping of the nation. This article deals in some detail with a few of them whose achievements were especially outstanding.

Hans Kudlich, the German-Bohemian emancipator of the Austrian peasants in 1848, was a passionate supporter of Abraham Lincoln. His battle for the emancipation of the blacks from slavery made America his homeland.

Oswald Ottendorfer from Zwittau in Moravia, American newspaper king, founded the public lending library system in America, supported immigrants, endowed hospitals and poorhouses, and introduced German-language instruction into the New York schools.

Karl Postl (Charles Sealsfield), publicist and writer, „Ein Wanderer zwischen zwei Welten“, criticized in his books both the Old and the New World, of which he had extensive knowledge.

Johann Nepomuk Neumann, Catholic bishop of Philadelphia (1852—1860), dedicated himself to pastoral work among the immigrants as well as to the Indian mission, promoted the school system, and built orphanages and churches. His impact went far beyond the ecclesiastical sphere.

The lot of emigration spurred these and many others to great achievements.