The Catholic Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania is proud to announce the recent publication of:

The Catholic Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania: Its Origins, Establishment, Decline, and Resurrection

As he traces the activities of the Society, Bates paints a portrait of Western Pennsylvania Catholicism throughout the decades, a history within a history. Through the meticulously detailed documentation by Bates, this book will serve as an invaluable reference for scholars. In the words of the book’s author:

The history of the Society that emerges in this volume reflects the very beginnings of the Church itself: an uplifting message shared among a small group of believers who had a firm conviction to share that message with others. The Apostles’ evangelization continues today and the Society shares in that calling by its telling of the stories of persons, events, and institutions that have been part of Catholic life in the western half of Pennsylvania since 1754 when the French established Fort Duquesne in what would later become the city of Pittsburgh. The original Gospel writers were historians, sharing faith and history. The story of the Society is that of a small group of Catholics who share a passion for Catholic history that our members have sought to communicate to three generations of Catholics living in Western Pennsylvania and beyond. The number of members of our Society’s board of directors has from its formation in 1940 been small, but that challenge has seemingly empowered those few to continue the mission begun by Father Lambing.

The book is available for purchase as a paperback or ebook through Amazon: https://amzn.to/34NMjNe