

*The Diary of Hermann Seele and
Seele's Sketches from Texas*

Translation from German, introduction and notes by Theodore Gish

Hermann Seele was an important civic and cultural leader among pioneer German-Texans, and his unique diary covers a critical twenty-year period of his life in Germany and Texas (1842-61). Aside from the diary's distinction as a unique biography of an eminent German-Texan, its publication value also lies in its importance as an historical document. This day-to-day journal marks the beginning of Seele's interest in immigration, his journey to Bremen, his arduous voyage to Texas, his arrival and stay in Galveston and the coastal region and his participation in the founding and settling of New Braunfels up to the beginning of the Civil War.

Just under 500 pages, this volume also contains Seele's *Sketches from Texas* which were intended for family, friends and others who were interested in or considering immigration to Texas. Observations about diseases; climate; hunting; cultivation of crops; native plants, animals, birds and insects are found in this supplement and provide an important appendix to the diary.

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