

sion Hall at Kenyon College, Institution for the Education of the Blind at Columbus, Ohio, Calvary Church at Cincinnati, and Christ Church on Monument Circle, Indianapolis. Of the last the author writes: "This handsome little church is Tinsley's finest ecclesiastical building in America."

Characteristic of nineteenth-century architects as a group, William Tinsley was an eclectic. He borrowed principally from two earlier historic styles, sometimes resorting to one and at times to the other, but always adding his own imagination and touch in adapting them to the problem at hand. Those sources of inspiration were sources for most of our buildings, civic and domestic, in the mid-nineteenth century: English Tudor (Gothic) buildings and Italian Renaissance villas. On one occasion he turned to the Greek temple as a prototype, and at another time he experimented with the Romanesque (the Henry Probasco house in Cincinnati), in which he was anticipating a movement that swept the country in the 1880's.

Indianapolis and most of our Indiana cities reached their periods of prosperity and expansion soon after the Civil War, and erected their first important buildings during Tinsley's residence here. Our architectural heritage is what is loosely called Victorian (more specifically Italian Villa Revival, Gothic Revival, and late French Renaissance Revival), and it is through books like *Victorian Architect* that we come to understand and appreciate the stately old houses that dominate some of our streets—and that are fast disappearing in the path of what we call progress.

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*Lincoln's New Salem.* By Benjamin P. Thomas. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1954, new and revised edition, pp. xiv, 166, v. Illustrations and index. \$2.50.)

The scholarly approach which characterizes the biographical contributions of Benjamin P. Thomas would not allow one to anticipate many important changes in a reprinting of *Lincoln's New Salem*, regardless of the book jacket announcement that it has been "extensively revised." The only alteration in the text important enough to attract attention is the author's comment on the authenticity of the Lincoln-

Rutledge tradition. Twenty years ago Mr. Thomas reviewed the story with considerable detail and in the present edition lets it stand in its original form with the exception of a few corrections in its chronology and orientation. He does, however, change his observation with reference to the authenticity of the alleged New Salem romance and while he admitted in 1934 that "some historians have questioned it," in 1954 he is confident that "historians are practically unanimous in rejecting it." After a tradition has been discredited it does not appear as if objectivity in biography or history can best be achieved by continuing to utilize erroneous data in the body of an argument, especially when the author may express his lack of faith in its dependability. One of Lincoln's best known biographers of a century ago continually used a tradition which he knew to be absolutely false, yet his only ground for so doing was that it contained such "a fine bit of color."

With the exception of a few words in the story mentioned above there are no other expurgations worth noting. There are practically no interpolations, with the exception of two in the last chapter, which brings the New Salem restoration program up-to-date, and two concluding sentences that set forth the author's evaluation of Lincoln's New Salem years and their impact upon the world. Such few changes as may be discovered, the choice of words and improvement in grammatical construction, contribute very little to a volume already an acceptable piece of literature. The map of New Salem has been redrawn more artistically and the one entitled "The New Salem Community" has been moved from the end papers to the body of the book. The index has been improved in several instances by better lines of description.

The finest word of commendation which can be said about the format of the publication is the liberal spacing between the lines of type in the text which contributes to easy reading. The moving of the footnotes from the appendix to the bottom of the related pages is also an improvement. The one adverse criticism of the book which might be raised may be almost entirely due to the period of inflation which has engulfed us. The 1934 volume adorned with a beautiful buff colored buckram cover and sold for \$1.00 has now disintegrated into a black and blue paper-bound edition which shows wear at the spine and corners even before it reaches the book shelf and sells for "\$2.50 net."

Those who are not familiar with the story of Lincoln at New Salem from 1831 to 1837 will search in vain for a finer presentation than the monograph by Thomas. After the universal reception of his standard one volume biography *Abraham Lincoln* published in 1952, more students will desire to reread this most authoritative book on the years which the former railsplitter spent at New Salem.

*Lincoln National Life Foundation*

Louis A. Warren

*Justice George Shiras, Jr. of Pittsburgh.* By George Shiras, 3rd and Winfield Shiras. (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1953, pp. xx, 256. Illustrations, bibliography, and index. \$4.50.)

Mr. Justice Shiras served on the Supreme Court of the United States for a little over a decade round the close of the nineteenth century—he was appointed to the Supreme Court by a Republican president, Benjamin Harrison, in 1892, and voluntarily stepped down from the Court in 1903. Shiras entered a Court that contained amongst others that venerable titan, Justice Stephen J. Field of California who had been appointed to the Court by President Lincoln in the middle of the Civil War; and a year before Shiras retired Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. was nominated to the Court by President Theodore Roosevelt. Shiras' term on the Court represented a decade in which the foundations were laid for that "businessman's" majority on the Court that was to be dominant right up to the Court Revolution of 1937. In the middle of Shiras' term of office, for example, the Court handed down the important decision in *Allgeyer v. Louisiana*<sup>1</sup> which paved the way for the line of decisions beginning with *Lochner v. New York* (Holmes J. dissenting) in 1905 striking down governmental regulation of the economy in the name of substantive due process; the Court also, in the *E. C. Knight Case* in 1895,<sup>2</sup> was able effectively to muzzle the anti-trust forces by its ruling that "manufacture" was not "commerce," and that therefore manufacturing concerns were beyond the ambit of the Sherman Act. It was a period in American history when the rugged individualism of the pioneer and the expansive

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<sup>1</sup> *Allgeyer v. Louisiana*, 165 U.S. 578 (1897).

<sup>2</sup> *United States v. E. C. Knight Co.*, 156 U.S. 1 (1895).