

A BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE ON SAY'S TWO TRACTS OF MARCH, 1831, AND JANUARY, 1832.—In vol. 8 of "Psyche" (1899, pp. 306-308), S. H. Scudder called attention to the existence of a tract entitled "Descriptions of New Species of North American Insects Found in Louisiana by Joseph Barabino," by Thomas Say. This was published at New Harmony, Indiana, with the date March, 1831, printed on the title page, and has 19 numbered pages. Scudder pointed out that the text matter of this tract differed entirely from the one Say published, also at New Harmony, in January, 1832, under the similar title: "New Species of North American Insects Found by Joseph Barabino Chiefly in Louisiana" (16 numbered pages). The text of the 1832 tract was copied by J. LeConte in his edition of Say's "Complete Writings", 1859, vol. 1, pp. 300-309), but not that of the 1831 tract. Although this was made perfectly clear by Scudder, the matter was misunderstood by W. Horn and S. Schenkling, when they prepared their "Index Litteraturae Entomologicae." The entry No. 190018 in this work (1928, vol. 3, p. 1050) is erroneous in two respects. Both tracts are listed under this one item number and the 1831 tract is given as "separate" (or reprint) of the 1832 tract. In addition the text on pp. 300-309 of the LeConte edition is given as covering both tracts. An original of the March, 1831, tract was for many years in the library of the Boston Society of Natural History. Its present location is unknown to the writer. However, the library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology contains a photostat of the original (including a copy of the Boston Society's bookplate). It may be useful to point out that this tract has no introductory remarks nor any special information on localities additional to the statements given with the several descriptions. Furthermore the description of 3 of the 4 new species of Hymenoptera (*Polistes metrica*, p. 15; *Anthophora frontalis*, p. 16; and *Megachile pollicaris*, p. 17) are copied almost word for word in Say's later article in Boston Jl. Nat. Hist., vol. 1, pt. 4, 1837 (respectively on pp. 388, 409 and 406). The generic name *Megachile* is also misspelled *Megatchile* in 1837, but the specific name is now spelled *pollicaris*. The description of the fourth species, *Formica mellea* (p. 14) is copied in the first installment of the same article, *Op. cit.*, vol. 1, pt. 3, 1836, p. 286. The 1831 tract also contains a redescription of both sexes of *Xylocopa carolina* Fabricius (pp. 18-19), later reproduced by Say in 1837.—J. BEQUAERT, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.



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