out your way soon." However, in view of the nature of the present times, and because print on the Johnny Appleseed theme is already of considerable extent, one might venture to opine that the myth may have reached the limit of its stretch except, perhaps, via television. Even then Johnny will appear in Disneyesque garb: as the traditional fixation rather than the new true story: as myth rather than as man. Thus do Americans prefer him. They will continue to be unsparingly sentimental about him, or to cherish a purer sentiment, according to their individual natures. Indeed, Johnny Appleseed is more important in our American culture as myth. Throughout his book, Price is aware of its preponderance and its enduring vitality, and after all his laborious work, yields to it with understanding and humor.

Those who miss this fine, richly detailed book will be the losers. Those future would-be biographers of John Chapman shall better relinquish their aspirations. For Robert Price's book will remain the definitive factual and interpretative work on the subject.

Indianapolis, Indiana Mabel Leigh Hunt

Captured by Indians: True Tales of Pioneer Survivors. By Howard H. Peckham. (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1954, pp. xvii, 238. Illustrations and index. $5.00.)

Capture by Indians was one of the many hazards which faced the pioneers from coast to coast. The tales of the survivors were told and retold, printed and reprinted during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and this book by Howard H. Peckham proves that interest in them has not disappeared altogether in the twentieth. Peckham has retold fourteen such narratives, with added historical background and contemporary illustrations, in a style more concise and readable than that of the originals; he has selected the accounts for their drama, entertainment value, and reliability, with some attention to chronology and geography. Thus, while they illustrate the range of occurrence in both time and space, they are not intended to be a cross section of captivity experiences but rather an introduction to this type of historical literature.

Included are the stories of Mary Rowlandson, captured in Massachusetts in 1676; Jonathan Dickinson, Quaker merchant shipwrecked along the Florida coast in 1696; the John Williams family, participants in the Deerfield massacre of 1704; Jemima Howe, taken at Bridgman's Fort, Vermont, in 1775; Mary Jemison, the golden haired Seneca, 1758; Alexander Henry, survivor of the Indian uprising at Michilimackinac in 1763; Daniel Boone, hero of Kentucky, 1778; Frances Slocum, the white rose of the Miami, 1778; Dr. John Knight, a witness of the burning of Colonel William Crawford in Ohio in 1782; Oliver Spencer, stolen near Cincinnati in 1792 by Indians from the Maumee; Matthew Brayton, kidnapped in Ohio in 1825 and held in the Far Northwest for almost thirty-five years, until he had forgotten his origins; the John Parker family, victims of Comanche in 1836; Olive Oatman, seized by Apache in 1851 and later traded to the Mojave; and Fanny Kelly, prisoner of Ogallala Sioux in 1864.

By the elimination of much extraneous material, Mr. Peckham has enhanced the drama and suspense of the originals; at the same time the stories still illuminate the attitude of both races, Indian customs and domestic life, frontier situations and incidents. The book competently fulfills its intended purpose—an introduction to the captivities—and might appeal especially to high school students and to undergraduates, as well as to the general reader.

Indiana University Frances Krauskopf

The Self-Made Man in America. By Irvin G. Wyllie. (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1954, pp. viii, 210. Illustrations, note on sources, and index. $4.00.)

For some time now many of us have known that the American saga of the self-made man was a myth rather than an undisputed "fact." Often repeated by many different groups, the "rags to riches" theme became, and long remained, a part of our folk literature. For anyone to question it was heresy, if not downright unpatriotic. Irvin G. Wyllie has attempted to uncover the origins of the myth, to analyze it, and to learn by whom it was most used, for what purposes, and with what effect in relation to its legendary hero, the