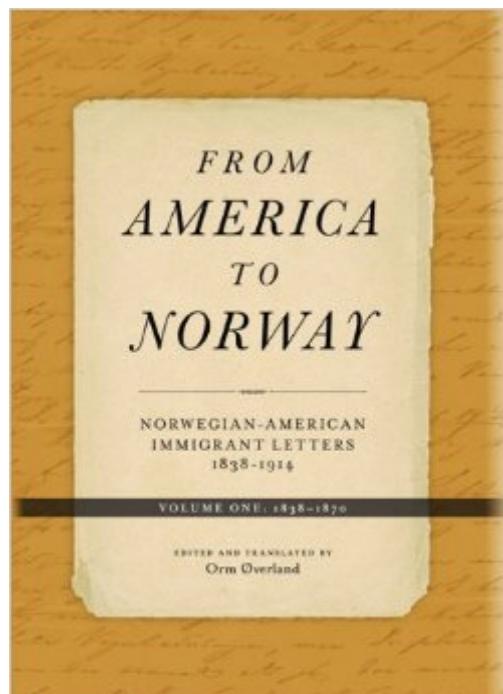


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From America To Norway: Norwegian-American Immigrant Letters 1838-1914, Volume I: 1838-1870



Synopsis

Seeking economic improvement or a fresh start, following family or news of a land of opportunity, Norwegians left their homeland for America in great numbers in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. They settled in Pennsylvania and Illinois and moved on to Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and the Dakotas, finding in the prairie or prairie a promising and hospitable landscape and they wrote home about it. From these letters some published in newspapers or newsletters, most found on family farms and in homes held for generation after generation comes a polyphonic history of Norwegian immigration. Sent from towns and cities and rural outposts, from Chicago and Minneapolis (the Norwegian-American capital), from Four Mile Prairie, Texas, and Coon Prairie, Wisconsin, from Hot Creek, Nevada, and Rock Creek, Iowa, and from Christiana, Wisconsin, to Christiania (now Oslo), Norway, these letters were concerned with matters from the price of postage to the question of picking up stakes and moving halfway around the world and afford an intimate view of the vast and varied experience of Norwegian immigrants settling in this country. In this volume, edited and translated by Orm Verland and covering the period from 1838 to 1870, Norwegian immigrants relate the successes, challenges, and sorrows of their new life to the communities they left behind.

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Customer Reviews

This is a great read. The stories are varied in content and length. They give great insight into the triumphs and tribulations of these travelers. I bought this for my husband who is of Norwegian descent. He is thoroughly enjoying reading this.

Some of the letters would make the basis of a great movie. I really enjoy reading it. I hope there are more volumes.

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