A. Poole's with its New Testament portion of the Gutenberg Bible) to the whimsical (for instance, Ian Fleming's manuscript materials relating to his James Bond series). All these he added, of course, to Josiah K. Lilly's books and manuscripts on science, especially medicine, and American literature.

The first part of this work, actually a succinct, single chapter of twenty pages, provides a brief biographical sketch of Randall's New York apprenticeship under Max Hartof: "I worked harder, earned less and learned more in the three years I spent with him than [in] any other comparable period" (p. 6). Indicating that he intended to establish a free-standing rare book library on the Bloomington campus, Josiah K. Lilly personally asked for Randall as librarian, and the next twenty years saw the Lilly Library issue striking exhibition catalogs and double the existing collection's size.

With brief headnotes by the compiler, the second part of this slim volume reprints twenty-four of Randall's most important essays and articles, including several still worth reading—notably, his notes on rarity, auction cataloging policies, and "The Adventure of the Notorious Forger." Readers wishing to delve deeper into Randall's writings will appreciate part 3, the more-than-160-item chronological checklist of his works, including his highly readable and opinionated autobiography published as *Dukedom Large Enough* (1969).

In summary, Randall's Indiana University legacy, made possible by Lilly's funds, is the establishment of one of the great American collections of rare books and manuscripts. If these be the terms of greatness for a bibliographer—collection growth and influence in his chosen field—then Randall certainly deserves his place in Scarecrow Press's Great Bibliographers series.

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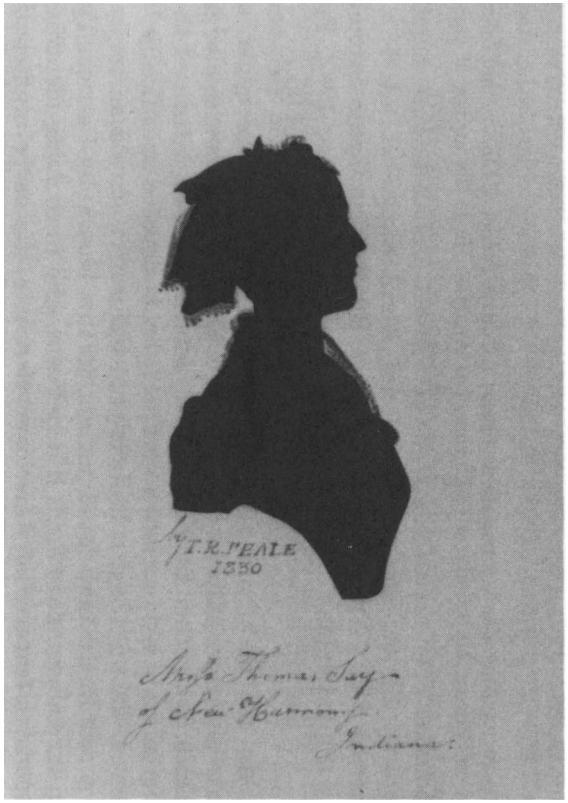
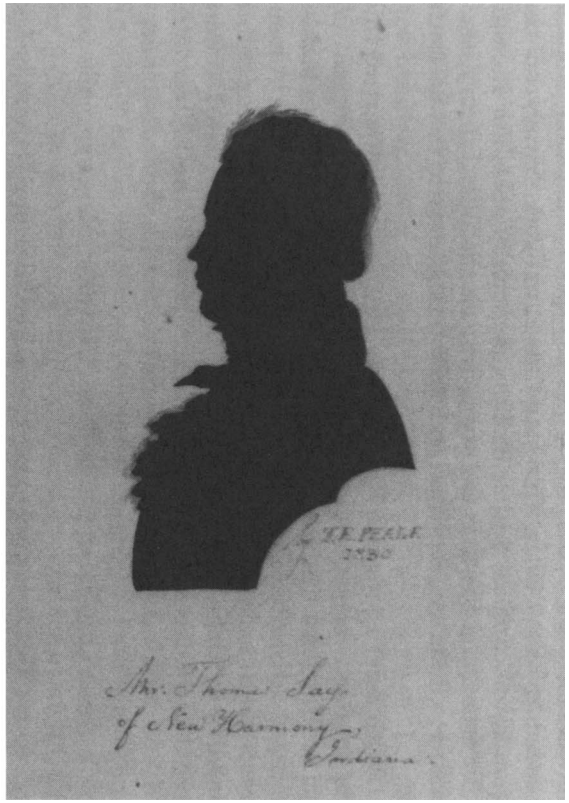
Thomas Say: New World Naturalist. By Patricia Tyson Stroud. (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1992. Pp. xv, 340. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. $24.95.)

In the early nineteenth century Americans were eager to make new contributions to knowledge. Their eagerness extended to science as to other fields, and the years 1800–1840 witnessed the emergence of new societies and periodicals devoted specifically to science. Thomas Say, a Philadelphia naturalist, played an important role in the new developments. In this biography Patricia Tyson Stroud examines Say's life and work and in so doing identifies important features of American science in the early nineteenth century. Say was among the founders of Philadelphia's Academy of





LUCY WAY SISTARE SAY AND THOMAS SAY BY TITIAN RAMSAY PEALE, 1830

Courtesy Historic New Harmony, Indiana.

Natural Sciences and as editor of the academy's *Journal* was the lifeblood of that institution in its early years. Say's frequent descriptions and classifications of insects and mollusks in the journal established his scientific reputation and in 1818 landed him an appointment as zoologist to the Long Expedition. Collections made during those explorations enabled him to provide the first detailed descriptions of the coyote and the plains gray wolf and to produce his most notable scientific study, *American Entomology*. More important, Stroud maintains that Say's scientific work was representative of early nineteenth-century American natural history. Say's publications emphasized the practical and economic importance of insects. While opposing scientific specialization, he advocated that Americans study their own flora and fauna rather than relying on the work of European naturalists. Stroud's study also illustrates the crucial role that patronage played in Say's career. Much of Say's scientific research relied on the largess of the geologist William Maclure. Maclure provided resources for Say's early scientific work, and Say adopted Maclure's social and educational views and became a mainstay of Maclure's utopian experiment at New Harmony, Indiana. As Maclure's representative in New Harmony, Say edited a newspaper and kept alive the utopian ideal. Say also continued publishing his volumes of *American Entomology* and *American Conchology*; but as Stroud effectively indicates, Say's obligations prevented him from undertaking fieldwork, and his isolation from scientific colleagues and activities proved increasingly frustrating both personally and professionally.

Stroud's biography is a fine study of Say's life and career. In addition to offering new insights into the scientist's personality and contributions, the discussion of Say's later life provides one of the most complete examinations of science at New Harmony. Despite Say's many accomplishments, however, there is little that is distinctive or unique about his science, and not surprisingly the author offers no new interpretation of natural history in the early Republic. This portrayal of Say's life and work reinforces and provides a personal dimension to current understanding of the major features of American science in the early nineteenth century.

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The Tri-State Tornado: The Story of America's Greatest Tornado Disaster. By Peter S. Felknor. (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1992. Pp. xvii, 131. Map, illustrations, appendixes, notes, selected bibliography. Paperbound, $13.95.)

As people go about their daily lives, it is easy to forget the powerful forces of nature that lie just over the horizon. Thunder-