over the proceedings at Richmond. Here we see the Chief Justice in action, making his rulings in the course of the trial. His cool, cogent arguments stand out in contrast to the eloquent, sometimes emotional arguments of opposing counsel. The reader, whether lawyer or layman, cannot fail to perceive the importance of Marshall's strict interpretation of the constitutional clause defining treason and limiting acceptable procedural proof. Impressive also is the decorum of defense counsel in their nonetheless vigilant defense of their client's rights in this political trial.

The use of the offset process in this publication preserves the format and all the charm of handset type used in the original edition published at Philadelphia in 1808.

University of Pittsburgh

Rosalind L. Branning


This stout, solid, and substantial volume of well over one thousand pages is offered as a corollary to Professor Peterson's earlier analytic study, *The Jefferson in the American Mind.* To write a definitive biography of "The Sage of Monticello" was not the author's aim. Indeed this task has been brilliantly executed so far up to 1805 in the multi-volume effort by Dumas Malone and substantiated by the outpouring of the great editorial project of Julian Boyd, *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson,* which is scheduled eventually to comprise fifty-two volumes.

Peterson rather seeks to present an overview of the elusive personality of Jefferson and finds it is impossible to separate his public career from his private affairs. On this basis he lays down a carefully followed plan of organization, beginning with a "prologue of fame" then on to "philosopher of revolution," followed by sections on Jefferson as a Virginia reformer and war governor, congressman, minister to France, Secretary of State, Vice-President, and ultimately, President for two terms. His last seventeen years in retirement as an elder statesman and founder of the University of Virginia are aptly entitled "The Sage of Monticello." All these events are underscored throughout the book by what Peterson considers are three dominant
motifs: democracy, nationality, and enlightenment. The satisfactory character of the study, however, is due to much more than masterly organization, as Peterson writes with a felicitous style that is both relaxed and absorbing.

Western Pennsylvania provided President Jefferson with a pernicious example of the hazards of Federal decision-making over routes of commerce in relation to the reality of politics during his second Administration in 1806. The President was authorized to fix the route of the Federally-subsidized National Road from Cumberland, Maryland, to Ohio, and while a planning commission recommended a more direct southerly route which barely skirted the Keystone state, the citizens of the town of Washington, Pennsylvania, bitterly objected to being bypassed. Secretary of State Albert Gallatin expeditiously reminded Jefferson that Washington County “had always given a 2,000 vote majority to the Republican party” and should the road not go through the town, “the Federalists might win Pennsylvania in the next election.” As Peterson narrates, Jefferson “recoiled in disgust; still he submitted, directing the commissioner to survey a route through Washington” and thus the National Road was curiously bent.

While the author unfortunately did not choose to include footnotes, “after considerable agonizing,” the bibliography reveals he has fully utilized Jefferson’s voluminous papers along with government documents, contemporary letters, newspapers, and a vast array of secondary sources. In short, Peterson’s study far surpasses Gilbert Chinard’s Thomas Jefferson as the best one-volume biography yet written and makes delightful reading for both the lay person and the historian.

West Texas State University, Canyon

Philip A. Kalisch

BOOK NOTES

Florence C. McLaughlin


Alice Ford is also the author of John James Audubon, Bird Biographies of John James Audubon, Audubon’s Animals, Audubon’s