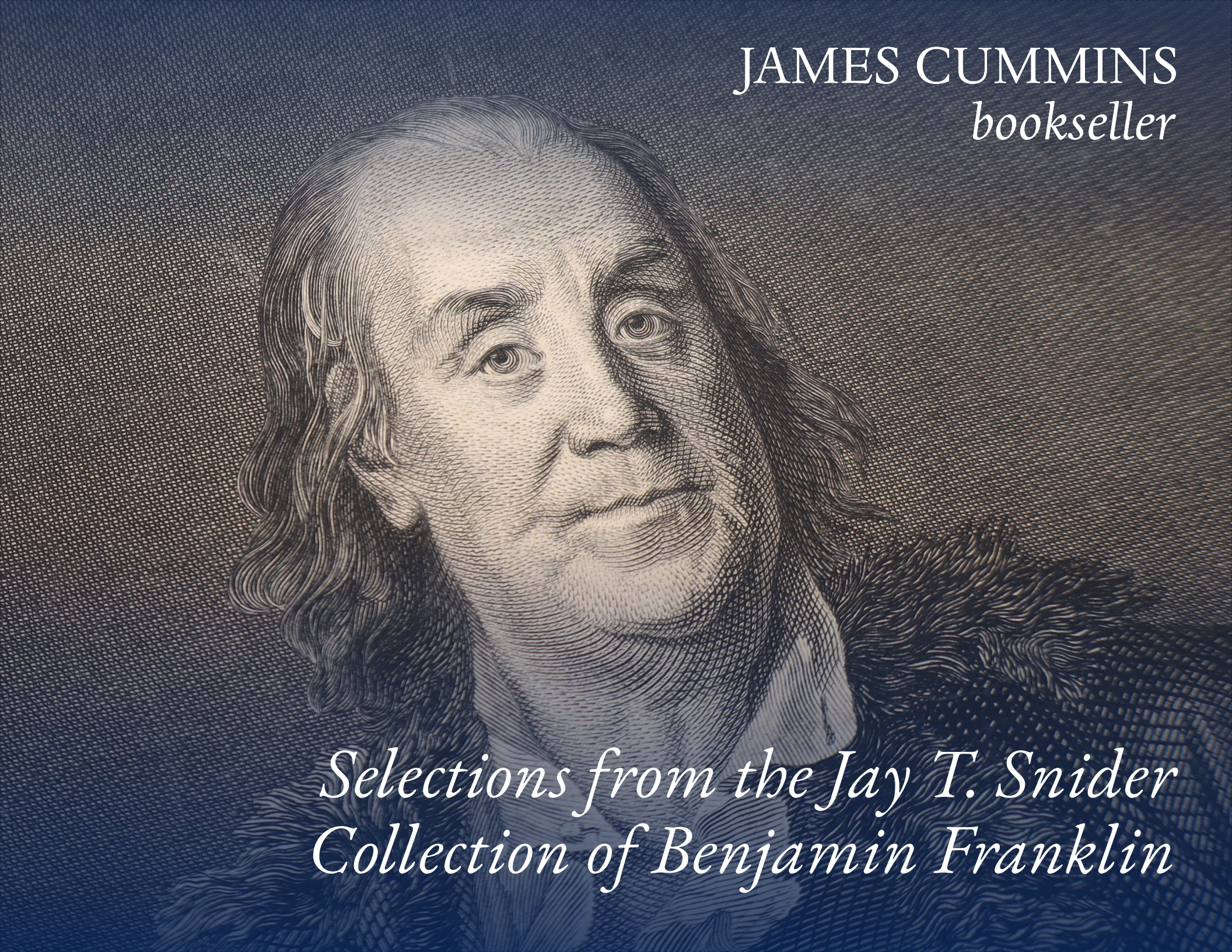


JAMES CUMMINS
bookseller

Selections from the Jay T. Snider Collection of Benjamin Franklin

Introduction

There is perhaps no greater essence of Benjamin Franklin than the wit and wisdom of his *Way to Wealth*. First published as the preface to his *Poor Richard Almanack* for 1758, at least one bibliographer notes that it "deserves to take its place, along with the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, as one of the three foremost American texts of the eighteenth century."

Set against the backdrop of a country auction where a group of businessmen were complaining about the times, they ask an elderly man for his thoughts. "Father Abraham stood up, and replied, 'If you'd have my advice, I'll give it you in short, for a word to the wise is enough, and many words won't fill a bushel, as Poor Richard says.'" What followed was a litany of moralistic aphorisms on life, industry, frugality, and pride, all attributed to Poor Richard.

As an advocate for the colonies, as a diplomat during the Revolutionary War, as a Founding Father helping to shape the new nation, as a scientist and founder of civil institutions, Franklin's advice would find continuing resonance in America not only in his own time but in the centuries that followed. And in that process, his sage counsel would become not only the essence of his own character, but of the American identity.

Collecting all things Franklin has been a passion of Jay Snider for over thirty-five years, gathering in that span an extraordinary group of printed and manuscript material. Deciding to sell his beloved collection was no easy decision, but the idea of returning these items to the market for new collectors to cherish has helped ease that ache. As Franklin himself would write in his mock epitaph at age 22, "But the Work shall not be wholly lost; / For it will, as he believ'd, appear once more, / In a new & more perfect Edition, / Corrected and amended / By the Author."

James Cummins *bookseller* is pleased to offer this selection of Frankliniana from the Snider Collection. Additional catalogues of further selections will be forthcoming.

Each item in this catalogue bears Jay T. Snider's booklabel.

Additional images and descriptions for each item can be found on our website www.jamescumminsbookseller.com.

1 *Typeset by a Young Benjamin Franklin*

(Franklin, Benjamin). [Wollaston, William].

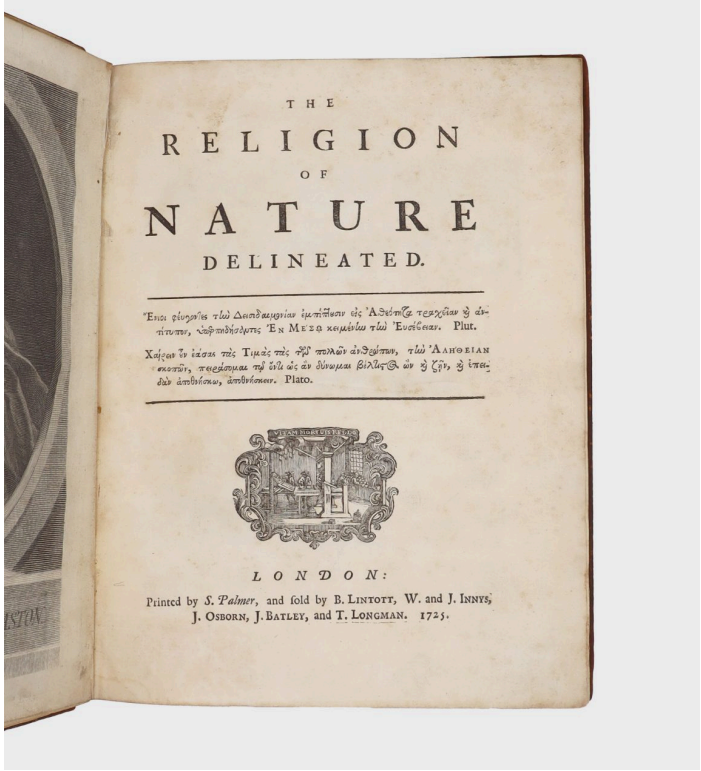
The Religion of Nature Delineated. London: Printed by S. Palmer, 1725.

219 pp. Woodcut title vignette of printing office showing printers typesetting and using handpress. Woodcut headpieces to A2 and B1 rectos. Woodcut tailpieces to A2 verso and Ee4 recto. Woodcut initials. 4to. Contemporary speckled calf, red morocco lettering piece, repairs to joints. ESTC T138365; Ford 6; Campbell, p. 40.

[378234] **$1,750**

The third edition of Wollaston's religious work, after the first of 1722 and a second edition of 1724. This edition was typeset by Benjamin Franklin at the age of nineteen, who had arrived in London from Philadelphia the year before. "Franklin arrived in London, December 24th, 1724, and was employed at S. Palmer's printing office. While there he worked as a compositor on The Religion of Nature Delineated. In his autobiography he says that he worked on the second edition, but this is a mistake, as the second edition was published before the author's death, October 29th, 1724. He must have worked on the edition of 1725, the third, as that was published while he was at Palmer's" (Campbell).

Franklin's work on Wollaston's text made an impression on him, leading him to print a small refutation of it the same year, entitled A Dissertation on Liberty, Necessity, Pleasure and Pain, in an edition of 100 copies, most of which he claimed to have destroyed.


THE
RELIGION
OF
NATURE
DELINEATED.

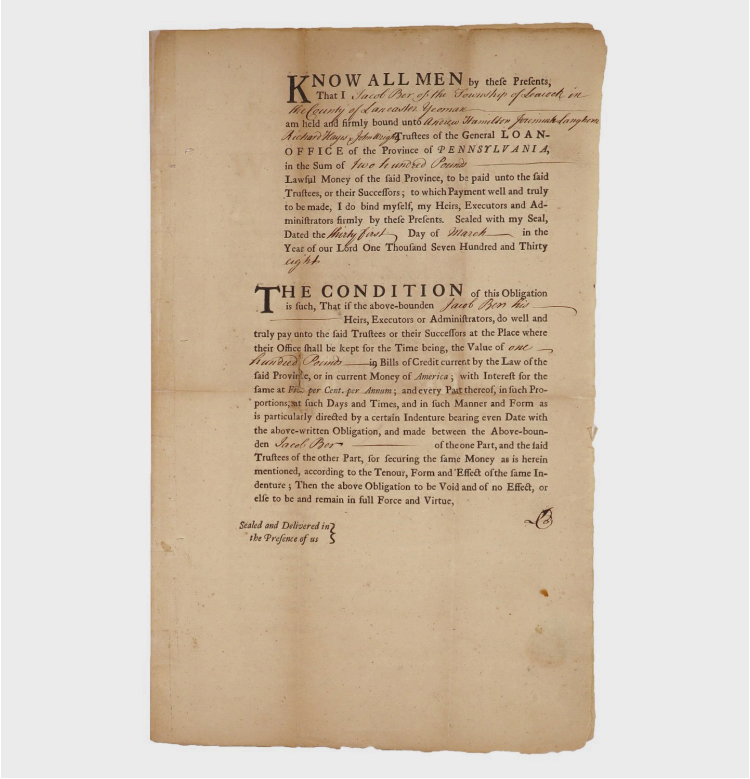
Ἐπει ῥίζαις τῶν Δεισιδαιμονίας ἐμπέπηγεν ὡς Ἀθεότης τερπνὸν ἡ ἀτύπωτος, καθαπερεὶ ἐν Μέσῳ κεῖσθαι τὸν Εὐσέβειαν. Plut.

Χαίρειν ἐν ἐάσας τὰς Τιμὰς τὰς ὑπὸ πολλῶν ἀνθρώπων, τὸν Ἀλήθειαν σκοπῶν, τρεχόμενα τῇ ὄντι ὡς ἂν δύνωμαι βίλτιστ ὢν ᾖ ζῇν, ἡ ἐπειδὰν ἀποθάνω, ἀποθνήσκειν. Plato.

LONDON:

Printed by *S. Palmer*, and sold by B. Lintott, W. and J. Innys, J. Osborn, J. Batley, and T. Longman. 1725.

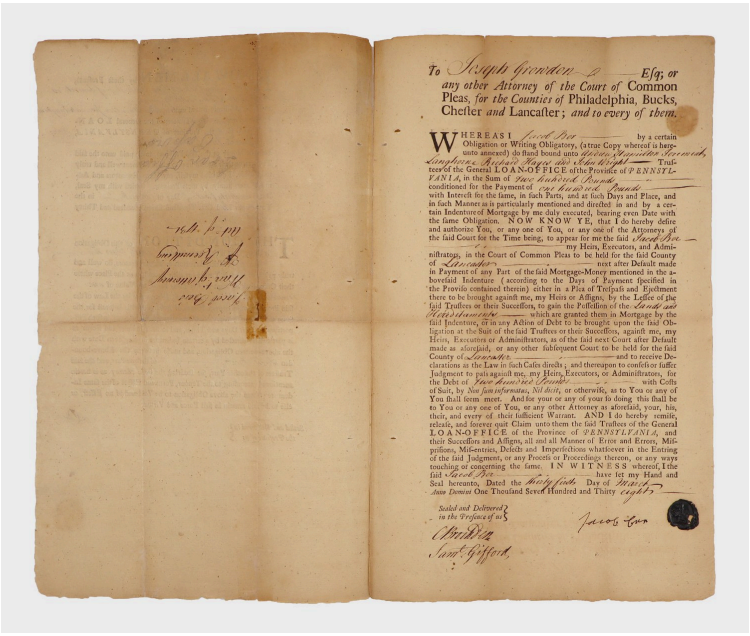




KNOW ALL MEN by these Presents, That I *Jacob Ber of the Township of Lancaster in the County of Lancaster Yeoman* am held and firmly bound unto *Andrew Hamilton Jeremiah Langhorne Richard Hockley John Wright* Trustees of the General LOAN-OFFICE of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in the Sum of *Two hundred Pounds* Lawful Money of the said Province, to be paid unto the said Trustees, or their Successors; to which Payment well and truly to be made, I do bind myself, my Heirs, Executors and Administrators firmly by these Presents. Sealed with my Seal, Dated the *thirty first* Day of *March* in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty *eight*.

THE CONDITION of this Obligation is such, That if the above-bounden *Jacob Ber his* Heirs, Executors or Administrators, do well and truly pay unto the said Trustees or their Successors at the Place where their Office shall be kept for the Time being, the Value of *one Hundred Pounds* in Bills of Credit current by the Law of the said Province, or in current Money of *America*; with Interest for the same at *Five* per Cent. per Annum; and every Part thereof, in such Proportions, at such Days and Times, and in such Manner and Form as is particularly directed by a certain Indenture bearing even Date with the above-written Obligation, and made between the Above-bounden *Jacob Ber* of the one Part, and the said Trustees of the other Part, for securing the same Money as is herein mentioned, according to the Tenour, Form and Effect of the same Indenture; Then the above Obligation to be Void and of no Effect, or else to be and remain in full Force and Virtue,

Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of us



To *Joseph Growden* Esq; or any other Attorney of the Court of Common Pleas, for the Counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester and Lancaster; and to every of them.

WHEREAS I *Jacob Ber* by a certain Obligation or Writing Obligatory, (a true Copy whereof is hereunto annexed) do stand bound unto *Andrew Hamilton Jeremiah Langhorne Richard Hockley* and *John Wright* Trustees of the General LOAN-OFFICE of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in the Sum of *Two hundred Pounds* conditioned for the Payment of *one hundred Pounds* with Interest for the same, in such Parts, and at such Days and Place, and in such Manner as is particularly mentioned and directed in and by a certain Indenture of Mortgage by me duly executed, bearing even Date with the same Obligation. NOW KNOW YE, that I do hereby desire and authorize You, or any one of You, or any one of the Attorneys of the said Court for the Time being, to appear for me the said *Jacob Ber* my Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, in the Court of Common Pleas to be held for the said County of *Lancaster* next after Default made in Payment of any Part of the said Mortgage-Money mentioned in the aforesaid Indenture (according to the Days of Payment specified in the Proviso contained therein) either in a Plea of Trespass and Ejectment there to be brought against me, my Heirs or Assigns, by the Lessee of the said Trustees or their Successors, to gain the Possession of the *Lands and Hereditaments* which are granted them in Mortgage by the said Indenture, or in any Action of Debt to be brought upon the said Obligation at the Suit of the said Trustees or their Successors, against me, my Heirs, Executors or Administrators, as of the said next Court after Default made as aforesaid, or any other subsequent Court to be held for the said County of *Lancaster* and to receive Declarations as the Law in such Cases directs; and thereupon to confess or suffer Judgment to pass against me, my Heirs, Executors, or Administrators, for the Debt of *Two hundred Pounds* with Costs of Suit, by *Non sum informatus, Nil dicit*, or otherwise, as to You or any of You shall seem meet. And for your or any of your so doing this shall be to You or any one of You, or any other Attorney as aforesaid, your, his, their, and every of their sufficient Warrant. AND I do hereby remise, release, and forever quit Claim unto them the said Trustees of the General LOAN-OFFICE of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, and their Successors and Assigns, all and all Manner of Error and Errors, Misprisions, Mis-entries, Defects and Imperfections whatsoever in the Entring of the said Judgment, or any Process or Proceedings thereon, or any ways touching or concerning the same. IN WITNESS whereof, I the said *Jacob Ber* have set my Hand and Seal hereunto, Dated the *thirty first* Day of *March* *Anno Domini* One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty *eight*.

Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of us

Jacob Ber

C. Brockden

Sam. Gifford.

2 *Early Form Attributed to Franklin's Press*

Franklin, Benjamin; printer.

Know All Men by these Presents ... [partly-printed Pennsylvania General Loan Office obligation and warrant, issued to Jacob Ber in the amount of £100]. [Philadelphia]: [Benjamin Franklin], March 31, 1738 [printed 1730-38].

2 pp. on folded bifolium. Accomplished in manuscript, the warrant signed by Ber with his black wax seal and witnessed by C. Brockden and Samuel Gifford. Small folio. Old folds, repairs to separations. cf. Miller 10. Barnhill, "Benjamin Franklin's Job Printing," The Ephemera Journal, 8 (1998), pp. 10-15.

[378077] **$6,000**

An early Pennsylvania Loan Office obligation certificate and warrant, attributed to Benjamin Franklin's Philadelphia press.

From his earliest days of printing in Philadelphia, producing partly-printed legal forms was a critical element of Franklin's business. Such job printing, or "little jobs" as he called them, filled an essential need in the market, allowing for accurate legal prose in a cheap and convenient form, while providing a ready source of revenue. "Franklin, and later Franklin and Hall, along with other Philadelphia printers, must have done numerous reprintings of the forms" (Miller). Such forms, or "blanks," were frequently advertised for sale by Franklin, available at his New Printing Office near Market.

"One can argue that the services of the job printer were essential to the functioning of commerce and that printing job work was equally essential to the survival of printers in colonial America. One advantage of job printing is that the commissions were frequent and they did not tie up large amounts of type or labor for long. Staple products of the press–Bibles, almanacs, school books–did ... Franklin's job printing records underscore these points. The items he published provide a window onto the cultural and social activities of Philadelphia during his printing career ... It seems clear that the products of Franklin and Hall's press played an important role in the commercial and legal aspects of colonial Philadelphia and the surrounding region. ... Surviving imprints suggest the care with which these commissions were prepared. Most lack an imprint, but Miller was able to attribute those items to the press by means of surviving documentation in the account books and ledgers ..." (Barnhill).

Only a handful of such forms are listed within Miller's bibliography, but forms like the present can be ascribed to Franklin's press based on the layout and type, in this case Franklin's English type used from 1728 to 1742 (See Miller, Appendix A, page 501). It is rare to find the obligation and warrant still affixed together.

3 *Colonial Laws Printed by Benjamin Franklin*

Franklin, Benjamin; printer.

The Charters of the Province of Pensilvania [sic] and City of Philadelphia [bound with:] A Collection of all the Laws of the Province of Pennsylvania ... [bound with:] An Appendix; containing a Summary of such Acts of Assembly as Have Been Formerly in Force within this Province. Philadelphia: Printed and Sold by B. Franklin, 1742 [i.e. 1743].

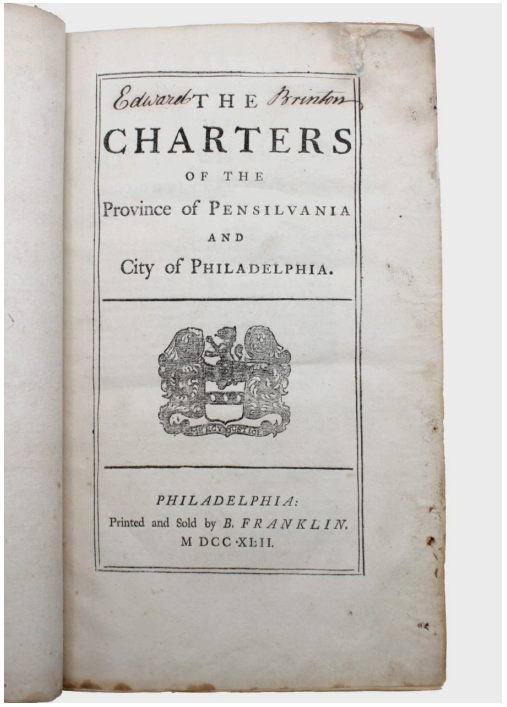
Three parts bound in one. 30; 562; iv, 24, xi, [1, blank] pp. Small folio. First edition. Modern full calf with blind tooling, endpapers renewed. Uneven toning and foxing to interior, fore-edge of contemporary front endleaf and upper corner of title repaired. Provenance: William Darlington (early signature to front endleaf); Edward Brinton (early signature to title of Charters). Evans 5033; Miller 288; Hildeburn 7551a-c; Campbell 237a-c; Sabin 59973, 59982.

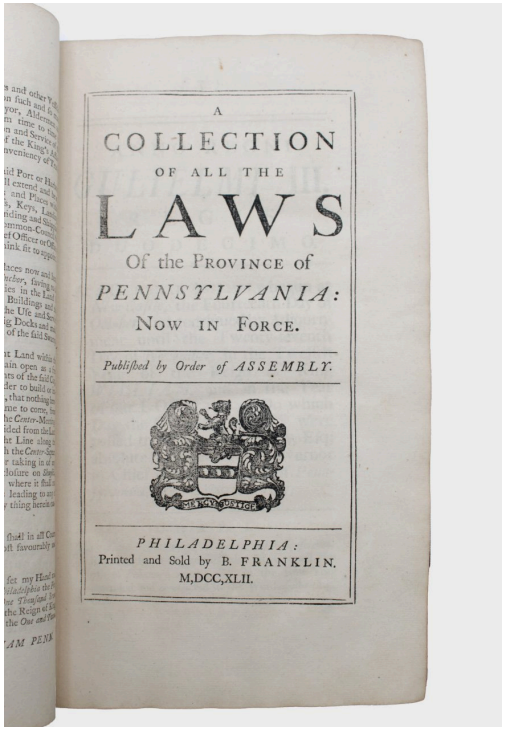
[378427] **$15,000**

An important volume of the Charters and Laws of Pennsylvania and Philadelphia printed by Benjamin Franklin, for which he billed the Assembly £261. The last complete edition of Pennsylvania laws had been printed in 1728 by Andrew Bradford, and the need for a corrected edition led to the appointment in 1739 of Kinsey, Speaker of the Assembly and Attorney General of the Province, to prepare a new edition. Kinsey completed a revised edition in 1741 and turned it over to Franklin, who required two years to complete the job. He finished presswork for the volume in the spring of 1743, the year after the date of imprint. Included are laws on slavery, roads, maritime issues, timber, blasphemy, witchcraft, debt, brandy and ales, Native Americans, and much more.

William Darlington (1782-1863) was a physician and politician who was a member of the US House of Representatives for Pennsylvania's 2nd district from 1815-1817 and again from 1819-1823. He is remembered today for his contributions to botany and natural history.

One of the most extensive and important early Franklin imprints.


Edward THE Brinton
CHARTERS
OF THE
Province of PENSILVANIA
AND
City of PHILADELPHIA.
PHILADELPHIA:
Printed and Sold by B. FRANKLIN.
M DCC XLII.


A
COLLECTION
OF ALL THE
LAWS
Of the PROVINCE of
PENNSYLVANIA:
NOW IN FORCE.
Publiſhed by Order of ASSEMBLY.
PHILADELPHIA:
Printed and Sold by B. FRANKLIN.
M,DCC,XLII.



The American
INSTRUCTOR:
OR,
Young Man's Best Companion.
CONTAINING,
Spelling, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetick, in an easier Way than any yet published; and how to qualify any Person for Business, without the Help of a Master.
Instructions to write Variety of Hands, with Copies both in Prose and Verse. How to write Letters on Business or Friendship. Forms of Indentures, Bonds, Bills of Sale, Receipts, Wills, Leases, Releases, &c.
Also Merchants Accompts, and a short and easy Method of Shop and Book-keeping; with a Description of the several *American* Colonies.
Together with the *Carpenter's* Plain and Exact Rule: Shewing how to measure *Carpenters, Joyners, Sawyers, Bricklayers, Plaisterers, Plumbers, Masons, Glaziers,* and *Painters Work*. How to undertake each Work, and at what Price; the Rates of each Commodity, and the common Wages of Journeymen; with *Gunter's* Line, and *Coggeshall's* Description of the *Sliding-Rule*.
Likewise the PRACTICAL GAUGER made Easy; the Art of *Dialling*, and how to erect and fix any *Dial*; with Instructions for *Dying, Colouring*, and making *Colours*.
To which is added,
The POOR PLANTERS PHYSICIAN.
With Instructions for *Marking on Linnen*; how to *Pickle* and *Preserve*; to make divers Sorts of Wine; and many *excellent Plaisters*, and *Medicines*, necessary in all *Families*.
And also
Prudent Advice to young *Tradesmen* and *Dealers*.
The whole better adapted to these American *Colonies, than any other Book of the like Kind.*
By *GEORGE FISHER*, Accomptant.
The Ninth Edition Revised and Corrected.
PHILADELPHIA: Printed by B. FRANKLIN and D. HALL, at the New-Printing-Office, in *Market-Street*, 1748.

4 *William Franklin's Copy*

(Franklin, William). Fisher, George.

American Instructor: or, Young man's best companion. Containing, spelling, reading, writing, and arithmetick, in an easier way than any yet published; and how to qualify any person for business, without the help of a master. Philadelphia: Printed by B. Franklin and D. Hall, 1748.

4 (of 6) plates; lacks plates at pp. 174 and 376. iv, 378 pp only (lacks A3 and blank A4). 8vo. First American edition. Contemporary calf, ruled in blind, spine with raised bands, loss at head of spine. Foxing and staining. Blue morocco backed slipcase. Provenance: William Franklin (signature on title and inscriptions in his hand on the pastedown and verso of the title). Evans 6238; Hildeburn 1062; Miller 439; Rosenbach 31; Rink 140; ESTC W11564.

[378202] **$15,000**

Benjamin Franklin printed this first American edition of Fisher's text, first published in London in 1730 as The Instructor, and revised it for his Colonial audience. Among those revisions was the edition of Franklin's own essay Advice to a Young Tradesman, with the famous saying "Remember that Time is Money."

Remarkably, the present example with provenance to William Franklin (1730-1813), signed by him as a young man on the title. William Franklin, Benjamin Franklin's extra-marital son, was raised by his father and Deborah Read, his father's common-law wife. It would seem no coincidence, that the inscriptions within the book by William Franklin have a distinctly Benjamin Franklin-esque resonance.

On the front pastedown, in William Franklin's hand, are the final two lines of a 17th-century poem by James Shirley titled The Glories of Our Blood and State: "Only the actions of the just / smell sweet & blossom in the dust." On the verso of the title is a lengthier inscription by William Franklin, being several stanzas from a poem by Laetitia Pilkington, an 18th-century Anglo-Irish poet, beginning: "I envy not the Proud their wealth / Their equipage & State; / Give me but innocence & Health / I ask not to be great..."

A remarkable association copy of a rare book.

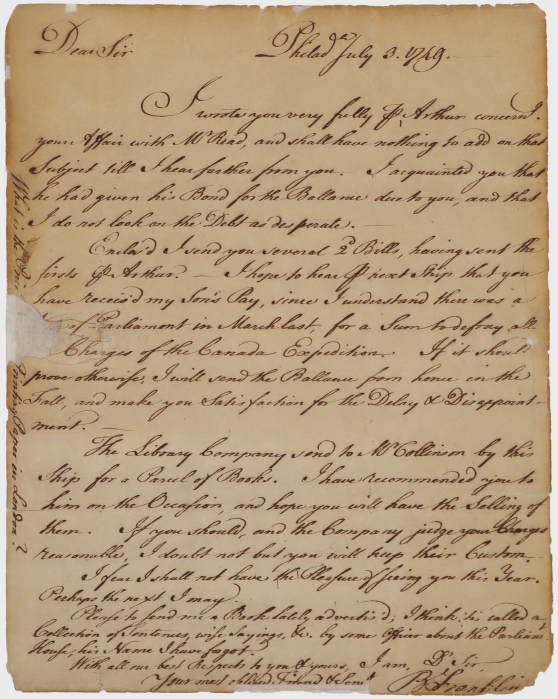
5 *Franklin on Printing, Bookselling and the Library Company*

Franklin, Benjamin.

Autograph Letter, Signed "B. Franklin" to William Strahan, regarding the Library Company and various printing and publishing matters. Philadelphia: July 3, 1749.

1 p., folded sheet with integral address leaf. Toned, especially verso of address leaf, seal tear and several marginal chips skillfully repaired with tissue, costing three words and portions of several letters, central fold reinforced with tissue. Half-brown morocco folding-case gilt, chemise. Provenance: The Rosenbach Company (catalogue 8, 1776 Americana [1926], item 53); Laird U. Park Jr. (Sotheby's New York, 29 November 2000, lot 105). Papers of Benjamin Franklin, ed. Labaree, 3:381-82 (text reprinted from Works, ed. Bigelow, with many variations in capitalization and incidentals).

[379262] **$35,000**



Franklin begins his letter with a summary of Strahan's "affair with Mr. Read." James Read, a neighbor and rival bookseller of Franklin's, had received a large consignment of books from Strahan in 1745. After three years had passed without any payment, Strahan gave Franklin power of attorney to pursue the debt. This Franklin did, but without much vigor, as is reflected in his present explanation to Strahan that he "shall have nothing to add on that Subject till I hear further from you. I acquainted you that he had given his Bond for the Ballance due to you, and that I do not look on the Debt as desperate."

Franklin continues the letter in an accounting vein: "Enclos'd I send you several 2d Bills, having sent the firsts per Arthur.— I hope to hear per next Ship that you have reciev'd my Son's Pay, since I understand there was a [Bill] of Parliament in March last, for a Sum to defray all [the] Charges of the Canada Expedition. If it should prove otherwise, I will send the Ballance from hence in the Fall, and make you Satisfaction for the Delay & Disappointment." Franklin is evidently referring here to bills laid before Parliament by the Secretary at War for expenses incurred during King George's War, including the charges for supporting the troops from Pennsylvania; William Franklin had served as a captain in the Pennsylvania provincial troops during this war.

continued



5 *continued*

Turning to the more pleasant topic of books, Franklin reveals that he has recommended that the Library Company of Philadelphia retain Strahan as a book vendor: "The Library Company send to Mr. Collinson by this Ship for a Parcel of Books. I have recommended you to him on the Occasion, and hope you will have the Selling of them. If you should, and the Company judge your Charges reasonable, I doubt not but you will keep their Custom." Peter Collinson, a Quaker merchant and naturalist, was the Library Company's first purchasing agent in London. Thinking of keeping current of competitors to Poor Richard — or searching for material for it — Franklin asks Strahan to "Please to send me a Book lately advertis'd; I think 'tis called a Collection of Sentences, wise Sayings, &c. by some Officer about the Parliamt. House, his Name I have forgot." (The volume in question was Charles Palmer's 1748 Collection of Select Aphorisms and Maxims, and Franklin did in fact appropriate for Poor Richard several aphorisms from it.)

Franklin adds an interrogatory postscript in the left margin—"What is the Price [of] Printing Paper in London?"—before concluding, "With all our best Respects to you & yours, I am, Dr Sir, Your most obliged Friend & Serv[an]t."



May 25. 1749. NUMB. 1067.

The Pennsylvania GAZETTE.

Containing the freſheſt Advices, Foreign and Domeſtick.

The following bill coming to hand ſince our laſt, and the abſtract publiſhed not expreſſing clearly the meaning of ſaid bill, it is hoped the inſerting it at length will be agreeable to our readers.

A BILL *to regulate and reſtrain paper bills of credit in the* British *colonies and plantations in* America, *and to prevent the ſame being legal tenders in payments for money; and for the better enforcing his majeſty's orders and inſtructions throughout the ſaid colonies and plantations.*

WHEREAS the creating and iſſuing of paper bills of credit in the *British* colonies and plantations in *America*, by virtue of acts, orders, reſolutions, or votes, made or paſſed by any governor, council, or aſſembly, in any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, and making legal the tender of ſuch bills of credit in payment for debts, dues, and demands, hath been a great diſcouragement to commerce, by occaſioning confuſion in dealings, and leſſening of credit in theſe parts:

And whereas, for remedying the inconveniencies which have ariſen from the creating and iſſuing of ſuch paper bills of credit in the ſaid colonies and plantations, his majeſty has been pleaſed to require and command the reſpective governors of his colonies and plantations in *America* punctually and effectually to obſerve his majeſty's royal inſtructions, not to give aſſent to, or to paſs, any act, whereby bills of credit may be iſſued in lieu of money; unleſs a clauſe be inſerted in ſuch acts, declaring that the ſame ſhall not take effect until the ſaid act ſhall be approved by his majeſty:

And whereas, notwithſtanding his majeſty's royal orders and inſtructions, and for want of a due obſervance of the ſame, ſeveral inſtructions of creating, iſſuing, and emitting paper bills of credit are ſtill carried on within ſome of the ſaid colonies or plantations, to the great prejudice of the trade of his majeſty's ſubjects:

Therefore, for the more effectual remedying of the ſaid inconveniencies,

May it please your moſt excellent MAJESTY,

That it may be *enacted*; *and be it enacted*, by the KING's moſt excellent *majeſty*, by and with the advice and conſent of the lords ſpiritual and temporal, and commons, in this preſent parliament aſſembled, and by the authority of the ſame, that from and after the day of

it ſhall not be lawful for any governor, council, or aſſembly, for the time being, or any of them, or any lieutenant-governor, or perſon preſiding or acting as governor for the time being, either within each of the ſaid colonies or plantations as are ſubject to the government of the proprietors thereof, or to a government conſtituted by royal charter; or within ſuch of the ſaid colonies and plantations as are ſubject by their royal inſtructions in that behalf, to his majeſty's immediate commiſſion and government, to make or paſs, or give his or their aſſent to the making or paſſing of any act, order, reſolution, or vote, within any of the ſaid plantations or colonies, whereby any paper bills, or bills of credit, of any kind or denomination, ſhall be created or iſſued, under any pretence whatſoever; or whereby the time limited, or the proviſions made, for the calling in, ſinking, or diſcharging of ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, as are already ſubſiſting, and paſſing in payment, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, ſhall be protracted or poſtponed; or whereby the ſame ſhall be ordered or allowed to be re-iſſued, or to obtain a new and further currency; and that all ſuch acts, orders, reſolutions, or votes, which ſhall or may be paſſed or made after the ſaid day of within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, ſhall be, and are hereby declared to be, null and void, and of no force or effect whatſoever; any law, cuſtom, or uſage, to the contrary in any-wiſe notwithſtanding.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforeſaid, that all ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, as are now ſubſiſting, and paſſing in payment, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, or any of them, ſhall, from and after the expiration, or other ſooner determination, of the reſpective periods of time within which the ſame, or any of them, now ſtand limited to be called in, ſunk, or diſcharged, according to the tenor of the reſpective acts, orders, votes, or reſolutions, for creating and iſſuing, or continuing the ſame reſpectively, as aforeſaid, ſhall be accounted, received, taken, or paid, for the diſcharge of any contracts or bargains, debts, dues, or demands; all perſons who ſhall pay or tender the ſame in account, as aforeſaid, ſhall be liable and ſubject to pay, ſatisfy, and diſcharge, ſuch contracts or bargains, debts, dues, or demands, in the ſame manner, to all intents and purpoſes, as if no ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, had been accounted, taken, received, or paid, for the diſcharge of ſuch contracts or bargains, debts, dues, or demands, as aforeſaid: And all creditors within any of the ſaid colonies and plantations, notwithſtanding the tender and offard receipt thereof, ſhall and may ſue for and recover the value of their debts in manner, as fully as if no ſuch paper bills of credit had been at any time tendered or accepted.

Provided neverthelaſs, That nothing in this act contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to reſtrain his majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, from authorizing, from time to time, as they ſhall judge neceſſary or proper, governor or governors within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, to give his or their aſſent to any act or acts of aſſembly hereafter to be made in any of the ſaid colonies or plantations; for the creating and iſſuing of ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, of any kind or denomination, ſhall be created or iſſued, under any pretence whatſoever; or whereby the time limited, or the proviſions made, for the calling in, ſinking, or diſcharging of ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, as are already ſubſiſting, and paſſing in payment, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, ſhall be protracted or poſtponed; or whereby the ſame ſhall be ordered or allowed to be re-iſſued, or to obtain a new and further currency; and that all ſuch acts, orders, reſolutions, or votes, which ſhall or may be paſſed or made after the ſaid day of within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, ſhall be, and are hereby declared to be, null and void, and of no force or effect whatſoever; any law, cuſtom, or uſage, to the contrary in any-wiſe notwithſtanding.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforeſaid, that all ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, as are now ſubſiſting, and paſſing in payment, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, or any of them, ſhall, from and after the expiration, or other ſooner determination, of the reſpective periods of time within which the ſame, or any of them, now ſtand limited to be called in, ſunk, or diſcharged, according to the tenor of the reſpective acts, orders, votes, or reſolutions, for creating and iſſuing, or continuing the ſame reſpectively, as aforeſaid, ſhall be accounted, received, taken, or paid, for the diſcharge of any contracts or bargains, debts, dues, or demands; all perſons who ſhall pay or tender the ſame in account, as aforeſaid, ſhall be liable and ſubject to pay, ſatisfy, and diſcharge, ſuch contracts or bargains, debts, dues, or demands, in the ſame manner, to all intents and purpoſes, as if no ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, had been accounted, taken, received, or paid, for the diſcharge of ſuch contracts or bargains, debts, dues, or demands, as aforeſaid: And all creditors within any of the ſaid colonies and plantations, notwithſtanding the tender and offard receipt thereof, ſhall and may ſue for and recover the value of their debts in manner, as fully as if no ſuch paper bills of credit had been at any time tendered or accepted.

Provided neverthelaſs, That nothing in this act contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to reſtrain his majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, from authorizing, from time to time, as they ſhall judge neceſſary or proper, governor or governors within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, to give his or their aſſent to any act or acts of aſſembly hereafter to be made in any of the ſaid colonies or plantations; for the creating and iſſuing of ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, of any kind or denomination, ſhall be created or iſſued, under any pretence whatſoever; or whereby the time limited, or the proviſions made, for the calling in, ſinking, or diſcharging of ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, as are already ſubſiſting, and paſſing in payment, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, ſhall be protracted or poſtponed; or whereby the ſame ſhall be ordered or allowed to be re-iſſued, or to obtain a new and further currency; and that all ſuch acts, orders, reſolutions, or votes, which ſhall or may be paſſed or made after the ſaid day of within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, ſhall be, and are hereby declared to be, null and void, and of no force or effect whatſoever; any law, cuſtom, or uſage, to the contrary in any-wiſe notwithſtanding.

Provided alſo, that nothing herein contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to reſtrain his majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, from authorizing, by their royal inſtructions, any governor or governors, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations to give his or their aſſent to any act or acts of aſſembly hereafter to be made in any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, for creating and iſſuing ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, in lieu of, and for taking ſuch reaſonable ſum or ſums of money as ſhall at any time hereafter be judged neceſſary or expedient to be borrowed and taken up upon any ſudden and extraordinary emergency of government, and for the immediate ſupport and defence thereof; ſo as in every ſuch act or acts of aſſembly, for the emiſſion of paper bills, or bills of credit, to be iſſued as aforeſaid, due care be taken to aſcertain the real value of all ſuch principal ſums to be borrowed and taken up upon the ſecurity thereof; and ſo as care be likewiſe taken in the ſaid act or acts to eſtabliſh and provide an ample and ſufficient fund for the calling in, diſcharging, and ſinking, within as ſhort and reaſonable a time as may be, as well the principal ſum to be borrowed, as all arrears of intereſt, which ſhall have accrued thereon to the time of calling in, diſcharging, and ſinking the ſame.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforeſaid, that no paper bills, or bills of credit, which ſhall or may, from and after the day of be created or iſſued within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, by virtue and in purſuance of the inſtructions of his majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, given to any governor or governors for the time being, as aforeſaid, ſhall be accounted, received, taken, or paid, for the diſcharge of any contracts or bargains, debts, dues, or demands, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations; but that it ſhall and may be lawful to and for all perſons to refuſe to take ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, in diſcharge or payment of any contracts or bargains, debts, dues, or demands whatſoever; any thing herein before-contained to the contrary thereof in any-wiſe notwithſtanding.

Provided alſo, that nothing in this act contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to make legal the tender of any paper bills, or bills of credit, iſſued before the ſaid day of in payment of any private debts, dues, or demands, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations.

Provided alſo, that nothing herein contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to reſtrain his majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, from authorizing, by their royal inſtructions, any governor or governors, within any of the ſaid colonies or plantations to give his or their aſſent to any act or acts of aſſembly hereafter to be made in any of the ſaid colonies or plantations, for creating and iſſuing ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, in lieu of, and for taking ſuch reaſonable ſum or ſums of money as ſhall be deemed requiſite for the current ſervice of the year, ſo as by ſuch act or acts of aſſembly, whereby ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, ſhall be created or iſſued, ſufficient proviſion be made to ſecure the calling in, diſcharging, and ſinking of the ſame, within a reaſonable time, not exceeding the ſpace of to be computed from the dates of the reſpective acts whereby ſuch paper bills, or bills of credit, were created and iſſued; any thing herein before-contained to the contrary thereof in any-wiſe notwithſtanding.

Provided alſo, that nothing herein contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to reſtrain his majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, from authorizing, by their royal inſtructions, any

6 *Franklin Prints a Bill to Restrict Paper Currency in the Colonies*

(Franklin, Benjamin).

A Bill to Regulate and Restrain Paper Bills of Credit in the British Colonies and Plantations in America ... [within The Pennsylvania Gazette ... May 25, 1749]. Philadelphia: B. Franklin and D. Hall, May 25, 1749. 4 pp. Bifolium. Disbound.

[378877] **$3,000**

A printing of a proposed bill in a committee of the House of Commons to regulate and limit colonial paper currency, printed by Benjamin Franklin in his Pennsylvania Gazette. The Bill, among the first such acts of Parliament, would eventually fail but it laid the groundwork for the Currency Acts of 1751 and 1764, both of which would be important landmarks in the rising resistance to Parliamentary control over matters of internal colonial finance previously managed by colonial legislatures. Those arguments would come to a head with the passage of the dreaded Stamp Act.

Franklin could certainly claim to be the foremost expert on paper currency in America, having advocated its circulation for decades as a way to promote trade and expand the colonial economies. One of his very first publications, written by himself, was A Modest Enquiry into the Nature and Necessity of a Paper Currency (Philadelphia, 1729). He also had tremendous practical experience in its production, having been in charge of the issue of paper currency in Pennsylvania as early as 1730. Obviously perturbed by the attempt to restrict paper currency in America, he here printed the act on the first page of his Pennsylvania Gazette.

7 *Rare Franklin Imprint*

(Franklin Imprint). [Dodsley, Robert].

The Oeconomy of Human Life. Translated from an Indian manuscript, written by an ancient Bramin. To which is prefixed, an account of the manner in which the said manuscript was discover'd. In a letter from an English gentleman, now residing in China, to the Earl of **. The Seventh Edition.** Philadelphia: Re-printed and sold by B. Franklin, and D. Hall, 1752.

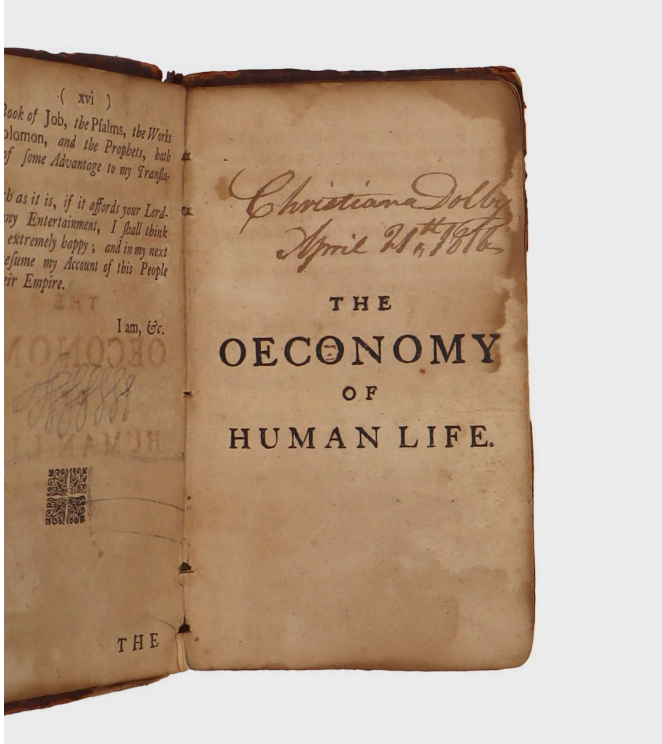
xxii, 96, [2] pp. Publisher's ad on final leaf. 12mo. Second American edition. Contemporary sheep, blind tooled double fillet border, worn. Dampstaining and browning, title page paper backed. Red morocco backed slipcase. Provenance: Ann Wessels (inscription dated 1782); John Dawkin (inscription done at sea dated 1791); Christiana Dolby (signature dated 1818). Miller 549; Evans 6837; Campbell 487; ESTC W20787. Eddy, Donald D. "Dodsley's 'Oeconomy of Human Life,' 1750-1751." Modern Philology, vol. 85, no. 4, 1988, pp. 460–79.

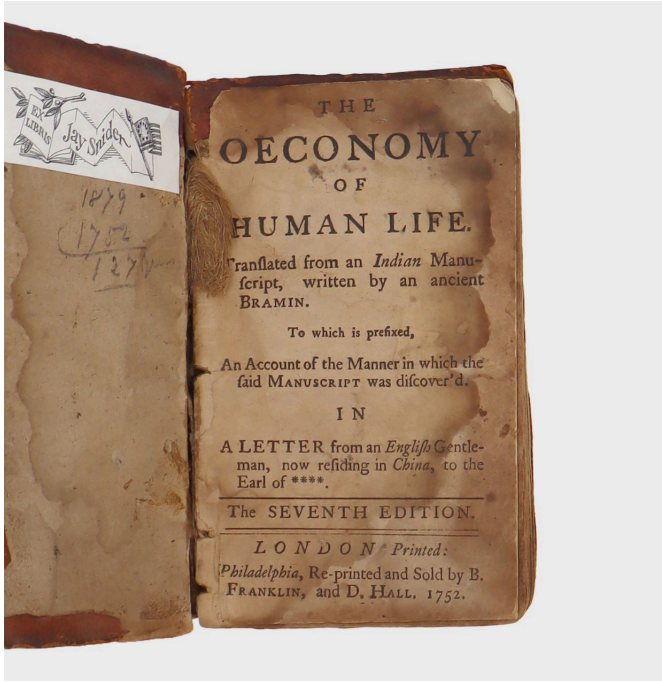
[378122] **$15,000**

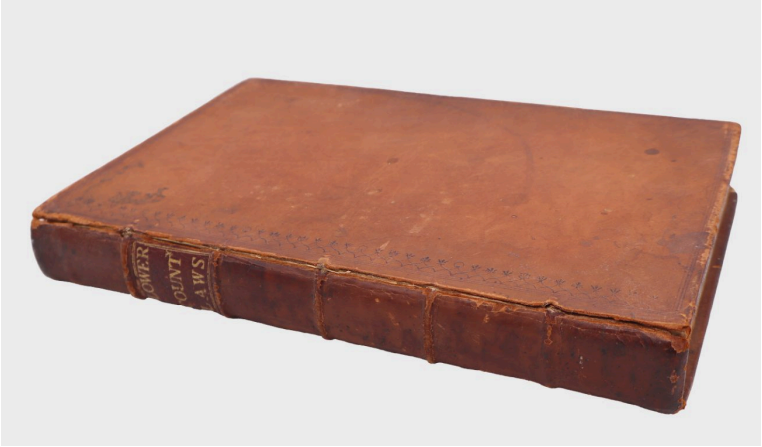
"Perhaps no book published in the eighteenth century was issued in more separate printings than Robert Dodsley's Oeconomy of Human Life. By the end of the century about two hundred editions had appeared, including forty-eight American editions as well as translations into Latin, Hebrew, Russian, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Danish. In addition there were a host of imitations and parodies, separately printed and in newspapers and magazines. By contrast, works such as Gulliver's Travels, Robinson Crusoe, and Gray's Elegy seem like publishing failures ... The general reader in London in the mid-eighteenth century displayed a strong preference for works of didactic morality, and Robert Dodsley, both as publisher and author, successfully catered to this taste" (Eddy).

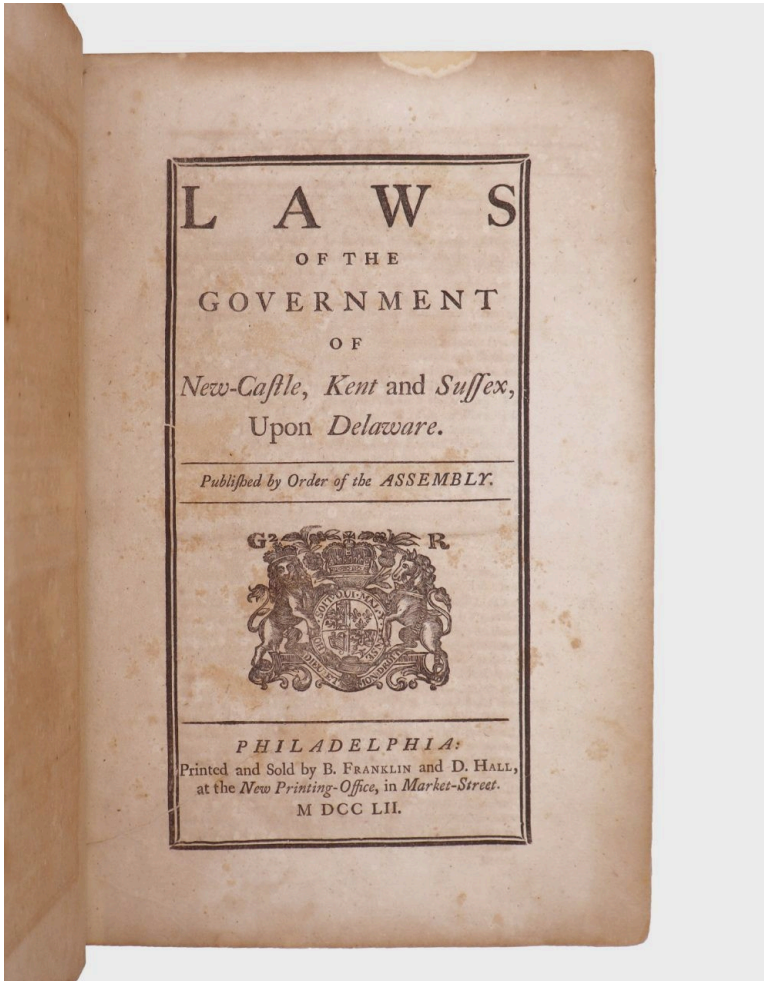
The first American edition of the first part was published by Franklin and Hall in 1751 (Miller 525), noted on the title as the Sixth Edition and advertised by Franklin in the Pennsylvania Gazette on July 4, 1751: "This little beautiful Piece of Morality has met with unusual Acceptance and Approbation in England, no less than five Editions having been printed and sold there in a few months" (quoted in Miller). Franklin and Hall republished the first part the following year, as here, to coincide with their first publication of the second part (Miller 550).

Very rare, with ESTC and Miller locating only a single copy at Haverford College.








LAWS
OF THE
GOVERNMENT
OF
New-Caſtle, Kent and *Suſſex*,
Upon *Delaware*.

Publiſhed by Order of the ASSEMBLY.

PHILADELPHIA:
Printed and Sold by B. FRANKLIN and D. HALL,
at the *New Printing-Office*, in *Market-Street*.
M DCC LII.

8 *Early Delaware Laws Printed by Franklin in a Contemporary Muir Binding*

(Delaware). Chew, Benjamin, compilor.

Laws of the Government of New-Castle, Kent and Sussex, Upon Delaware. Published by Order of the Assembly. Philadelphia: Printed and Sold by B. Franklin and D. Hall, 1752.

363, [1], xvii pp. Folio. Contemporary calf, attributed to Philadelphia binder William Muir, covers bordered in blind, spine with raised bands, red morocco lettering piece, front hinge cracked, but holding by one cord. Leaves tanned, occasional foxing. In a half morocco box. Provenance: James Hollyday (early signature); Dr. John Hansell. Evans 6835; Tower Collection 110; Miller 548; Campbell 486; Hildeburn 1252; Sabin 19391.

[378217] **$25,000**

An important and rare volume of colonial laws for Delaware printed by Benjamin Franklin, here in a lovely contemporary binding by a known Philadelphia binder.

"This edition of the Laws of the Assembly of the Lower Counties is significant for its inclusiveness; it contains 129 laws, or more than twice the number found in the first edition of 1741, which Franklin had printed. The compilation was the work of Benjamin Chew (1722-1780), who became years later Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Because the Assembly of the Lower Counties was far less regular in ordering the publication of its acts than the Pennsylvania Assembly, Chew found it necessary to list all the repealed laws since 1700 and to endorse personally, i.e., 'Examined, B. Chew' 51 laws which had not been printed" (Miller).

A very nice copy in the original binding by William Muir of Philadelphia, entirely unsophisticated.

9 *Franklin on Electricity*

(Franklin, Benjamin).

Philosophical Transactions giving some Account of the Present Undertakings, Studies, and Labours of the Ingenious in many Considerable Parts of the World. Vol XLVII. For the Years 1751 and 1752. 20 engraved plates (most folding), folding table. London: Printed for C. Davis, Printer to the Royal Society, 1753.

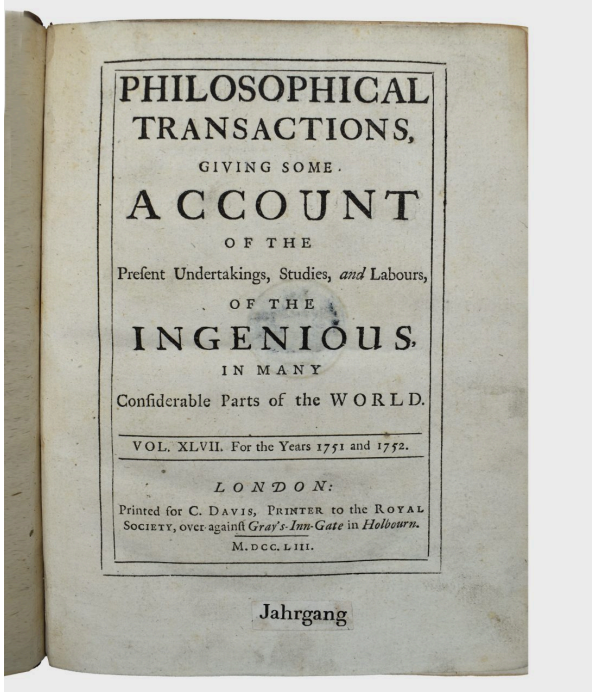
[18], 571, [17] pp. 4to. Early half calf and pastepaper boards, a bit worn. Inked collector's stamp on verso of title.

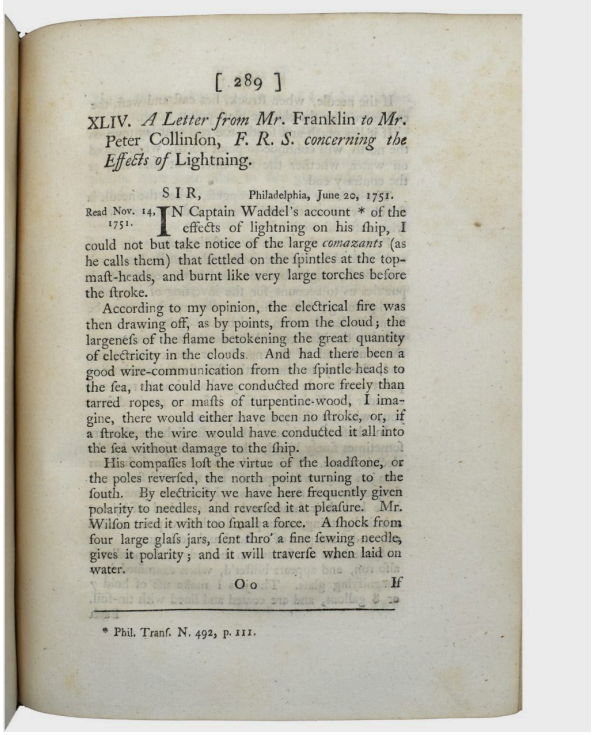
[378923] **$5,000**

A seminal volume of the Transactions, containing Franklin's official account of his discoveries concerning electricity and the first publication of his electrical kite experiment to the European scientific community.

The volume includes "A Letter from Mr. Franklin to Mr. Peter Collinson, F.R.S. concerning the Effects of Lightning" (pp. 289-291), describing the effects of lightning strikes on ships's compasses; and "A letter of Benjamin Franklin to ... Collinson concerning an electrical Kite," (pp. 565-567) which gives instructions on how to replicate Franklin's famous kite experiment. The letter on the kite experiment is dated from Philadelphia on October 1, 1752, and it was read just two-and-a-half months later, on Dec. 21, 1752.

Also included is William Watson's "Account of Mr. Benjamin Franklin's Treatise, lately published, intituled, Experiments and Observations on Electricity, made at Philadelphia in America".


PHILOSOPHICAL
TRANSACTIONS,
GIVING SOME
ACCOUNT
OF THE
Present Undertakings, Studies, *and* Labours,
OF THE
INGENIOUS,
IN MANY
Conſiderable Parts of the WORLD.
VOL. XLVII. For the Years 1751 and 1752.
LONDON:
Printed for C. DAVIS, PRINTER to the ROYAL SOCIETY, over againſt *Gray's-Inn-Gate* in *Holbourn*.
M.DCC.LIII.
Jahrgang


[289]

XLIV. *A Letter from Mr.* Franklin *to Mr.* Peter Collinſon, *F. R. S. concerning the Effects of* Lightning.

SIR, Philadelphia, June 20, 1751.

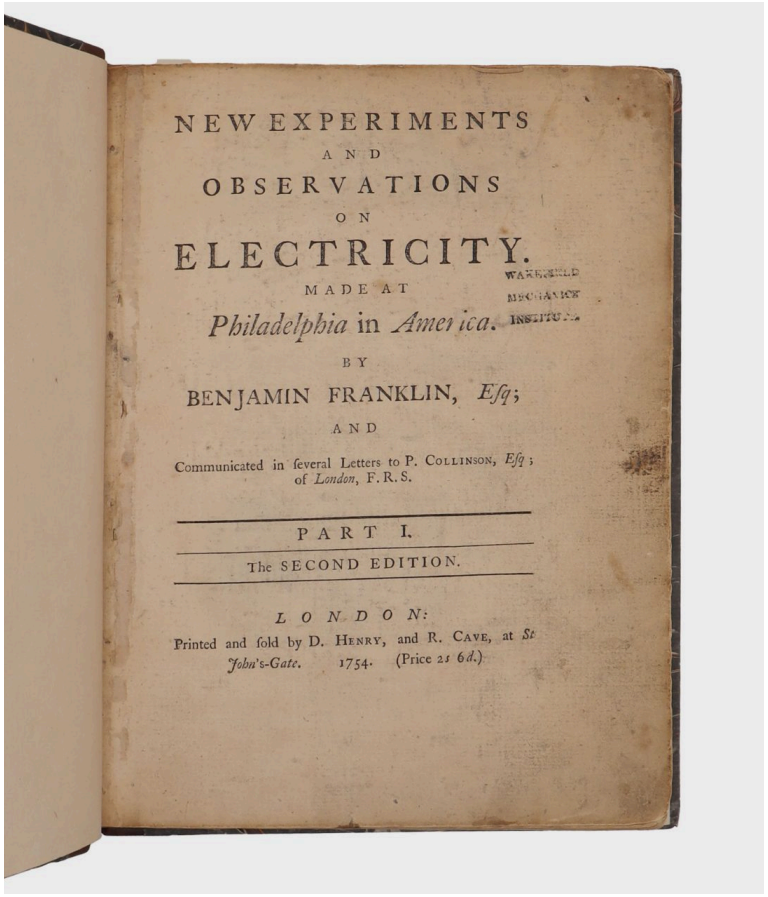
Read Nov. 14, 1751. IN Captain Waddel's account * of the effects of lightning on his ſhip, I could not but take notice of the large *comazants* (as he calls them) that ſettled on the ſpintles at the top-maſt-heads, and burnt like very large torches before the ſtroke.

According to my opinion, the electrical fire was then drawing off, as by points, from the cloud; the largeneſs of the flame betokening the great quantity of electricity in the clouds. And had there been a good wire-communication from the ſpintle-heads to the ſea, that could have conducted more freely than tarred ropes, or maſts of turpentine-wood, I imagine, there would either have been no ſtroke, or, if a ſtroke, the wire would have conducted it all into the ſea without damage to the ſhip.

His compaſſes loſt the virtue of the loadſtone, or the poles reverſed, the north point turning to the ſouth. By electricity we have here frequently given polarity to needles, and reverſed it at pleaſure. Mr. Wilſon tried it with too ſmall a force. A ſhock from four large glaſs jars, ſent thro' a fine ſewing needle, gives it polarity; and it will traverſe when laid on water.

Oo If

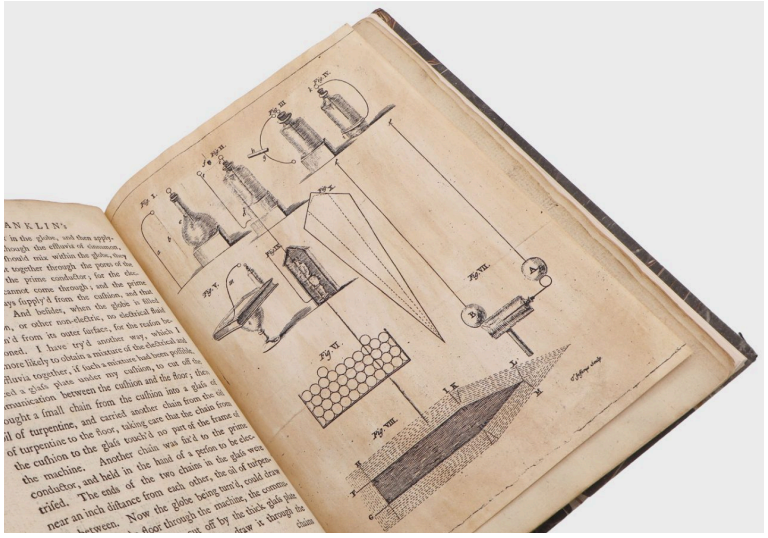
* Phil. Tranſ. N. 492, p. 111.



NEW EXPERIMENTS
AND
OBSERVATIONS
ON
ELECTRICITY.
MADE AT
Philadelphia in *America*.
BY
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, *Esq*;
AND
Communicated in several Letters to P. COLLINSON, *Esq*; of *London*, F. R. S.

PART I.
The SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:
Printed and sold by D. HENRY, and R. CAVE, at *St John's-Gate*. 1754. (Price 2*s* 6*d*.)



10 *Second Editions of the First Two Parts of Franklin's Electricity*

Franklin, Benjamin.

New Experiments and Observations on Electricity. Made at Philadelphia in America ... Part I ... [Bound with:] Part II ... London: Printed and sold by D. Henry, and R. Cave, at St. John's-Gate, 1754.

Two parts bound in one volume. [2], 86; [2], [89]-109, [1] pp. Folding plate in Part I in facsimile. Some early manuscript marginalia. 4to. Second editions of the first two parts. Modern calf-backed marbled paper covered boards. Provenance: Wakefield Mechanics Institute (inked stamp); Thomas Robb (armorial bookplate). Howes F320; Ford 78 and 94; PMM 199; Sabin 25559; Dibner, Heralds of Science 57; ESTC N23554.

[378125] **$9,500**

Second editions of the first two parts of Franklin's work on electricity. "America's first great scientific contribution" (Howes) and "the most important scientific book of eighteenth-century America" (PMM).

Franklin began his famous experiments on electricity in 1745, demonstrating the electrical properties of lightning and inventing the lightning conductor. This volume includes summaries of his work with Leyden jars, charged clouds and lightning rods, as well as his famous kite and key experiment. Beginning in 1747 he described his experiments to his London friend and fellow scientist, Peter Collinson, in a series of letters which outlined his experiments and conclusions, which led to the first proper understanding of the properties of electricity. Collinson thought Franklin's research so important, he published it without obtaining Franklin's permission. In 1753, this time with Franklin's leave, he published additional material, most famously the description of the kite experiment, and the following year the third part, with further elaboration. Franklin subsequently oversaw numerous editions of Electricity while he was a resident in London from 1757 to 1774.

All editions prior to the 1769 one-volume collected edition are scarce .

11 *Poor Richard's Almanac*

[Franklin, Benjamin].

Poor Richard Improved: Being an Almanack and Ephemeris of the Motions of the Sun and Moon ... For the Year of our Lord 1755 ... By Richard Saunders. Philadelphia: B. Franklin and D. Hall, [1754].

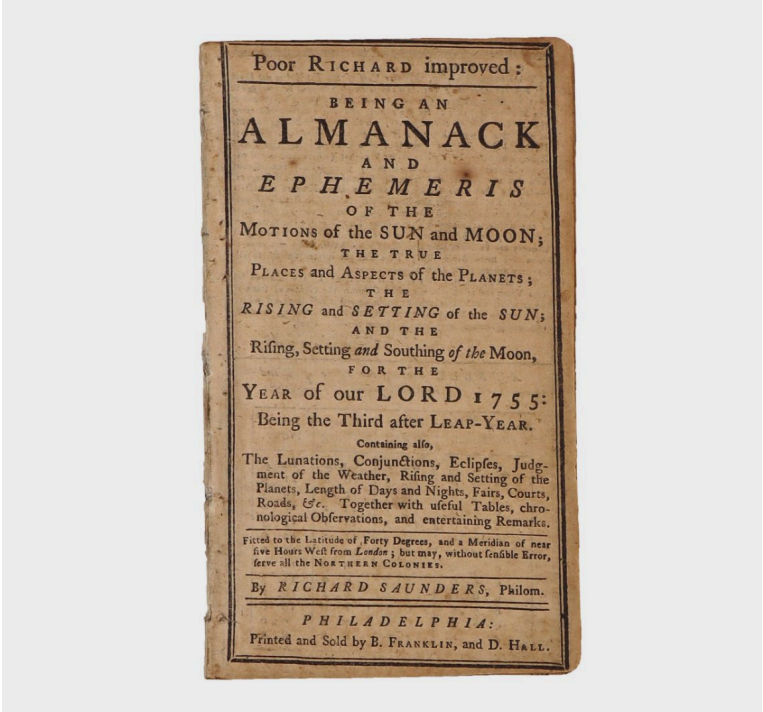
Woodcuts. [36] pp. 12mo. Disbound, trimmed close just touching outer borders but not text. Cloth box. Evans 7196; ESTC W22789; Miller 586; Campbell 527; Hildeburn 1383; Drake 9766; Church 997.

[378099] **$17,500**

A rare example of Benjamin Franklin's most enduring publication. The first Poor Richard almanac was printed in 1732; the early almanacs are extremely rare, and all prior to 1758, Franklin's last year as author and publisher, are desirable.

Besides the usual eclipses, roads, court days and calendar, the present issue includes a preface by Franklin, beginning with his wit and wisdom: "It is a common saying that one half of the world does not know how the other half lives." He proceeds by introducing Pierre Bouguer's observations on the high mountains of Peru, which is extracted within.

We locate no other complete example of this issue in the auction records in the last half century.


Poor RICHARD improved:

BEING AN

ALMANACK

AND

EPHEMERIS

OF THE

MOTIONS of the SUN and MOON;

THE TRUE

PLACES and ASPECTS of the PLANETS;

THE

RISING and *SETTING* of the *SUN*;

AND THE

Rising, Setting *and* Southing *of the* Moon,

FOR THE

YEAR of our LORD 1755:

Being the Third after LEAP-YEAR.

Containing also,

The Lunations, Conjunctions, Eclipses, Judgment of the Weather, Rising and Setting of the Planets, Length of Days and Nights, Fairs, Courts, Roads, &c. Together with useful Tables, chronological Observations, and entertaining Remarks.

Fitted to the Latitude of Forty Degrees, and a Meridian of near five Hours West from *London*; but may, without sensible Error, serve all the NORTHERN COLONIES.

By *RICHARD SAUNDERS*, Philom.

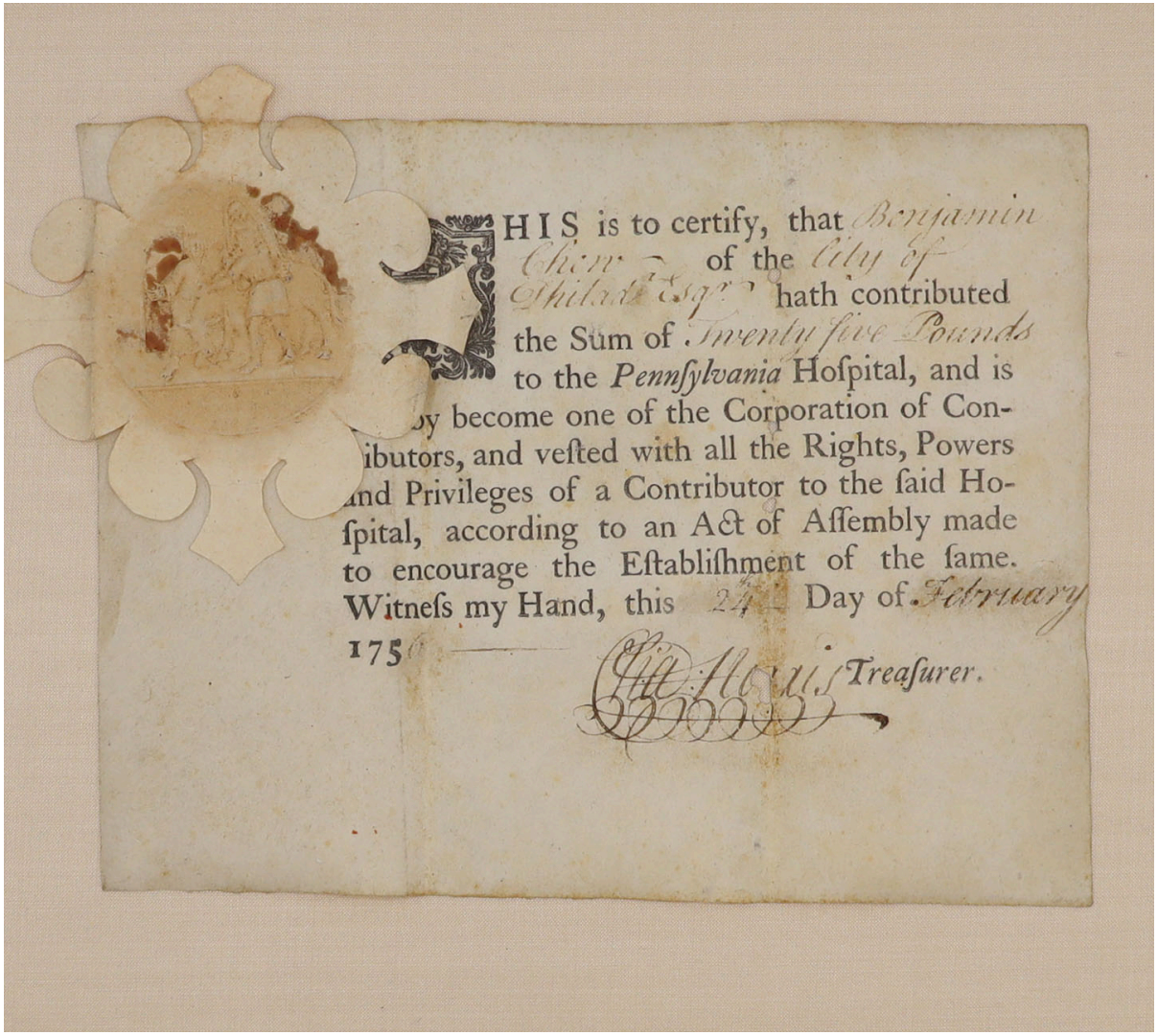
PHILADELPHIA:

Printed and Sold by B. FRANKLIN, and D. HALL.


JANUARY

Observations on the high Mountains of Peru, by Monsieur BOUGUER, *of the French Academy.*

AS soon as I arrived at *Guayaquil*, I set out from thence on the same Day, and going up the River of the same Name, came the 19th of *May* to *Caracol*, which is at the Foot of the *Cordillera*. Three Days after that Mr. *Godin* had departed, in order to pass the Mountains. He had made use of almost all the Mules of the Province, and had left behind him at *Caracol*, near altho' he had left behind him at *Caracol*, near altho' he had left behind him at *Caracol*, near


THIS is to certify, that Benjamin Chew of the City of Philada Esqr hath contributed the Sum of Twenty five Pounds to the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, and is by become one of the Corporation of Contributors, and veſted with all the Rights, Powers and Privileges of a Contributor to the ſaid Hoſpital, according to an Act of Aſſembly made to encourage the Eſtabliſhment of the ſame. Witneſs my Hand, this 24th Day of February 1756 Treaſurer.

12 *Very Rare Pennsylvania Hospital Contributor's Certificate Printed by Franklin, Issued to Benjamin Chew*

(Franklin Imprint). Pennsylvania Hospital, Trustee of the.

This is to certify, that [Benjamin Chew] of the [City of Philadelphia] hath contributed the Sum of [Twenty five Pounds] to the Pennsylvania Hospital, and is thereby become one of the Corporation of Contributors, and vested with all the Rights, Powers and Privileges of a Contributor to the said Hospital, according to an Act of Assembly made to encourage the Establishment of the same... [Philadelphia]: [Benjamin Franklin and David Hall], 24 February 1756 [in manuscript].

Partly-printed certificate on vellum, the blanks accomplished in manuscript (in brackets above), signed by Treasurer Charles Norris, paper covered wax seal intact. Matted. Provenance: Dr. John Hansell. Miller 597.

[378310] **$15,000**

Founded in 1751, Pennsylvania Hospital is among the oldest public hospitals in the United States. Established by Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Bond and financed through private donations and a matching grant from the Pennsylvania Assembly, the cornerstone of the hospital's permanent structure at 8th and Pine was laid in 1755 and it officially opened for patient care in December 1756.

continued



12 *continued*

The Pennsylvania Hospital, chartered for the care of those in need free of charge, was one of Franklin's most effective ideas for civic improvement. "Franklin was a prime force in founding the institution, its first secretary, and later chairman of its trustees; in his Autobiography ... he wrote that he could remember no maneuver the success of which gave him at the time more pleasure than that of persuading the citizens and assembly to contribute matching funds to start the hospital initially" (Miller).

By the terms of its 1751 charter, anyone who donated at least £10 to the hospital became a voting member of its corporation, vested with the power to elect a Board of Managers and a treasurer to oversee the hospital's operations. By the mid 1750s, there were approximately 120 members of the Corporation of Contributors, each of whom would have received a certificate like the present, signed by the Hospital Treasurer and indicating the amount and date of their gift. Each would have been affixed with the paper covered wax seal of the hospital, originally engraved by James Turner (the fragile nature of such seals makes its survival here of note). Printing of the certificates is ascribed by Miller and others to Franklin and Hall based on type and the printer's ornamental factotum, not to mention Franklin's intimate involvement with its founding. The printing date is dated as early as 1751 when the hospital was incorporated, though examples survive dated in manuscript between 1754 and 1761. Interestingly, it is among the earliest examples of American printing on vellum.

The present certificate was issued to Benjamin Chew (1722-1810), noted early American lawyer who represented the descendants of William Penn and the interests of the Proprietors of the colony. He would serve as Attorney General of Pennsylvania and as the Recorder of Philadelphia, and later serve as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. A wealthy landowner and enslaver, during the Revolution he would befriend George Washington and John Adams, though his Quaker pacifism and long service to the Crown made him a suspected Loyalist. After the war he is credited with providing legal counsel and advice to the framers of the Constitution.

Miller notes five extant examples of this certificate: Yale, Pennsylvania Historical Society, Pennsylvania Hospital Archives and two examples at the University of Pennsylvania. We also locate an example in the Harmar Papers at the Clements Library. We find only the Stuart E. Karu example in the auction records, issued to Robert Greenway, selling at Sotheby's New York, June 16, 1992, lot 63, $2750.

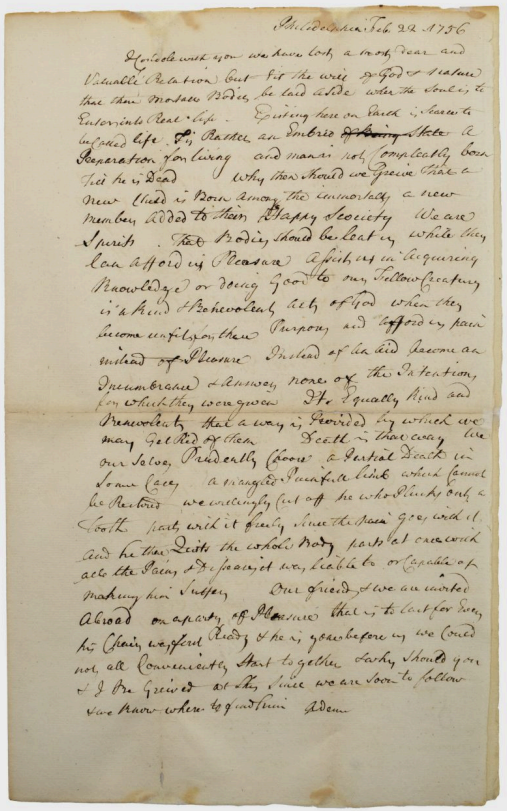
13 *On the Death of his Brother*

Franklin, Benjamin.

[Early manuscript copy in an unknown hand of Franklin's letter to Elizabeth Hubbart, on the death of his older brother John Franklin]. Philadelphia: February 22, 1756 [but later].

1 p. Bifolium with integral blank, laid paper. Minor restoration repairing separations at folds. Papers of Benjamin Franklin, 6:406 (reprinted from The Massachusetts Magazine, which dates the letter February 23, 1756).

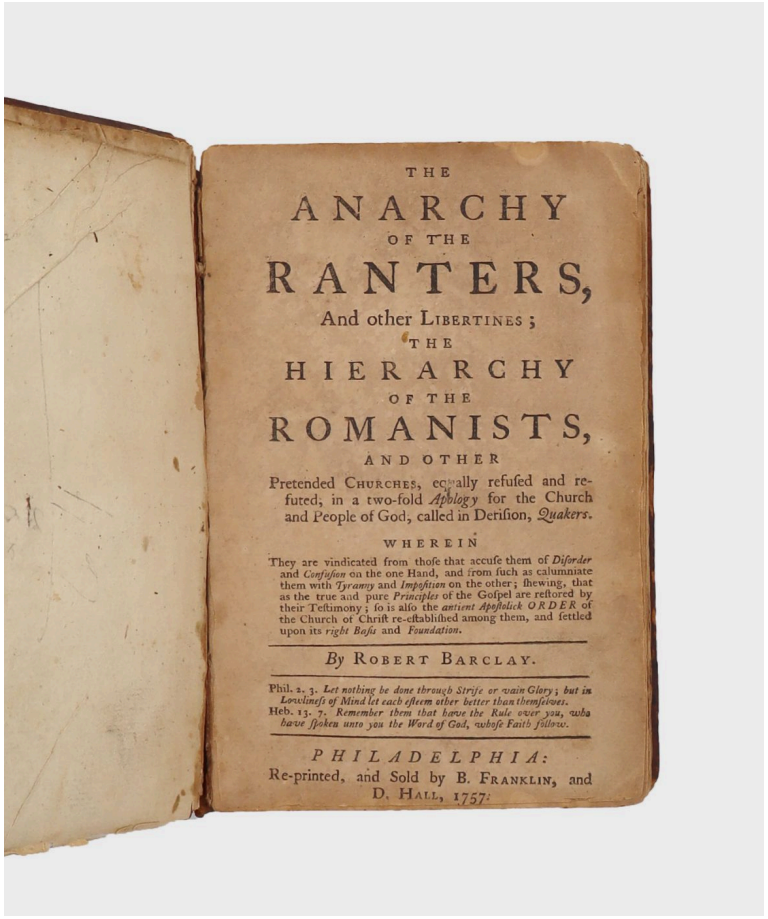
[379108] **$2,250**


Philadelphia Feb. 22 1756

I condole with you we have lost a most dear and
Valuable Relation but it is the will of God & Nature
that these mortal Bodies be laid aside when the Soul is to
Enter into Real Life 'Tis rather an Embrio State a
Preparation for living a man is not Completely born
Till he is Dead Why then should we Grieve that a
New Child is Born among the Immortals a new
member added to their Happy Society We are
Spirits That Bodies should be Lent us while they
can afford us Pleasure assist us in Acquiring
Knowledge or doing Good to our Fellow Creatures
is a kind & Benevolent Act of God when they
become unfit for these Purposes and afford us pain
instead of Pleasure Instead of an Aid become an
Incumbrance & answer none of the Intentions
for which they were given it is Equally Kind and
Benevolent that a way is Provided by which we
may Get Rid of them Death is that way We
our Selves Prudently Choose a Partial Death In
Some Cases a mangled Painful Limb which Cannot
be Restored we willingly Cut off He who Plucks out a
Tooth parts with it freely Since the pain goes with it
And he that Quits the Whole Body parts at once
with all the Pains & Possibilities of Pains
it was Liable to or Capable of
making him Suffer Our Friend & We are Invited
Abroad on a party of Pleasure that is to Last for Ever
His Chair was first Ready & he is gone before us We Could
not all Conveniently Start together Why Should you
& I Be Grieved at this Since we are Soon to follow
& know where to find him Adieu

The original manuscript of this famous letter by Franklin on the death of his brother is lost, though early manuscript copies like the present are known, likely accomplished and circulated by Boston clergyman Mather Byles in the 1760s (see footnote 1 in Papers, referencing a 1765 letter by Byles to Franklin, that he had "just been reading a beautiful Letter of yours, written Feb. 22, 1756, on the Death of your Brother, which is handed about among us in Manuscript copies").

Franklin writes: "I condole with you, we have lost a most dear and valuable relation, but it is the will of God and Nature that these mortal bodies be laid aside, when the soul is to enter into real life; 'tis rather an embrio state, a preparation for living; a man is not completely born until he be dead: Why then should we grieve that a new child is born among the immortals? A new member added to their happy society? We are spirits. That bodies should be lent us, while they can afford us pleasure, assist us in acquiring knowledge, or doing good to our fellow creatures, is a kind and benevolent act of God—when they become unfit for these purposes and afford us pain instead of pleasure—instead of an aid, become an incumbrance and answer none of the intentions for which they were given, it is equally kind and benevolent that a way is provided by which we may get rid of them. Death is that way. We ourselves prudently choose a partial death. In some cases a mangled painful limb, which cannot be restored, we willingly cut off. He who plucks out a tooth, parts with it freely since the pain goes with it, and he that quits the whole body, parts at once with all pains and possibilities of pains and diseases it was liable to, or capable of making him suffer. Our friend and we are invited abroad on a party of pleasure—that is to last for ever. His chair was first ready and he is gone before us. We could not all conveniently start together, and why should you and I be grieved at this, since we are soon to follow, and we know where to find him. Adieu."



THE
ANARCHY
OF THE
RANTERS,
And other LIBERTINES;
THE
HIERARCHY
OF THE
ROMANISTS,
AND OTHER
Pretended CHURCHES, equally refused and refuted, in a two-fold *Apology* for the Church and People of God, called in Derision, *Quakers*.
WHEREIN
They are vindicated from those that accuse them of *Disorder* and *Confusion* on the one Hand, and from such as calumniate them with *Tyranny* and *Imposition* on the other; shewing, that as the true and pure *Principles* of the Gospel are restored by their Testimony; so is also the *antient Apostolick ORDER* of the Church of Christ re-established among them, and settled upon its *right Basis* and *Foundation*.
By ROBERT BARCLAY.
Phil. 2. 3. *Let nothing be done through Strife or vain Glory; but in Lowliness of Mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*
Heb. 13. 7. *Remember them that have the Rule over you, who have spoken unto you the Word of God, whose Faith follow.*
PHILADELPHIA:
Re-printed, and Sold by B. FRANKLIN, and D. HALL, 1757.

14 *First American Edition*

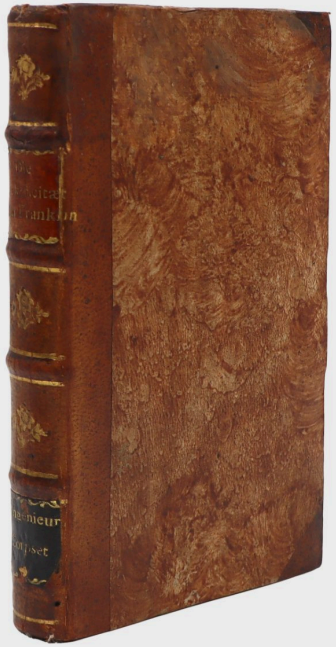
(Franklin Imprint). Barclay, Robert; and Joseph Pike.

The Anarchy of the Ranters, and other Libertines; the Hierarchy of the Romanists, and other Pretended Churches, Equally Refused and Refuted, in a two-fold Apology for the Church and People of God, called in Derision, Quakers ... [Bound with:] An Epistle to the National Meeting of Friends, in Dublin. Philadelphia: B. Franklin, and D. Hall, 1757.

Two parts in one [as issued]. viii, 111, [2]; 23, [1] pp. 8vo. First American edition. Contemporary calf, covers bordered in blind, some rubbing to joints, hinges starting. A few leaves sprung. Provenance: Chester Meeting (contemporary inscription on p. iii); Jonas Eyre (early signature on rear endpaper); Burton William Pearl (booklabel). Miller 655; Evans 7840 and 8008; Campbell 591 and 602; ESTC W18482.

[378129] **$2,500**

"This 1757 Philadelphia printing was undertaken by the Overseers of the Press on behalf of the Society of Friends ... The writings of Barclay and Pike are here considered together because the signatures are continuous, though apparently because of the differing pagination in the two pamphlets, Hildeburn, Evans and Campbell treated them as separate entities" (Miller).



15 *First Edition in German of Franklin's Electricity*

Franklin, Benjamin.

Des Herrn Benjamin Franklins Esq. Briefe von der Elektricitat. Leipzig: Gottfied Kiesewetter, 1758.

Engraved frontispiece. [26], 354 pp. 12mo. First edition in German. Contemporary half calf and pastepaper covered boards. Provenance: Ingenieurcorpsets Bibliothek (inked stamp on title, morocco label on spine). Howes F320; Ford 82; cf. Printing and the Mind of Man 199.

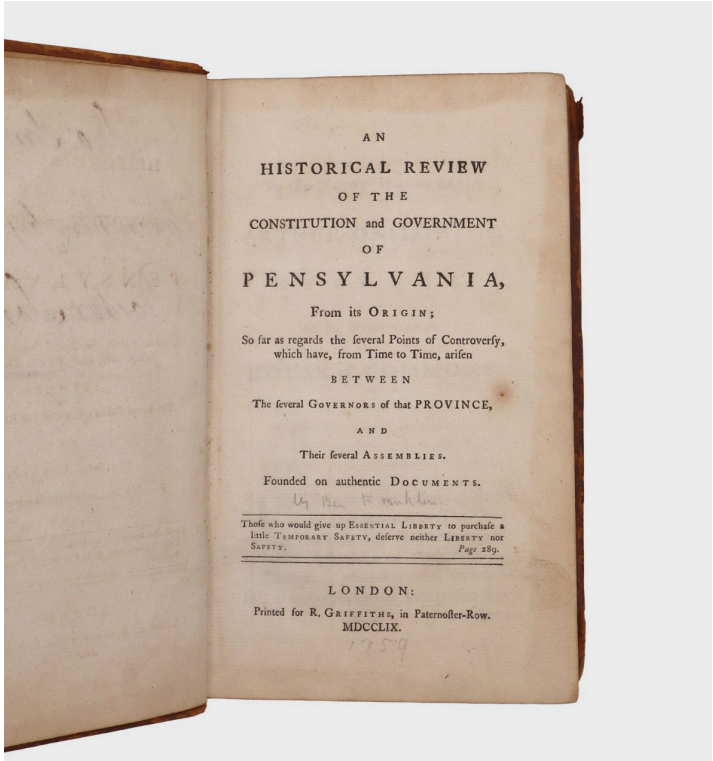
[378425] **$2,500**

First German edition of Franklin's famous Experiments on Electricity, translated from the combined second English edition published in 1754. The frontispiece plate shows the Leyden jar apparatus. This first edition in German includes extensive notes by the translator J. C. Wilcke.

"America's first great scientific contribution" (Howes) and "the most important scientific book of eighteenth-century America" (PMM).







AN

HISTORICAL REVIEW

OF THE

CONSTITUTION and GOVERNMENT

OF

PENSYLVANIA,

From its ORIGIN;

So far as regards the several Points of Controversy, which have, from Time to Time, arisen

BETWEEN

The several GOVERNORS of that PROVINCE,

AND

Their several ASSEMBLIES.

Founded on authentic DOCUMENTS.

Those who would give up ESSENTIAL LIBERTY to purchase a little TEMPORARY SAFETY, deserve neither LIBERTY nor SAFETY. *Page* 289.

LONDON:

Printed for R. GRIFFITHS, in Paternoster-Row.
MDCCLIX.

16 *On the Rights of the Assembly over the Proprietors*

[Franklin, Benjamin; and Richard Jackson].

An Historical Review of the Constitution and Government of Pennsylvania, from its Origin. London: R. Griffiths, 1759.

viii, [18], 444 pp. 8vo. First edition. Contemporary calf, red morocco lettering piece, worn. Clamshell box. Provenance: Thomas Smith (inscription on front endpaper that he had received the work from Dr. Fothergill). Sabin 25512; Howes P204; Ford 253.

[378042] **$2,500**

This book was for many years attributed to Franklin, but was more likely written by his co-agent in London, Richard Jackson, with Franklin's advice and support. The work, in reviewing the history of the province, was essentially a revolutionary argument made for the rights of the Assembly over the Proprietors.

The English physician John Fothergill (1712-1780) was a close associate of Franklin, perhaps best known as a botanical collector with many American and Quaker connections, including to the Pennsylvania Hospital, and as a patron of John Bartram. Fothergill would support the publication of Franklin's Observations on Electricity and author the work's preface.

17 *Lovely Mezzotint Portrait*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Wilson, Benjamin; after.

B. Franklin of Philadelphia. L.L.D. F.R.S. [London]: After 1761.

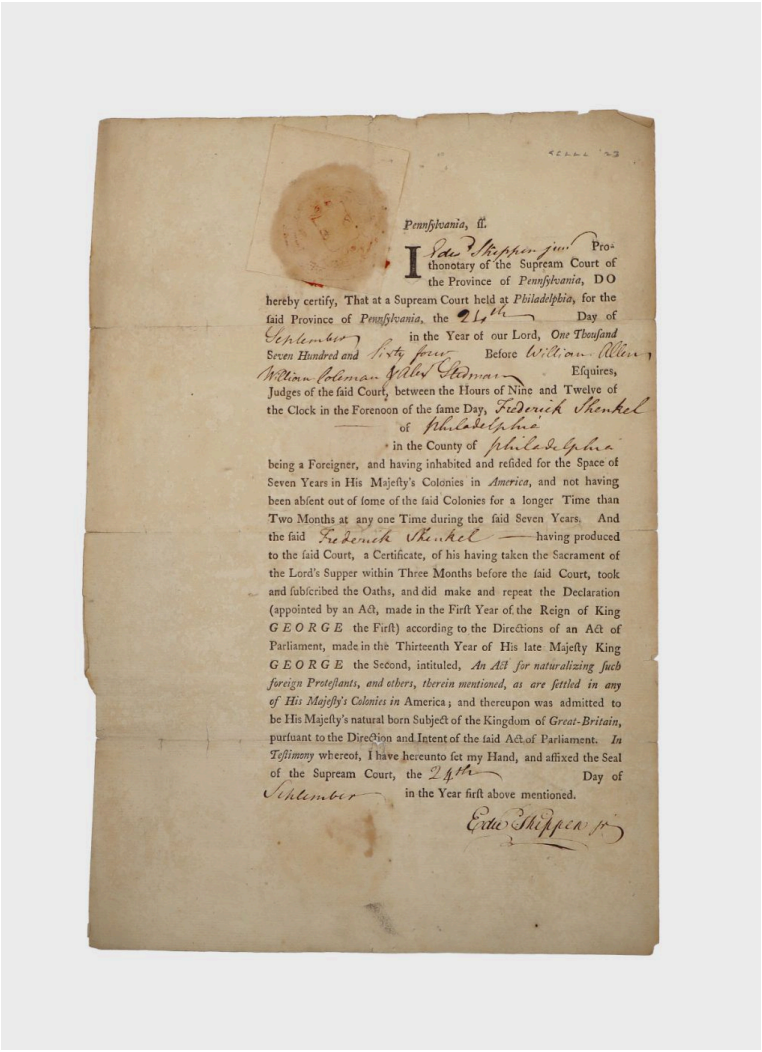
Mezzotint portrait by James McArdell after Wilson, on laid paper. Approx. 13-7/8 x 9-7/8 inches (sheet size). Trimmed close at the platemark but outside the image. Provenance: Francis P. Garvin (collector's stamp on verso [Lugt, Supplement 1041a]). Seller, Benjamin Franklin in Portraiture, Wilson no. 5; Carson 1249; Chaloner-Smith 73; Russell 73 ii/iii; Whitman, McArdell 86.

[378063] **$3,500**

An important mezzotint portrait of Franklin, focussed on his scientific achievements rather than political. Standing at a table and turned to the side, the white wigged Franklin holds a copy of his Experiments in Electricity in his right hand, while the left points to a bolt of lightning striking a distant city, presumed to be Philadelphia. Wilson's original portait of Franklin survives in the White House collection.

A lovely impression, without the date as in the first state, but prior to the reworking of the plate by Laurie & Whittle in 1794.





Pennſylvania, ff.

I Edw. Shippen jun. Pro-thonotary of the Supream Court of the Province of *Pennſylvania*, DO hereby certify, That at a Supream Court held at *Philadelphia*, for the ſaid Province of *Pennſylvania*, the 21th Day of September in the Year of our Lord, *One Thouſand Seven Hundred and* Sixty four Before William Allen, William Coleman & Alex. Stedman Eſquires, Judges of the ſaid Court, between the Hours of Nine and Twelve of the Clock in the Forenoon of the ſame Day, Frederick Shenkel of Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia being a Foreigner, and having inhabited and reſided for the Space of Seven Years in His Majeſty's Colonies in *America*, and not having been abſent out of ſome of the ſaid Colonies for a longer Time than Two Months at any one Time during the ſaid Seven Years. And the ſaid Frederick Shenkel having produced to the ſaid Court, a Certificate, of his having taken the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper within Three Months before the ſaid Court, took and ſubſcribed the Oaths, and did make and repeat the Declaration (appointed by an Act, made in the Firſt Year of the Reign of King *GEORGE* the Firſt) according to the Directions of an Act of Parliament, made in the Thirteenth Year of His late Majeſty King *GEORGE* the Second, intituled, *An Act for naturalizing ſuch foreign Proteſtants, and others, therein mentioned, as are ſettled in any of His Majeſty's Colonies in* America; and thereupon was admitted to be His Majeſty's natural born Subject of the Kingdom of *Great-Britain*, purſuant to the Direction and Intent of the ſaid Act of Parliament. *In Teſtimony* whereof, I have hereunto ſet my Hand, and affixed the Seal of the Supream Court, the 24th Day of September in the Year firſt above mentioned.

Edw. Shippen jr.

18 *Rare Certificate of Naturalization Printed by Franklin*

(Franklin Imprint).

Pennsylvania, ff. I [blank] Prothonotary of the Supream [sic] Court of the Province of Pennsylvania, Do hereby certify ... [blank] of [blank] in the County of [blank] being a Foreigner ... was admitted to be His Majesty's natural born Subject of the Kingdom of Great-Britain ... [Certificate of Naturalization and Oath of Allegiance, accomplished and signed by Edward Shippen, issued to Frederick Shenkel [i.e. Friederich Schenckel]. [Philadelphia]: [Benjamin Franklin and David Hall], [printed circa 1761; dated in manuscript September 23, 1764].

Paper covered wax seal of Province of Pennsylvania. Folio. Usual folds. Miller A347. See Barnhill, "Benjamin Franklin's Job Printing," The Ephemera Journal, 8 (1998), pp. 10-15.

[378073] **$3,500**

One thousand copies of this certificate of naturalization, the only such form printed by Franklin and Hall, were ordered by Edward Shippen in April 1761 (see Miller A347).

Shippen, prothonotary of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, father-in-law of Benedict Arnold and a moderate loyalist, would later serve as the chief justice of Pennsylvania. The text of the document, which served as both a certificate of naturalization and an oath of allegiance to the British king, was notable for requiring immigrants who wished to become citizens to provide certification that they had "taken the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper within three months before the said court, took and subscribed the oaths, and did make and repeat the declaration...according to the directions of an Act of Parliament." A rare surviving ephemeral publication by Franklin and Hall.

From his earliest days of printing in Philadelphia, producing partly-printed legal forms was a critical element of Franklin's business. Such job printing, or "little jobs" as he called them, filled an essential need in the market, allowing for accurate legal prose in a cheap and convenient form, while providing a ready source of revenue. "Franklin, and later Franklin and Hall, along with other Philadelphia printers, must have done numerous reprintings of the forms" (Miller). Such forms, or "blanks," were frequently advertised for sale by Franklin, available at his New Printing Office near Market.

19 *Poor Richard's Almanac*

[Franklin, Benjamin].

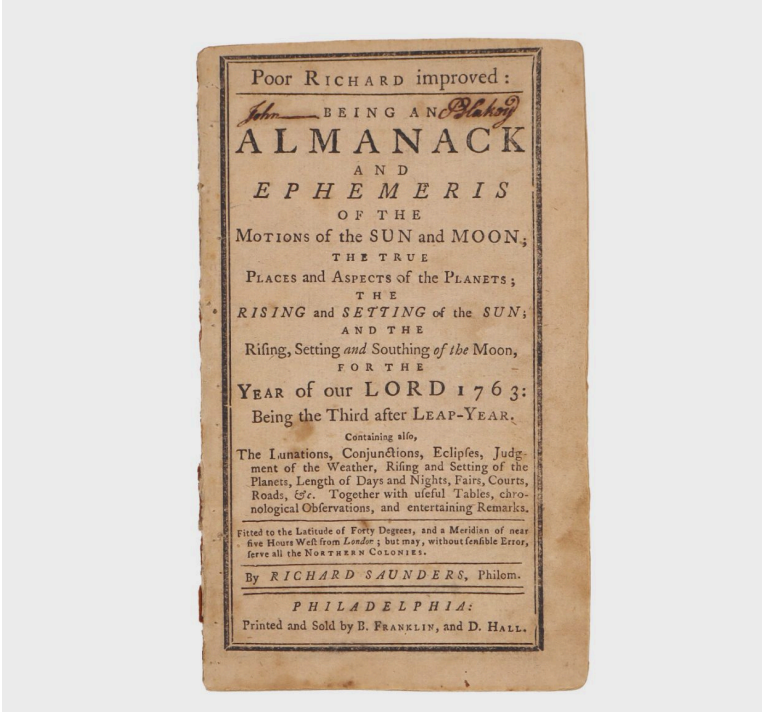
Poor Richard Improved: Being an Almanack and Ephemeris of the Motions of the Sun and Moon ... For the Year of our Lord 1763 ... By Richard Saunders. Philadelphia: B. Franklin and D. Hall, [1762].

Woodcuts. [36] pp. Contemporary newspaper clipping mounted on the final page. 12mo. Disbound. Cloth box. Provenance: John Blakey (early signature on the title). Evans 9263; ESTC W29817; Miller 783; Campbell 671; Hildeburn 1383; Drake 9857.

[378100] **$17,500**

A rare example of Benjamin Franklin's most enduring publication. The first Poor Richard almanac was printed in 1732; the early almanacs are extremely rare, and all prior to 1758, Franklin's last year as author and publisher, are desirable.

Besides the usual eclipses, roads, court days and calendar, the present issue includes medical remedies for children. The early owner, John Blakey, has annotated the November calendar recording on the 27th: "Governor John Penn arriv'd, same day an earthquake." The mounted newspaper clipping concerns a sermon preached by George Whitefield before departing for Georgia and the movement of militia troops from Fort Pitt to Tuscarora and Lower Shawanese. Blakey was a Philadelphia hatter and an original subscriber to Franklin's Pennsylvania Hospital.



Poor RICHARD improved:

John BEING AN Blakey

ALMANACK

AND

EPHEMERIS

OF THE

MOTIONS of the SUN and MOON;

THE TRUE

PLACES and ASPECTS of the PLANETS;

THE

RISING and *SETTING* of the *SUN*;

AND THE

Rising, Setting *and* Southing *of the* Moon,

FOR THE

YEAR of our LORD 1763:

Being the Third after LEAP-YEAR.

Containing alſo,

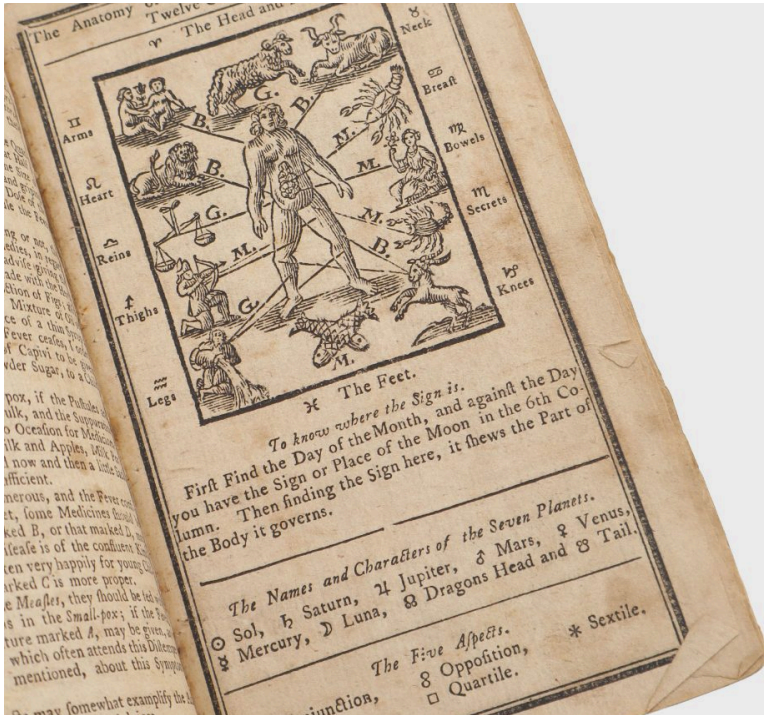
The Lunations, Conjunctions, Eclipſes, Judgment of the Weather, Riſing and Setting of the Planets, Length of Days and Nights, Fairs, Courts, Roads, *&c.* Together with uſeful Tables, chronological Obſervations, and entertaining Remarks.

Fitted to the Latitude of Forty Degrees, and a Meridian of near five Hours Weſt from *London*; but may, without ſenſible Error, ſerve all the NORTHERN COLONIES.

By *RICHARD SAUNDERS*, Philom.

PHILADELPHIA:

Printed and Sold by B. FRANKLIN, and D. HALL.



The Anatomy

The Head

Neck

Breaſt

Arms

Bowels

Heart

Secrets

Reins

Knees

Thighs

Legs

The Feet.

To know where the Sign is.

First Find the Day of the Month, and againſt the Day you have the Sign or Place of the Moon in the 6th Column. Then finding the Sign here, it ſhews the Part of the Body it governs.

The Names and Characters of the Seven Planets.

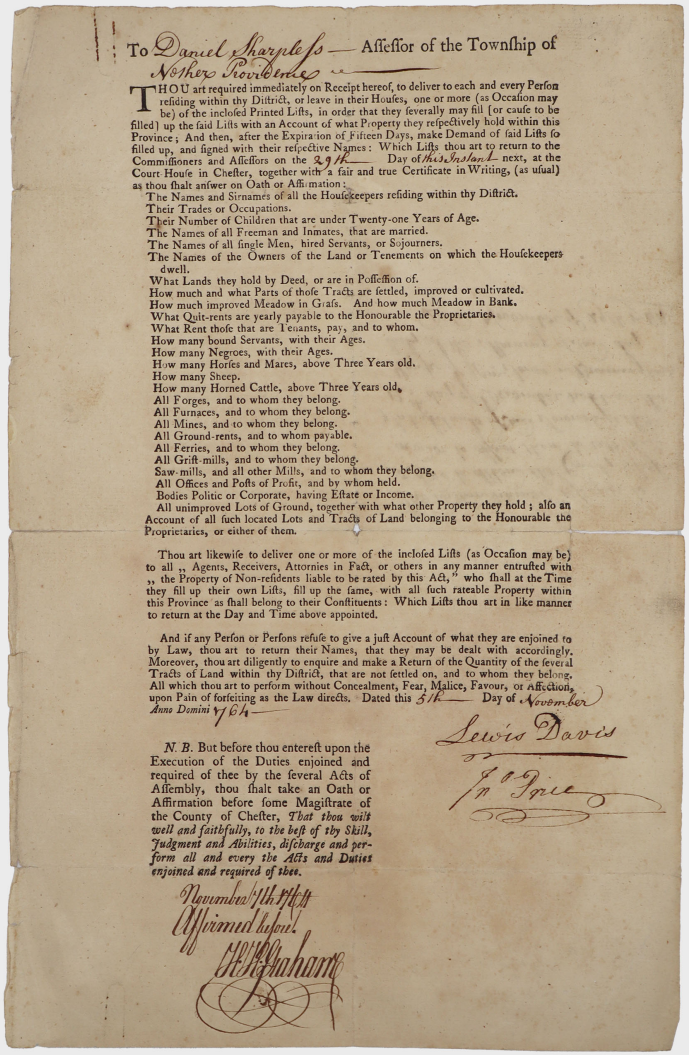
☉ Sol, ♄ Saturn, ♃ Jupiter, ♂ Mars, ♀ Venus, ☿ Mercury, ☽ Luna, ☊ ☋ Dragons Head and Tail.

The Five Aſpects.

* Sextile.

☍ Oppoſition,

□ Quartile.



To Daniel Sharpleſs — Aſſeſſor of the Townſhip of Nether Providence

THOU art required immediately on Receipt hereof, to deliver to each and every Perſon reſiding within thy Diſtrict, or leave in their Houſes, one or more (as Occaſion may be) of the incloſed Printed Liſts, in order that they ſeverally may fill (or cauſe to be filled) up the ſaid Liſts with an Account of what Property they reſpectively hold within this Province; And then, after the Expiration of Fifteen Days, make Demand of ſaid Liſts ſo filled up, and ſigned with their reſpective Names: Which Liſts thou art to return to the Commiſſioners and Aſſeſſors on the 29th Day of March next, at the Court Houſe in Cheſter, together with a fair and true Certificate in Writing, (as uſual) as thou ſhalt anſwer on Oath or Affirmation:

The Names and Sirnames of all the Houſekeepers reſiding within thy Diſtrict.
Their Trades or Occupations.
Their Number of Children that are under Twenty-one Years of Age.
The Names of all Freeman and Inmates, that are married.
The Names of all ſingle Men, hired Servants, or Sojourners.
The Names of the Owners of the Land or Tenements on which the Houſekeepers dwell.
What Lands they hold by Deed, or are in Poſſeſſion of.
How much and what Parts of thoſe Tracts are ſettled, improved or cultivated.
How much improved Meadow in Graſs. And how much Meadow in Bank.
What Quit-rents are yearly payable to the Honourable the Proprietaries.
What Rent thoſe that are Tenants, pay, and to whom.
How many bound Servants, with their Ages.
How many Negroes, with their Ages.
How many Horſes and Mares, above Three Years old.
How many Sheep.
How many Horned Cattle, above Three Years old.
All Forges, and to whom they belong.
All Furnaces, and to whom they belong.
All Mines, and to whom they belong.
All Ground-rents, and to whom payable.
All Ferries, and to whom they belong.
All Grift-mills, and to whom they belong.
Saw-mills, and all other Mills, and to whom they belong.
All Offices and Poſts of Profit, and by whom held.
Bodies Politic or Corporate, having Eſtate or Income.
All unimproved Lots of Ground, together with what other Property they hold; alſo an Account of all ſuch located Lots and Tracts of Land belonging to the Honourable the Proprietaries, or either of them.

Thou art likewiſe to deliver one or more of the incloſed Liſts (as Occaſion may be) to all „ Agents, Receivers, Attornies in Fact, or others in any manner entruſted with „ the Property of Non-reſidents liable to be rated by this Act,“ who ſhall at the Time they fill up their own Liſts, fill up the ſame, with all ſuch rateable Property within this Province as ſhall belong to their Conſtituents: Which Liſts thou art in like manner to return at the Day and Time above appointed.

And if any Perſon or Perſons refuſe to give a juſt Account of what they are enjoined to by Law, thou art to return their Names, that they may be dealt with accordingly. Moreover, thou art diligently to enquire and make a Return of the Quantity of the ſeveral Tracts of Land within thy Diſtrict, that are not ſettled on, and to whom they belong. All which thou art to perform without Concealment, Fear, Malice, Favour, or Affection, upon Pain of forfeiting as the Law directs. Dated this 31st Day of November Anno Domini 1764

Lewis Davis

Jn° Price

N. B. But before thou entereſt upon the Execution of the Duties enjoined and required of thee by the ſeveral Acts of Aſſembly, thou ſhalt take an Oath or Affirmation before ſome Magiſtrate of the County of Cheſter, *That thou will well and faithfully, to the beſt of thy Skill, Judgment and Abilities, diſcharge and perform all and every the Acts and Duties enjoined and required of thee.*

November 5th 1764
Affirmed before
H. H. Graham

20 *Questions for the Tax Man in 1764*

(Franklin Imprint).

[Partly-printed document signed, a form issued to Chester County, Pennsylvania tax assessors, with a list of questions for them to distribute, attributed to the press of Franklin and Hall]. [Philadelphia: Franklin and Hall, 1764].

1 p. Accomplished in manuscript and signed by Lewis Davis and Jonathan Price, witnessed by Henry H. Graham, addressed to Daniel Sharpless. Folio. Old folds, some repairs to separations. Paper clip stain at top left. Not in Miller. But see Miller A451 and A452. See Barnhill, “Benjamin Franklin’s Job Printing,” The Ephemera Journal, 8 (1998), pp. 10-15.

[378067] **$5,000**

With rising debt and expenses related to the French and Indian War, in the late 1750s the Pennsylvania Assembly passed a series of emergency funding bills to raise revenue, and the definition of what and who counted as a taxable broadened. This necessitated a more detailed return of taxables, and constables were required to gather more detailed information on each household and freeman, including acreage, livestock, infrastructure, trades, labor etc. The present questionnaire was therefore produced, and printed by Franklin and Hall, to circulate among tax assessors to compile the census data needed for tax bills.

21 *On Franklin's Appointment as Provincial Agent*

(Franklin, Benjamin).

The Pennsylvania Gazette ... [Numbers 1878 through 1881 and 1890]. Philadelphia: Printed by B. Franklin, Post-Master, and D. Hall, December 20 and 27, 1764; January 3 and 10, and March 14, 1765.

Together, 5 issues. Each 4 pp., bifolium. Disbound, some toning and foxing, small burn hole on a few issues, else very good. Miller 814, 842; Brigham II, pp. 933-37.

[378991] **$8,500**

Franklin's controversial appointment as Provincial Agent for the Assembly acting in London is the major topic in these issues.

John Hughes, a member of the Assembly, wrote a letter in No. 1878 defending Franklin against William Smith's anonymous An Answer to Mr. Franklin's Remarks, on a Late Protest. Hughes challenged that if the author of An Answer would reveal himself and agree to pay £5 to the Pennsylvania Hospital for every lie printed in that pamphlet about Franklin, Hughes would agree to pay £10 for every truth printed therein.

In No. 1879, there is a scathing unsigned reply to John Hughes's challenge, accusing Hughes of being "not the Author of this Challenge, but only the Herald or squire of some dreadful unknown Giant or Knight, who would tear in Pieces the Author or Authors of the Answer to the Remarks, if they should venture to approach him."

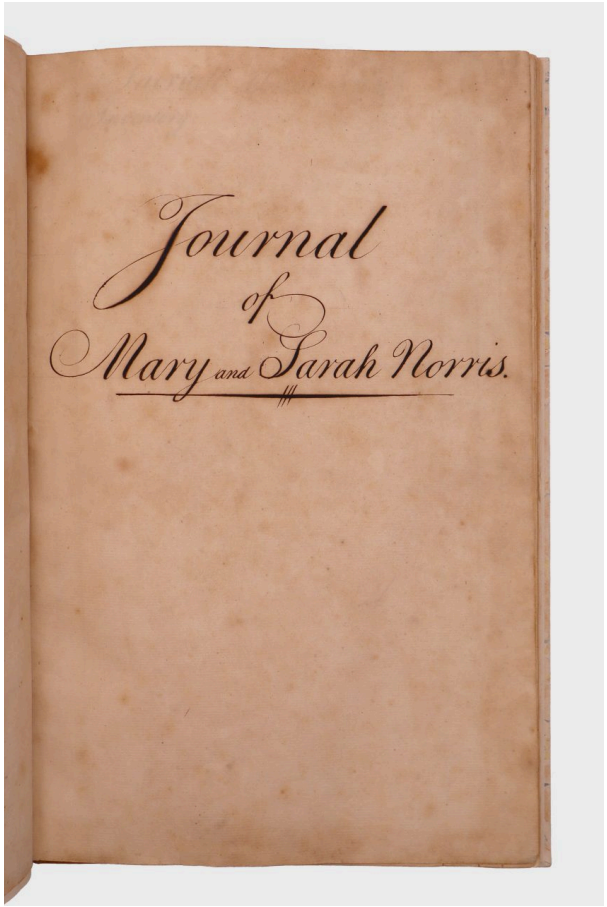
No. 1880 continues the controversy over Franklin's appointment as Provincial Agent for the Assembly. Another challenge is brought to John Hughes's claims in No. 1878, but sidestepping his main point: that Franklin signed his Remarks on a Late Protest, but that the author of Answer to Mr. Franklin's Remarks did not give his name. "Poplicola" is more intent on ridiculing Hughes's challenge than in resolving the "Differences between the Proprietary and the People," as he claims to be doing.

Long response in No. 1881 by John Hall. The whole of the first page along with the first column of the next comprises Hall's remarks: "The practice of perverting Truth, and imposing your Falshoods [sic] on the good People of this Province, has long been the principal Weapon you wield. It is high Time an End was put to it...do you think you will not be esteemed void of Honour and Conscience, and a common Nuisance in the Community, which ought to be removed with the utmost Expedition?"

The final issue here, No. 1890, includes the news that Franklin had arrived in London.


March 14, 1765. NUMB. 1890. The PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.
January 10, 1765. NUMB. 1881. The PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.
January 3, 1765. NUMB. 1880. The PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.
December 27, 1764. NUMB. 1879. The PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.
December 20, 1764. NUMB. 1878. The PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.
Containing the Freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.


December 20, 1764. NUMB. 1878. The PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.
Containing the Freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.





22 *The Norris Estate Account Ledger*

Norris, Mary "Polly" and Sarah.

[Manuscript account ledger for the management of the Norris family Fairhill Estate]. Fairhill [near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania]: August 1766 - June 1770.

98 pp. Folio. Modern quarter calf over marbled boards, maroon leather spine label, endleaves renewed. Neat archival tissue reinforcements to gutters of several leaves without loss, one leaf (pp. 13-14) torn and mended with loss. Text highly legible in two neat hands. Flower, John Dickinson: Conservative Revolutionary 79.

[378219] **$7,500**

Known as "Polly" and "Sally" to their family and friends, Mary (1740-1803) and Sarah (1745-1769) were left to manage Fairhill after their father Isaac Norris Jr. died in July 1766. As the ledger indicates, this was no small undertaking. Seated three miles north of colonial Philadelphia and completed in 1717 by Isaac Norris, Sr., the Fairhill estate was one of the first and finest country homes in the area. It was valued at some £20,000 and spanned over 800 acres, containing both Fairhill House and Sepviva Farm.

Though Fairhill was entailed to a male cousin and Isaac (who died intestate) had intended it to descend through the male line, Mary and Sarah seemingly managed it with complete autonomy. The journal — which appears to have been primarily kept by Mary — begins a month after Isaac's death and ends a month before Mary's marriage to lawyer, politician and American founder John Dickinson.

The entries illustrate the complexities of the estate: rent, mortgages, loans, bonds, interest. Mary and Sarah were in regular financial contact with James Pemberton, the initial executor of Isaac's estate, and Capel and Osgood Hanbury, who took over the estate's power of attorney and managed the family's affairs and investments in England. Many entries also cover sundry amounts for everyday expenses (snuff, beer, firewood) and repairs (including £2 "paid a Negro for cleaning Captain Nuttles yard").

They also illustrate the Norris family's status and large network in Philadelphia Quaker society. Entries carried over from Isaac's last ledger name Benjamin Franklin and Governor John Penn as debtors to the estate. Poet Hannah Griffitts, a cousin, lived at Fairhill with her sister Mary and is frequently mentioned.

Mary's generosity to family members is also evident. Cash was made readily available for family use. An October 3, 1769 entry documents a loan of £3,600 to an aunt — an enormous sum that thrust her into conflict with John Dickinson, who regarded it as "a gift under another name" that would reduce the fortune he later married into (Flower).

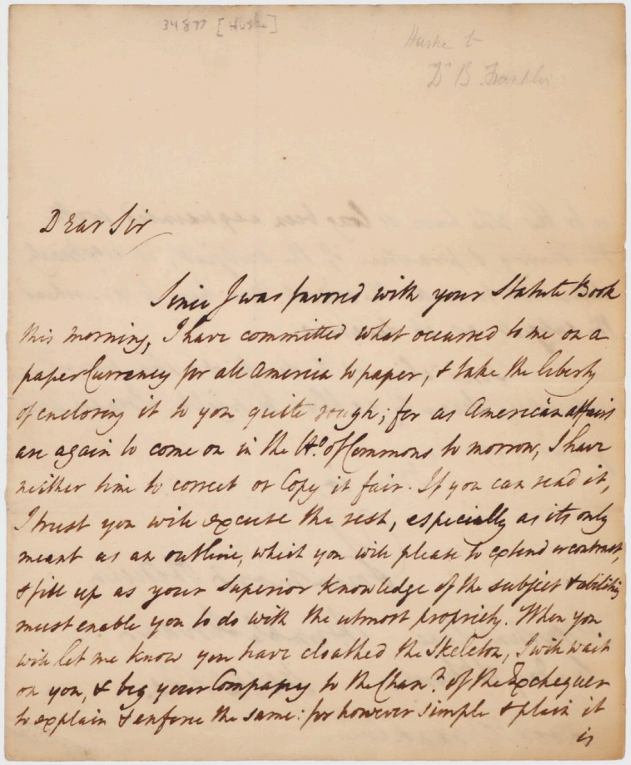
23 *To Benjamin Franklin*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Huske, John.

[Autograph Letter, Signed, "Huske" to Benjamin Franklin, regarding the establishment of a common paper currency for the American colonies]. St. Martin's Lane [London]: March 16 [1766].

2 pp., folded 4to sheet. Docketed in red ink on verso by Franklin. Usual folds, remnants of a paper guard along the fold on verso.

[378047] **$7,500**


34877 [Huske]

Huske to
D.r B. Franklin

Dear Sir

Sir, I was favored with your Statute Book this morning, I have committed what occurred to me on a paper Currency for the America's to paper, & take the liberty of enclosing it to you quite rough; for as American affairs are again to come on in the H.e of Commons to morrow, I have neither time to correct or Copy it fair. If you can read it, I trust you will excuse the rest, especially as it's only meant as an outline, which you will please to extend occasionally, & fill up as your superior knowledge of the subject & ability must enable you to do with the utmost propriety. When you will let me know you have cloathed the Skeleton, I will wait on you, & beg your Company to the Chan.r of the Exchequer to explain & perform the same: for however simple & plain it is

John Huske was a member of Parliament who followed his father in having a particular interest in American affairs; his father, Ellis Huske, preceded Franklin in the office of deputy postmaster for the American colonies. At a later date Huske became the Royal Agent for the collection of Stamp Taxes in Massachusetts and was the subject of a Paul Revere engraving (hanging in effigy).

Written just a few weeks following Franklin's testimony before the House of Commons concerning the Stamp Act, the issue of paper currency had been raised in that hearing. While the questioning primarily targeted the Stamp Act, the issue of currency was central to whether the colonies could physically afford to pay the tax. Franklin in his testimony indirectly criticized British restrictions on colonial paper money, stating "In my opinion there is not gold and silver enough in the colonies to pay the stamp duty for one year." This perhaps prompted Huske to write on the subject of paper currency in the colonies. His letter reads as follows:

continued

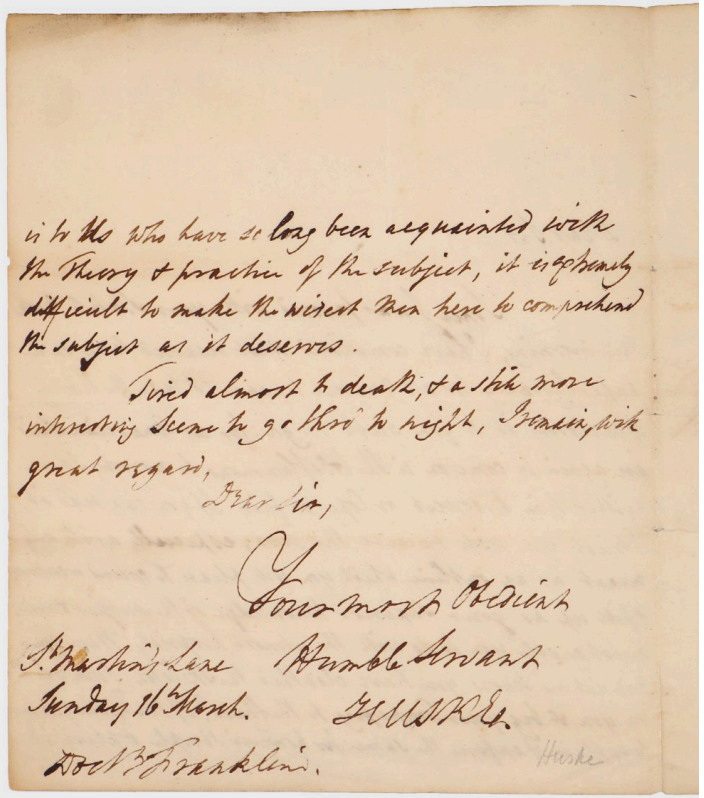
23 *continued*

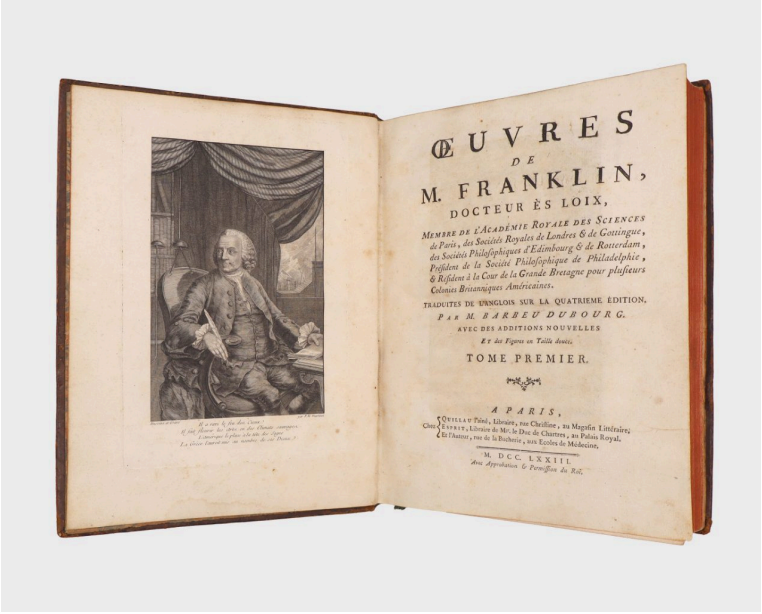
"Since I was favored with your Statute Book this morning, I have committed what occurred to me on a paper Currency for all America to paper, & take the liberty of enclosing it to you quite rough; for as American affairs are again to come on in the Ho. of Commons tomorrow, I have neither time to correct or Copy it fair. If you can read it, I trust you will excuse the rest, especially as its [sic] only meant as an outline, what you will please to extend or contrast, & fill up as your Superior knowledge of the subject & ability must enable you to do with the utmost propriety. When you will let me know you have cloathed the Skeleton, I will wait on you, & beg your Company to the Chanr. of the Exchequer to explain & enforce the same: for however simple & plain it is to us who have so long been acquainted with the Theory & practice of the subject, it is extremely difficult to make the wisest men here to comprehend the subject as it deserves. Tired almost to death, & a still more interesting Scene to go thro tonight, I remain, with great regard, Dear Sir, Your most Obedient Humble Servant Huske." Below which he has added: "St. Maiden's Lane / Sunday 16 March / Doct. B. Franklin."

Franklin was, at this point, the agent for the colony of Pennsylvania in London, and the deputy postmaster for North America. He could certainly claim to be the foremost expert on paper currency in America, having advocated its circulation for decades as a way to promote trade and expand the colonial economies. One of his very first publications, written by himself, was A Modest Enquiry into the Nature and Necessity of a Paper Currency (Philadelphia, 1729). He also had tremendous practical experience in its production, having been in charge of the issue of paper currency in Pennsylvania from 1730 on. In short, no one was better prepared to advise Huske on this issue.

The two men had been of one mind on Pennsylvania affairs for many years, and no doubt Franklin had been a good friend of Huske's father, who died in 1755. Issues over paper currency in America were as explosive as the Stamp Act, although not nearly as famous. When the New York legislature defied Parliament in 1774, it was not over taxation issues, but in regard to the right to issue currency.

A most interesting letter concerning Franklin and currency.







24 *First Edition in French*

Franklin, Benjamin.

Œuvres de M. Franklin, Docteur ès Loix ... Traduites de l'Anglois sur la Quatrieme Édition, Par M. Barbeu Dubourg. Paris: Chez Quillau ... Esprit ... et l'Auteur, 1773.

Engraved frontispiece portrait, 12 plates. 338, 318, [2] pp. Two volumes in one. 4to. First edition in French. Contemporary mottled calf, spine gilt, marbled endpapers. Scattered minor foxing. Ford 315; Sabin 25607.

[378131] **$2,500**

The first French edition of Franklin's complete works on electricity, based on the fourth and best British edition, combined with the first French editions of a number of other works of Franklin's, including some published for the first time in book form in the present volume.

An earlier edition of the electricity section, with about half the material, was published in 1752; the present first section includes all the material in the comprehensive fourth edition in English, published in London in 1769. The first volume is devoted entirely to electricity, with the addition of several pieces not included in any previous editions. The second volume contains other scientific writings, including works on meteors, his improvements on chimneys (the "Franklin stove"), sections on population increase, inoculation, music, magic circles, and other topics.

This edition was translated by Jacques Barbeu Dubourg, a leading philosopher and one of Franklin's closest friends in France. This copy contains the portrait of Franklin not found in all copies. Scarce, and important for its various contents.

25 *Uncut in Wrappers*

Franklin, Benjamin.

La Science du Bonhomme Richard, ou Moyen Facile de Payer les Impôts. A Philadelphie. Et se trouve a Paris: chez Ruault, Libraire, 1777.

151, [1], 4 pp. Half-title. Uncut. 12mo. First edition in French. Publisher's blue sugar paper wrappers, contemporary manuscript label on spine. Housed in a morocco backed clamshell box. Ford 113; Sabin 78109.

[378370] **$3,000**

"Benjamin Franklin's 'The Way to Wealth' was first published as the untitled preface to Poor Richard's Almanack for the year 1758. It has hitherto not been known that 'The Way to Wealth' deserves to take its place, along with the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, as one of the three foremost American texts of the eighteenth century. However, recent bibliographical work—to a considerable extent based on digitization—shows how profoundly it has shaped not only Americans, but also others around the world" (Carpenter). Indeed, it is the most frequently reprinted of all of Franklin's writings.

This first French edition, translated by Francis A. Quetant, also contains Franklin's examination before the House of Commons relative to the Stamp Act and a printing of the revolutionary Pennsylvania Constitution of 1776. Its printing played a significant role in enhancing Franklin's reputation in France.

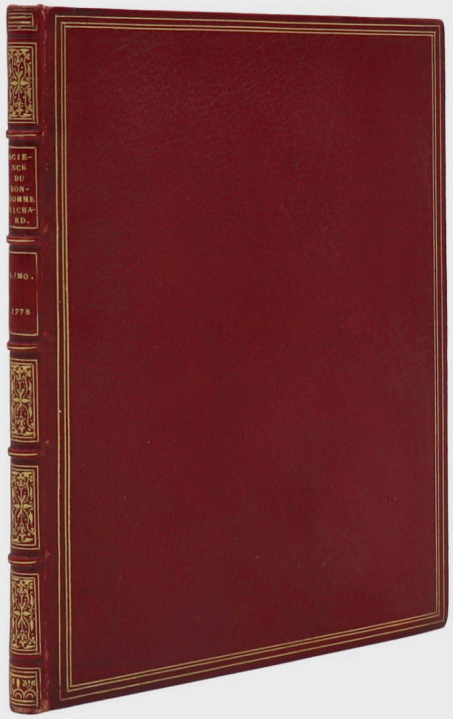

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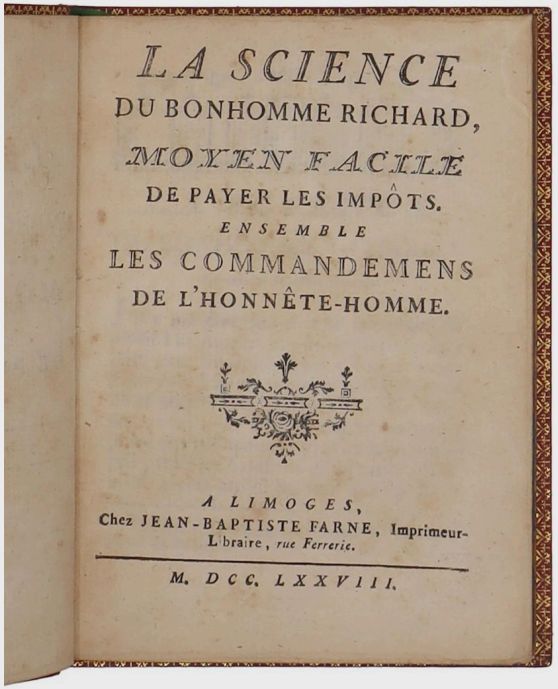
LA SCIENCE
DU BONHOMME RICHARD,
OU
MOYEN FACILE
DE PAYER LES IMPÔTS.

TRADUIT DE L'ANGLOIS.

A PHILADELPHIE.
Et se trouve
A PARIS, chez RUAULT, Libraire
rue de la Harpe.
1777.







26 *Unrecorded*

Franklin, Benjamin.

La Science du Bonhomme Richard, Moyen Facile de Payer les Impôts. Ensemble les Commandemens de l'Honnête-Homme. Limoges: Chez Jean-Baptiste Farne, 1778.

44 pp. 16mo. Nineteenth-century full red morocco gilt, by E. Niedree, marbled endpapers, gilt edges. Not in Ford.

[378134] **$2,500**

A lovely edition, printed in France during the Revolution.

27 *Revolutionary War Allegorical Engraving*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Borel, Antoine; after.

L'Amérique Indépendante. Dediée au Congrès des Etats unis de l'Amérique. Paris: Ches l'Auteur rue Boucherat au coin de la rue Xaintonge, 1778.

Allegorical engraving, engraved by J. C. le Vasseur. 19-5/8 x 14-5/8 inches (sheet size). Second state of two. Soiled and lightly toned, dampstained at lower margin, several closed tears extending into the plate neatly repaired, restoration to margins, pencil markings. Carson 1764; Halsey i.146; Sellers, Benjamin Franklin in Portraiture, pp. 120–121, 194–197.

[379258] **$3,000**

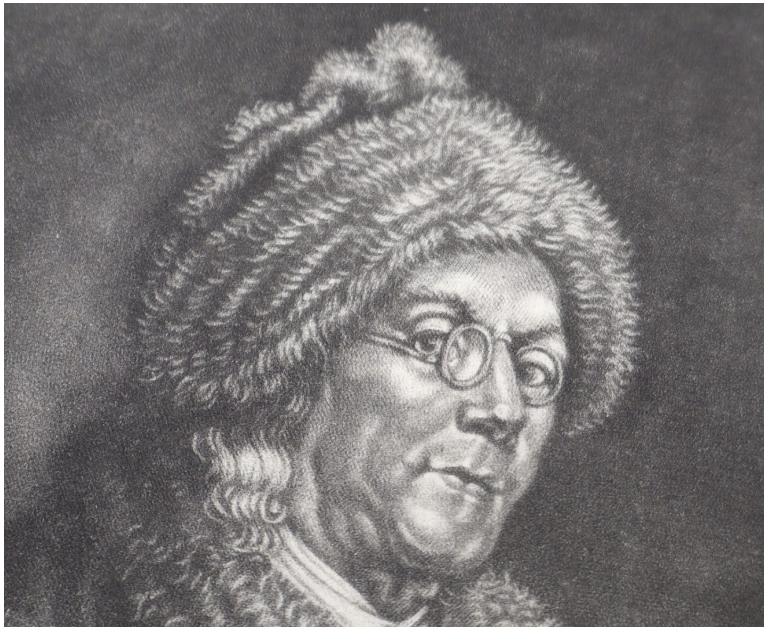
A rare symbolic representation of the American Revolution, dedicated to the American Congress, printed soon after France's entry into the war. The engraving features allegorical figures surrounding Benjamin Franklin, who stands centrally in a Roman toga, crowned with oak leaves: a kneeling indigenous woman represents America and embraces a pedestal upon which stands Liberty; Minerva protects Franklin from above as Prudence overlooks his shoulder; Courage batters Britain and Neptune with a club; and Commerce and Agriculture watch from the sidelines. Below the image is a seal similar to that of the Continental eight-dollar bill: a harp with the motto, "Majora minoribus consonat," or "the great are in harmony with the smaller," surrounded by a chain of thirteen links labeled with the names of the colonies (Sellers). This is the second state of two, the prior being a proof without the dedication to Congress.

In a letter from Franklin to Borel dated 24 June 1778, Franklin – at the height of his popularity in France – wrote: "On reading again the Prospectus and Explanation of your Intended Print, I find the whole Merit of giving Freedom to America, continues to be ascrib'd to me, which, as I told you in our first Conversation, I could by no means approve of, as it would be unjust to the Numbers of wise and brave Men who by their Arms and Counsels have shared in the Enterprize and contributed to its Success, (as far as it has yet succeeded) at the Hazard of their Lives and Fortunes. My Proposition to you was, and continues to be, that instead of naming me in particular, in the Explanation of the Print, it should be said, The Congress, represented by a Senator in Roman Dress, &c. As it stands, I cannot consent to accept the Honour you propose to do me by dedicating the Print to me, which I understand is in this Country considered, as an Approbation."

Antoine Borel (1743-c.1810), French painter and engraver, was a pupil at the Académie royale and received second prize in 1777.







28 *An Iconic Image of Franklin*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Cochin, Charles-Nicolas; after.

Benjamin Franklin. Né à Boston, dans la nouvelle Angleterre le 17 Janvier 1706. Augsburg: [ca. 1778].

Engraved portrait after Cochin, engraved by Johann Martin Will. Approx. 14-1/2 x 9-1/2 inches, wide margins. Faint mat burn, paper restoration in the top margin. Sellers, pp. 227-31.

[378308] **$3,500**

Portrait of Benjamin Franklin engraved by Johann Martin Will after the original image by Charles-Nicolas Cochin. The portrait shows Franklin standing, wearing a fur hat and spectacles, facing right in three-quarter length profile. In his left hand he holds a folded sheet of paper, while his right hand rests atop a table; an ink stand, quill, and pen knife are also present, along with wax and a seal.

The original engraving by Cochin merely shows Franklin's head, topped with his famous fur hat, but many imitators embraced this image after its initial publication. Franklin's portrait was created upon his arrival in France as a commissioner from the newly independent United States. Sellers says of the image: "Because of it, the sensational fact of Franklin's arrival in France and the sensational costume which so effectively dramatized his role as envoy from the New World to the Old reached every part of Europe, creating an image of tremendous value to Franklin's purpose."

29 *Franklin in His Fur Hat*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Rugendas, Johann Lorenz; engraver.

Benjamin Franklin. Né à Boston, dans la nouvelle Angleterre le 17 Janvier 1706. Augsburg: [ca. 1778].

Mezzotint portrait engraved by Johann Lorenz Rugendas. 13-1/2 x 9 inches, wide margins. A fine dark impression. Sellers pp. 227-31.

[378309] **$4,500**

The portrait shows Franklin seated at a writing desk, wearing a fur hat and spectacles in a fur-trimmed robe, facing left in three-quarter length profile. In his left hand he holds a sheet of paper, while his right hand reaches inside his robe at chest level; an ink stand, quill, and pen knife are also on the desk, along with a stack of correspondence. One of the letters is addressed to "Monsieur Franklin, A Paris."

Upon his arrival in France as a commissioner from the newly independent United States, Charles-Nicolas Cochin engraved a portrait of Franklin wearing his audacious fur cap. The famous image drew many imitators and variations. Sellers says of the image: "Because of it, the sensational fact of Franklin's arrival in France and the sensational costume which so effectively dramatized his role as envoy from the New World to the Old reached every part of Europe, creating an image of tremendous value to Franklin's purpose." This variant of the image is not mentioned by Sellers.









30 *An Unusual Depiction of Franklin*

(Franklin, Benjamin).

Le Tombeau de Voltaire. Paris: chez Alibert Md. Estampes, au Palais Royal. Et chez le Noir du Cabinet des Estampes du Roi, au Louvre, [circa 1778].

Engraved print, engraved by C. Macret, on laid paper. 10-1/8 x 13-3/8 inches (sheet size). Carson 1780.

[378306] **$1,000**

A scarce allegorical print, dedicated to Madame la Marquise de Villette, depicting representatives of the four continents being chased from Voltaire's tomb by an evil angel representing Ignorance: Benjamin Franklin dressed as a Native American wearing his iconic beaver hat; a robed Empress Catharine II holds a laurel; Prince Orinoko stands behind the two; and a stern looking d'Alembert holding back the Empress.

An unusual depiction of Franklin.

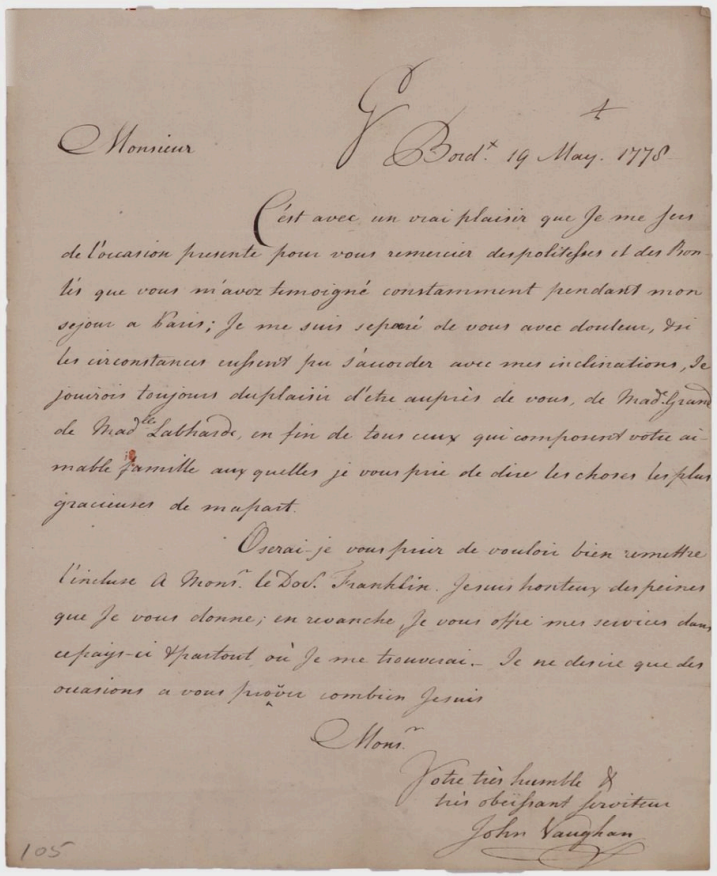
31 *Franklin Receives Intelligence from America*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Vaughan, John.

Autograph Letter, Signed, in French, to French banker Ferdinand Grand, asking for intelligence concerning the Revolution to be sent to Benjamin Franklin. Bordeaux, France: May 19, 1778.

[1] p. manuscript letter written on a folded folio sheet, addressed and docketed on p.[4]; plus [2] pp. manuscript news sheet written on both sides of a quarto sheet. Both documents with old folds. The letter has two tears in the address leaf from the wax seal. Overall, near fine. In a half morocco and cloth folding case, spine gilt.

[378208] **$4,500**


Monsieur

Bord.x 19 May. 1778

C'est avec un vrai plaisir que Je me sers de l'occasion presente pour vous remercier des politesses et des bontés que vous m'avez temoigné constamment pendant mon sejour a Paris; Je me suis separé de vous avec douleur, si les circonstances eussent pu s'accorder avec mes inclinations, Je jouirois toujours du plaisir d'etre auprès de vous, de Mad.e Grand de Mad.e Lathaude, en fin de tous ceux qui composent votre aimable famille aux quelles je vous prie de dire les choses les plus gracieuses de ma part.

Oserai-je vous prier de vouloir bien remettre l'incluse a Mons.r le Doct.r Franklin. Je suis honteux des peines que Je vous donne; en revanche Je vous offre mes services dans ce pays-ci Partout où Je me trouverai. Je ne desire que des ocasions a vous prouver combien Je suis

Mons.r

Votre très humble &
très obeissant serviteur
John Vaughan

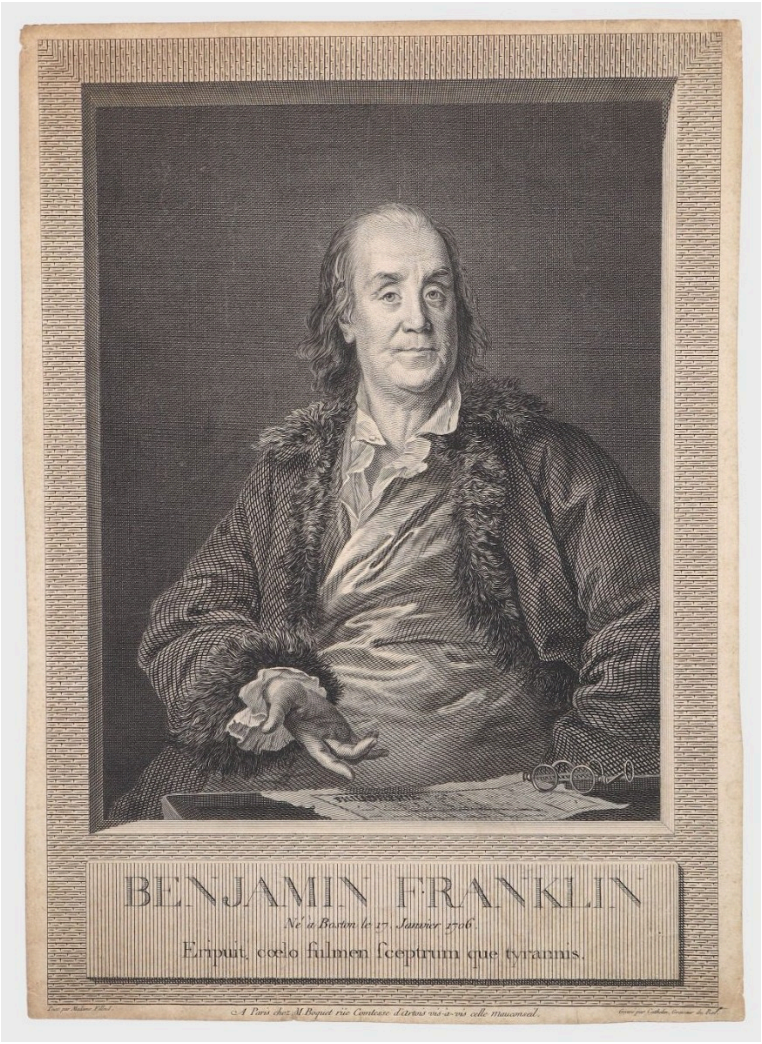
105

A very interesting manuscript letter from British merchant John Vaughan to Parisian banker Ferdinand Grand, asking Grand to pass along to Benjamin Franklin an accompanying manuscript filled with news of events in Revolutionary America.

John Vaughan (1756-1841) was an English wine merchant from a prominent family, and sympathetic to the American cause during the Revolution. He met Benjamin Franklin in Paris in 1778, and in 1782 emigrated to the United States, where he became treasurer and librarian of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia (of which Franklin was the first president). Ferdinand Grand acted as the banking representative of the United States in Paris, and was Benjamin Franklin's personal banker there.

Vaughan's letter, written from Bordeaux, exchanges family pleasantries with Grand, and asks him to forward the enclosed manuscript news sheet to Benjamin Franklin. The manuscript that Vaughan asked to be forwarded to Franklin, also written in French, is filled with news from America for the years 1776 to 1778. Vaughan writes (in translation) "that American affairs could not be in a better state." Most of the news is of military events, beginning with General Howe's attempt to turn American prisoners of war to the British side following the capture of Fort Washington in November 1776. "After General [Howe] took Fort Washington, he addressed all the prisoners of war and told them the King wished to pardon all of them who would renew their oath of allegiance to him and would serve him again. He believed they would thankfully fall in with this suggestion, but to his astonishment Lord Stirling replied on behalf of them all: 'Sir, we are engaged in defending our country, and the freedom given us by God, which is consequently our natural right; whatever our fate may be we will submit to it without protest...and we are convinced this battle will be the last you will win over us....' If all the inhabitants of the 13 colonies had reasoned thus, they would have been free long ago." The news continues by recounting that Washington had been made commander in chief of the Continental Army, describing Washington's complaints to Howe over the treatment of American prisoners, and the repulsion of British troops from Philadelphia. There is also the discussion of the capture and hanging of a spy who was apparently aiding the British in subverting the defense of Philadelphia. The sheet also relates that Thomas Wharton has been made president and governor of Pennsylvania, and that American corsairs "are harassing the Royal navy."

An interesting collection of Revolutionary War news, meant to make its way into the hands of Benjamin Franklin in France, discussing significant military events in the early history of the war, as well as military and political news regarding Franklin's beloved Philadelphia.



32 *After the Painting by Anne Rosalie Filleul*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Filleul, Anne Rosalie, after.

Benjamin Franklin. Né a Boston le 17 Janvier 1706. Paris: chez Boquet, [1779].

Engraved portrait after Filleul by Louis Jacques Cathelin. 13-3/4 x 9-7/8 inches. A bit toned. Seller, plate 23, p. 282.

[378307] **$1,500**

After the painting by Anne Rosalie Filleul. "Mme. Filleul's painting must have been made expressly for this engraving, published by her father. Cathelin had been admitted as academician of the Académie Royale in 1777, and exhibited his 'Franklin' at the next Salon, that of 1779. It was praised by a contemporary critic as a better resemblance than the bust by Houdon or the painting by Duplessis" (Sellers).

Franklin is depicted seated within a window-like aperture in a stone or masonry wall. He is shown from the waist, facing forward, his head turned slightly to his left, his hair to his shoulders. He is shown in casual dress, wearing a shirt open at the neck, a garment wrapped across his chest, and a fur-trimmed dressing gown or banyan. He points with his right hand to a document on a table before him, with "Philadelphie" written in the upper left corner. On the opposite edge of the paper is a pair of spectacles.

33 *With a False Boston Imprint*

Franklin, Benjamin.

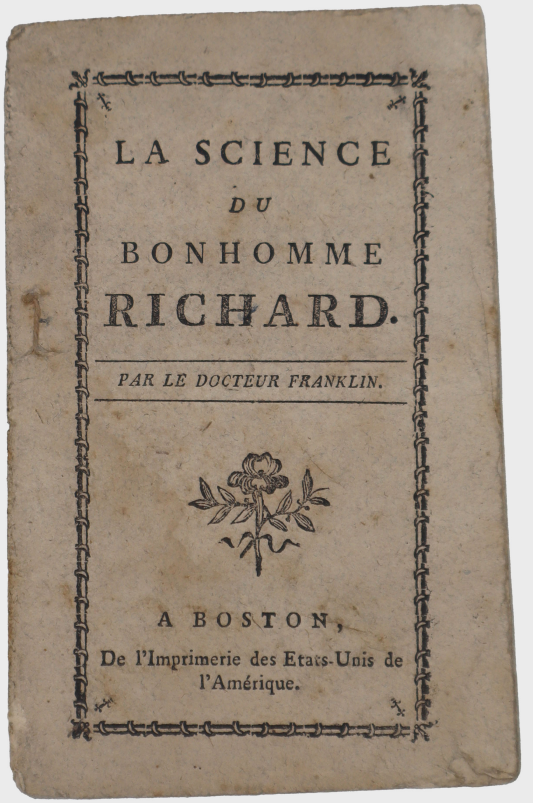
La Science du Bonhomme Richard [wrapper title]. Boston [but France]: De l'Imprimerie des Etats-Unis de l'Amerique, [circa 1780].

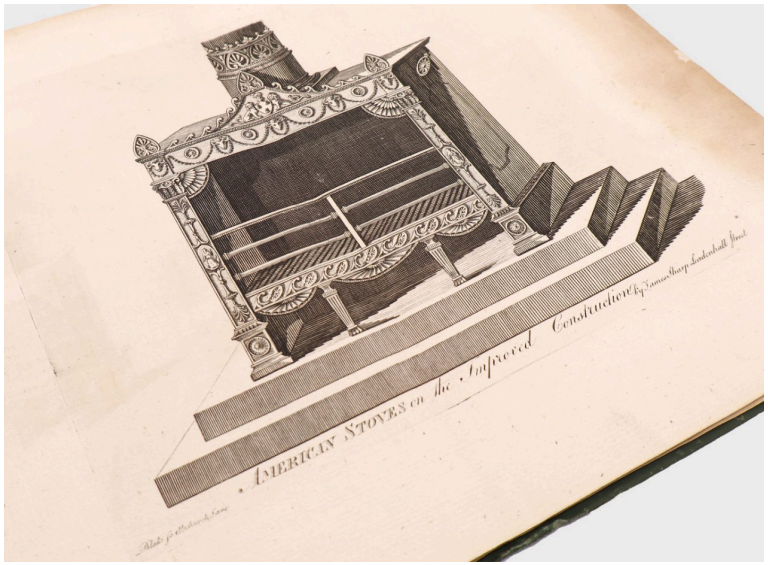
22, [2] pp. [including wrappers]. 12mo. Publisher's self wrappers. This edition not in Ford.

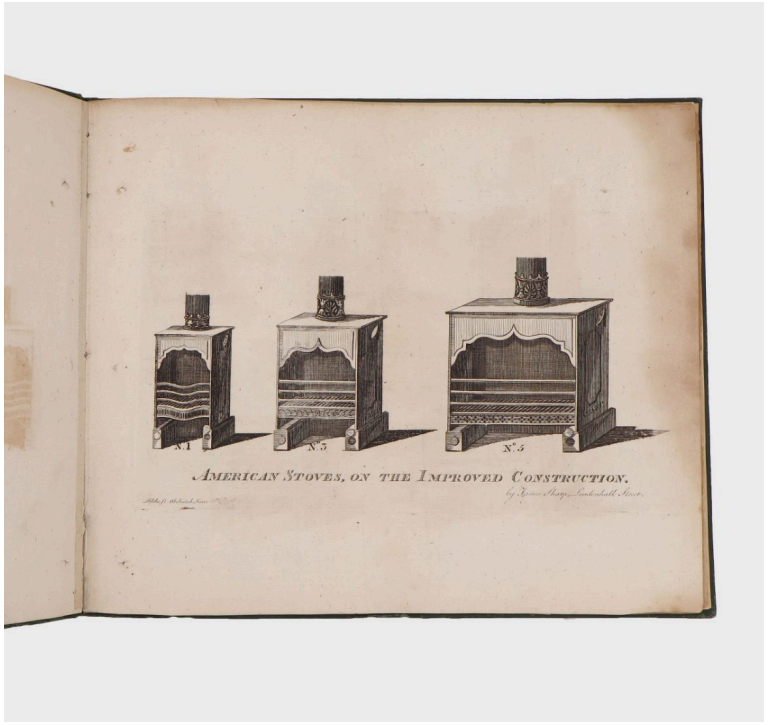
[379265] **$2,500**

This first French edition, translated by Francis A. Quetant, also contained Franklin's examination before the House of Commons relative to the Stamp Act and a printing of the revolutionary Pennsylvania Constitution of 1776. Its printing played a significant role in enhancing Franklin's reputation in France. Numerous French printings followed, including those, like the present, with false imprints. Mitch Fraas, in his Don't Believe that Imprint (blog post on June 13, 2013, http://mappingbooks.blogspot.com) cites an "explosive increase" of false American imprints appearing in Europe around the time of the American Revolution, particularly in French. "This boom," he writes "is closely related to the subject matter of the books. Many of those claiming American origin relate to the radical politics of the revolution, the nature of colonies, and the problems of empire. Adding 'Philadelphie' [or Boston, as the present] to the title page was likely done not necessarily to fool readers but as part of the overall textual impact of the work."

OCLC locates but a single example (Boston Public Library). Carpenter ascribes a date of [1788?] based on Echeverra & Wilkie doing so, though that date ascribed merely because of an entry in an early 20th century bookseller catalogue. It is far more likely to have been printed between 1778 and 1783.







34 *Trade Catalogue of Franklin Stoves*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Sharp, James.

Exposé du Principe et des Effets des Grilles à Feu Pensilvanienes, (Lesquelles échauffent les Appartemens par une Introduction et un Renouvellement continu d'Air frais,) Communément connues sous le Nom de Poêles Américains. [London: James Sharp, circa 1782].

Three engraved plates with captions in English. [4], [2], 4-14, [1, blank] pp. Oblong folio. Later green cloth, morocco label on the upper cover. Bookplate on the front pastedown. ESTC T18760 (English edition).

[378130] **$4,500**

A rare and unusual English trade catalogue in French produced by James Sharp to advertise his "American" or "Pennsylvania" stoves which were based on Benjamin Franklin's design. The imprint notes that the work was issued in English or in English and French. Copies exist with varying number of plates and pagination and seemingly no bibliographical issue points to discern. The present example includes three engraved plates, with English captions, depicting nine varieties of elaborately decorated stoves in neo-classical design. The text, in French throughout, comprises a half title (verso blank), a title (verso blank), six leaves of text in two columns (the first leaf unnumbered with verso blank, the others with text on each side numbered 4-13) and with a final Avertissement leaf numbered 14 (verso blank).

35 *To Benjamin Franklin on the End of the War*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Montgomery, Dorcas.

Autograph Letter, Signed "D Montgomery" to Benjamin Franklin. Geneva: January 25, 1782.

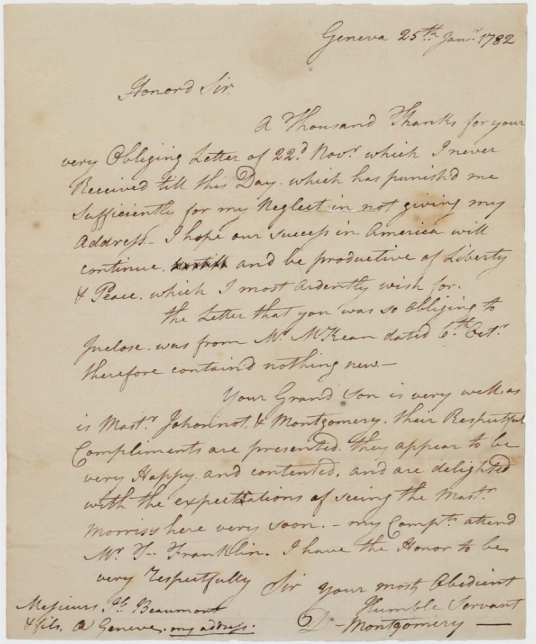
1 p., plus integral address leaf, folded quarto sheet. Published in The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, vol. 36, p. 481 (from a 1955 photostat of the letter).

[378049] **$2,000**

Dorcas Montgomery (d. 1806), a native of Newcastle, DE, was an old friend of Sarah Bache and the widow of Franklin's friend Robert Montgomery. During the Revolution, she lived in France and Switzerland and kept a social correspondence with Franklin, largely concerning the education of her son Robert, who became friends with Franklin's grandson Benjamin Franklin Bache in Geneva.

In this, the final letter from Dorcas Montgomery to Franklin recorded in the Papers, written just a few months after news of the American victory at Yorktown was received in France, she writes:

"A Thousand Thanks for your very Obliging Letter of 22d. Novr.7 which I never Received till this Day which has punish'd me Sufficiently for my Neglect in not giving my Address. I hope our success in America will continue and be productive of Liberty & Peace which I most Ardently wish for. The Letter that you was so obliging to Inclose was from Mr. MKean [i.e. Thomas McKean] dated 6th. Octr. therefore contain'd nothing new. Your Grand Son [i.e. Benjamin Franklin Bache] is very well, as is Mastr. Johonnot [i.e Samuel Cooper Johonnot], & Montgomery [her son], their Respectful Compliments are presented. They appear to be very Happy and contented, and are delighted with the expectations of seeing the Mastr Morris's [Robert Morris Jr., and Thomas Morris here very soon. My Compts. attend Mr. T— Franklin. I have the Honor to be very Respectfully Sir Your most Obedient Humble Servant..."


Geneva 25th Jan. 1782

Honord Sir

A Thousand Thanks for your very Obliging Letter of 22d Novr which I never Received till this Day which has punish'd me Sufficiently for my Neglect in not giving my Address. I hope our Success in America will continue and be productive of Liberty & Peace which I most Ardently wish for. The Letter that you was so obliging to Inclose was from Mr. M.Kean dated 6th Octr therefore contain'd nothing new—

Your Grand Son is very well as is Mastr Johonnot & Montgomery, their Respectful Compliments are presented. They appear to be very Happy and contented, and are delighted with the expectations of seeing the Mastr Morris's here very soon. — my Compts attend Mr T— Franklin. I have the Honor to be very Respectfully Sir your most Obedient Humble Servant

Messieurs Le Beaumont & Fils. a Geneve, my address: D.e Montgomery —


Ex Excellency

Benn.a Franklin Esqr

Passy



36 *Written on Watt's Portable Copying Press*

Franklin, Benjamin.

Copying Press Autograph Letter, Signed "B. Franklin" to Benjamin Vaughan, thanking him for sending copies of his books, on Henry Laurens declining to serve as one of the peace commissioners for the negotiations leading to the Treaty of Paris, on various bills of credit which he is discussing with John Jay, and a lengthy note on how privateers and other "Occasions & Mischiefs of War" are to be dealt with in the peace negotiations. Passy: July 10, 1782.

3 pp., recto only on a bifolium and a single small folio thin sheets, watermarked "J. Watts & Co. Patent Copying." Franklin Papers 37:608.

[378332] **$15,000**

Franklin was an early adopter of James Watt's portable copying press, patented in 1780, in which a manuscript letter could be easily duplicated. By February 1781, three of these £6 6s machines, ordered from London stationer James Woodmason, had arrived at Franklin's home in Passy. The copying press was the size of a small travelling desk or writing slope, and the original letter, written with a special ink, was placed within a felt and pasteboard folder with a sheet of thin, moistened paper; the folder was then passed through two brass rollers on the press by turning a screw and the resulting pressure transferred an impression of the ink from the original onto the thin paper. The copy, a mirror-image whose ink penetrated the tissue completely, could be read through the thin paper on verso. For Franklin's use of the copying press see the Papers, BF to James Woodmason, 25 July 1780, editor's note.

The present letter is a copying press printing of Franklin's July 10, 1782 letter to Benjamin Vaughan in which he primarily discusses the peace negotiations to end the Revolutionary War and outlines his thoughts on the laws of nations for war and peace. A colonial sympathizer and longtime friend to Franklin, Vaughan (1751-1835) served in a variety of unofficial diplomatic missions during the American Revolution. Vaughan edited Franklin's Political, Miscellaneous and Philosophical Pieces (London, 1779). The original of this letter is unknown, and its text is known only from the present pressed copy.

continued

36 *continued*

TRANSCRIPTION

I have before me your several Favours of June 7, June 17, & July 9. The Box sent to Mr. Bowens at Ostend is also come to hand. It contain'd a Dozen 4to Vols. of my Writings, and a Number of Pamphlets which you have been so good as to chuse for me; but the Remembrancers, & Registers bought for me by Mr Young, and left by him as he tells me with Mr Johnson, to be sent me, were not included, & I hear nothing of them. I beg you would inquire about them.—

I wish you all kinds of good Fortune in your Speculations for America. I think you will be well serv'd by Mr Young, who appears to be an honest, capable and discerning Man.

Mr Laurens is gone to the South of France, and has declined acting in the Commission for making Peace. Mr Oswald has not given me the Acct you suppose he may have given, of a certain Person's strange Behaviour. When you have Leisure, acquaint me with it.—

I shall confer with Mr Jay concerning the Bills. There will be no Difficulty in getting them paid if he approves of it. Should his first Opinion continue, I cannot interfere, the Bills being drawn on him. What you tell me, of the first Indorser's going out with a Passport from me, and that these Bills were remitted as part Payment, shows me that I was imposed on by that man; my Passport was obtained on Assurance that the Goods to be carried over were bona fide the Property of the intended Settler; and should not have been used as a Cover for the Goods of English Merchants intrusted to him, to carry on a contraband Commerce.— The Bills of Harley & Drummond which you mention as having been enclosed in the same Letter, afford farther Suspicion of his Situation in that Country, & that the Bills have not been fairly come by.—

Your Sentiments relating to Privateers appear to me very just, & those concerning Arbitrators not less so, tho' perhaps less likely to be adopted. I go with you as far as you go, in Proposals for diminishing the Occasions & Mischiefs of War, & perhaps a little farther.— By the Original Law of Nations, War & Extirpation was the Punishment of Injury. Humanizing by degrees, it admitted Slavery instead of Death. A farther Step was, the Exchange of Prisoners instead of Slavery. Another, to respect more the property of private Persons under Conquest, & to be content with acquir'd Dominion. Why should not this Law of Nations go on improving? Ages have interven'd between its several Steps; but as Knowledge of late encreases rapidly, why should not those Steps be quicken'd? Why should it not be agreed to as the future Law of Nations that in any War hereafter the following Descriptions of Men should be undisturbed, have the Protection of both sides, & be permitted to follow their employments in Surety, viz

1. Cultivators of the Earth, because they labor for the Subsistance of Mankind.
2. Fishermen, for the same Reason.
3. Merchants & Traders, in unarm'd Ships; who accommodate different Nations by communicating & exchanging the Necessaries and Conveniencies of Life.
4. Artists & Mechanics, inhabiting & working in open Towns.

It is hardly necessary to add that the Hospitals of Enemies should be unmolested; they ought to be assisted.

In short, I would have nobody fought with but those who are paid for Fighting. If obliged to take Corn from the Farmer, Friend or Enemy, I would pay him for it; the same for the Fish or Goods of the others.

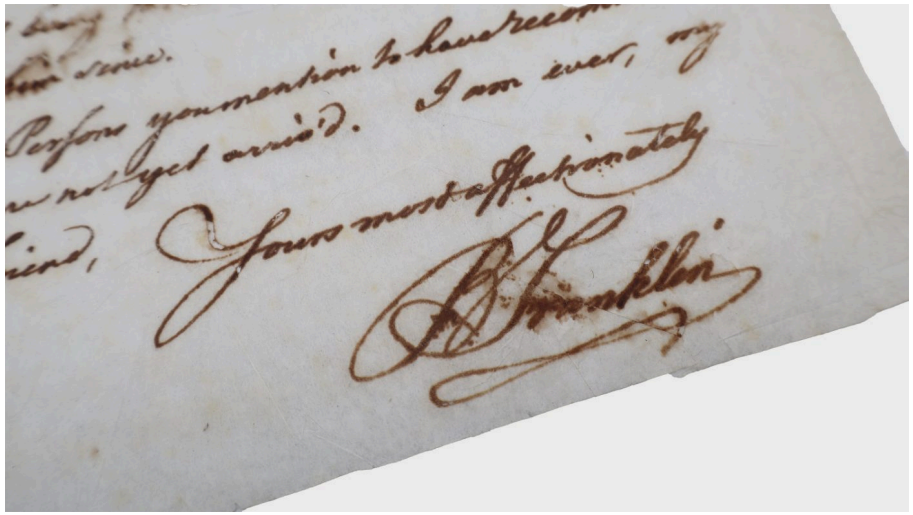
This once established, that Encouragement to war which arises from Spirit of Rapine would be taken away, and Peace therefore more likely to continue & be lasting.—

I send you the Passport you desire for the young Man. His Talents may be useful in a new Country.

Your Brother John is arriv'd in New York, the Vessel being taken. I have heard nothing more of him since.

The Persons you mention to have recommended to me, are not yet arriv'd. I am ever, my dear Friend, Yours most affectionately,

B Franklin.



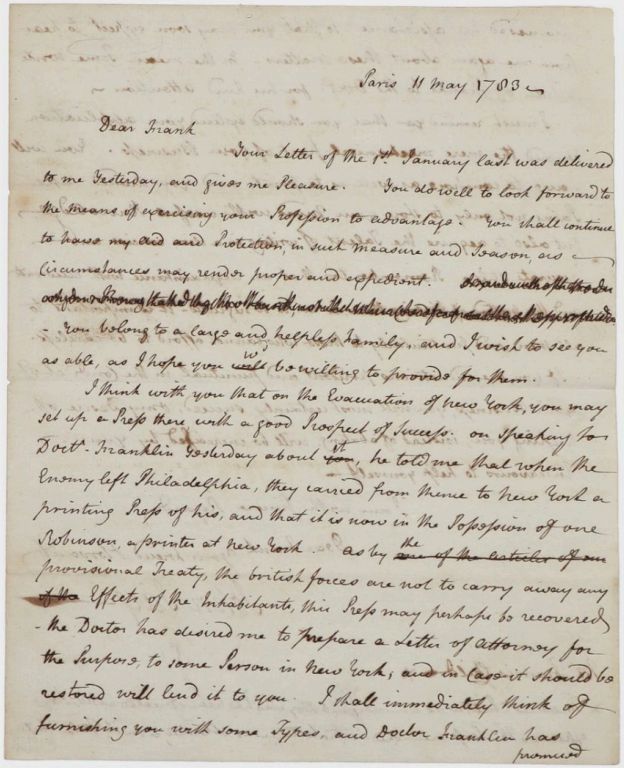
37 *An Extraordinary Letter Concerning Franklin's Printing Press*

Jay, John.

Autograph Letter, Signed to Francis Child, encouraging him in the printing business, suggesting that he establish himself in New York following the British evacuation and relaying an offer from Benjamin Franklin to use one of his printing presses that had been seized by the British and brought to New York.
Paris: May 11, 1783.

2 pp., plus integral blank. Cross-outs and corrections. Later inscription at the bottom of the second leaf giving biographical details on Child. Usual folds. Henry P. Johnston, ed., The Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay ... (4 vols., New York and London, [1890–93]), III, 45–6.

[378055] **$7,500**



Paris 11 May 1783

Dear Frank

Your Letter of the 1st January last was delivered to me Yesterday, and gives me Pleasure. You did well to look forward to the means of rendering your Profession to advantage. You shall continue to have my aid and Protection, in such measure and Season, as Circumstances may render proper and expedient. [illegible]
- You belong to a large and helpless Family, and I wish to see you as able, as I hope you will be willing to provide for them.

I think with you that on the Evacuation of New York, you may set up a Press there with a good Prospect of Success. on speaking to Doct. Franklin Yesterday about it, he told me that when the Enemy left Philadelphia, they carried from thence to New York a printing Press of his, and that it is now in the Possession of one Robinson, a printer at New York. as by the provisional Treaty, the british forces are not to carry away any of the Effects of the Inhabitants, this Press may perhaps be recovered - the Doctor has desired me to prepare a Letter of attorney for the Purpose, to some Person in New York, and in case it should be restored will lend it to you. I shall immediately think of furnishing you with some Types, and Doctor Franklin has promised

continued

In Paris with John Adams and Benjamin Franklin to negotiate the terms of the Treaty of Paris to end the Revolution, John Jay writes a letter of encouragement to Francis Childs, then a young printer in New York, relaying an offer to allow him to use Franklin's press that had been seized by the British and brought to New York during the war.

"This aspiring printer (1763–1830), born in Philadelphia to a family named Child, was known as Francis Child until February, 1785, when he added an "s" to his last name as he prepared to launch his first independent venture, the New-York Daily Advertiser. John Jay had been Francis' sponsor ever since the boy's father died, providing for his education and arranging for an apprenticeship under Philadelphia printer John Dunlap. With Jay's encouragement, Childs moved to New York in 1783 ... and found employment with the printer John Holt. After Holt died in January, 1784, Childs continued to work for his widow, Elizabeth, until establishing his own printing house the following year. In the early 1790s Childs became the printer to the state of New York, and with his partner, John Swaine, he opened an office in Philadelphia and printed for the United States government" (The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, vol. 41, September 16, 1783, through February 29, 1784, ed. Ellen R. Cohn. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2014, pp. 126–128, note 5).

See the Papers of Benjamin Franklin for the October 20, 1783 letter from Child to Franklin, thanking him for his interest and writing that he was now in possession of Franklin's press, "I shall endeavour to make use of it in such manner as shall convince you that your condescending to favor me is not unmeritted."

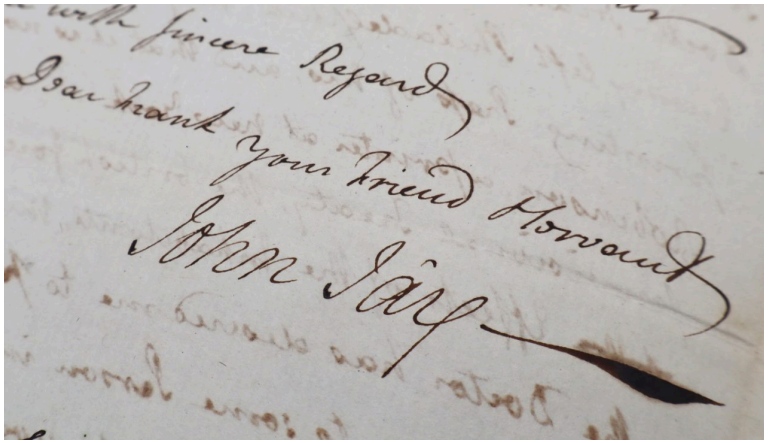
37 *continued*

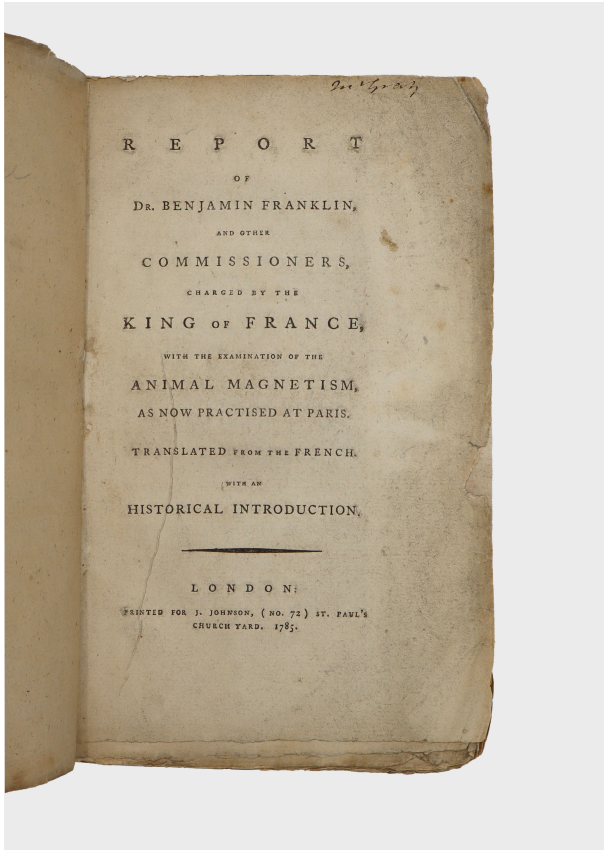
TRANSCRIPTION

Your Letter of the 1st January last was delivered to me Yesterday, and gives me Pleasure. You do well to look forward to the means of exercising your Profession to advantage. You shall continue to have my Aid and Protection, in such measure and season, as Circumstances may render proper and expedient. You belong to a large and helpless family, and I wish to see you as able, as I hope you wd be willing to provide for them.

I think with you that on the Evacuation of New York, you may set up a Press there with a good Prospect of Success. On speaking to Doct. Franklin Yesterday about it, he told me that when the Enemy left Philadelphia, they carried from thence to New York a printing Press of his, and that it is now in the Possession of one Robinson [i.e. James Robertson], a printer at New York. As by the provisional Treaty, the British forces are not to carry away any of the Effects of the Inhabitants, this Press may perhaps be recovered. The Doctor has desired me to prepare a Letter of Attorney for the Purpose, to some Person in New York; and in Case it should be restored will lend it to you. I shall immediately think of furnishing you with some Types, and Doctor Franklin has promised his assistance — so that you may soon expect to hear from me again about these matters. In the mean time write a Letter of thanks to the Doct. for his kind Attention.

I must remind you that you should extend your application beyond the mere mechanical part of your Business. You will have to compose as well as to print, and you should take Pains not only to store your Mind with useful Knowledge, but also to acquire the Talent of writing in a clear concise and accurate Style. Remember too that an acquaintance with accounts and the method of keeping them, is not to be neglected — it is important to all men, and particularly to those who cannot afford to be careless. If you are industrious prudent and punctual in the Conduct of your Business, you will most certainly succeed, and my Desire of helping you, instead of abating, will be encreased by your Endeavours to help yourself.




REPORT
OF
DR. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,
AND OTHER
COMMISSIONERS,
CHARGED BY THE
KING OF FRANCE,
WITH THE EXAMINATION OF THE
ANIMAL MAGNETISM,
AS NOW PRACTISED AT PARIS.
TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.
WITH AN
HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION.
LONDON:
PRINTED FOR J. JOHNSON, (NO. 72) ST. PAUL'S
CHURCH YARD. 1785.

38 *First Edition in English of the Controversial Report on Mesmerism*

Franklin, Benjamin; Antoine-Laurent de Lavoisier; and others.

Report of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, and other Commissioners, Charged by the King of France, with the Examination of the Animal Magnetism as now Practised at Paris. Translated from the French. With an Historical Introduction. London: J. Johnson, 1785.

xx, 108 pp. Uncut. 8vo. First edition in English. Contemporary paper wrappers, stitched, minor repairs to the wrappers, early manuscript inscriptions on upper wrapper. Ford 361; Sabin 25579; ESTC N13072; Duveen-Klickstein 228.

[379278] **$6,000**

The first English-language edition after the first publication of this controversial report in Paris the previous year.

In 1779, Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer, namesake of "Mesmerism," created a medical sensation with the publication of his Mémoire sur la Découverte de Magnétisme Animal, one of the earliest modern treatises on the practice of hypnosis. "The basis of Mesmer's fame has been described as the creative function of an erroneous idea. In his doctoral thesis in medicine at the University of Vienna ... Mesmer revived the ancient doctrine of the influence exerted by the gravitational forces of the sun, moon, and planets on human well-being. He believed that health was the result of harmony between the bodily organs and planetary gravitation (a force he called "animal gravitation"); disease was then a disharmony, and the purpose of treatment was to restore harmony or equilibrium. In 1775, inspired by the experiments of the Jesuit astronomer Maximilian Hell, Mesmer began to use magnets in his treatment of patients, producing in them first a trance or somnambulic state in which they were neither asleep nor awake, and then convulsions or a crisis that led to a cure. Accordingly, he now attempted to explain his treatment as due to 'animal magnetism' in contrast to 'mineral magnetism.' He later found that he did not need the magnet to obtain these results but could produce them merely by touch" (Norman, One Hundred Books Famous in Medicine, 47).

Mesmer's unusual method of curing all sorts of mental and physical ailments created a wave of mini-hysteria in Paris, and prompted the King to order an official scientific inquiry. In 1784, Franklin, a fixture of French society by that time, was appointed to the commission and, along with Anton Lavoisier, ruled that the affects of "animal magnetism" were dependent on the imagination of the subject. Mesmer was disgraced and suppressed, and hypnotism was relegated to the world of occult science and parlor entertainment until Freud reintroduced hypnosis into 20th-century psychology.

The first official edition of the Report was published in quarto format in August 1784 at the King's private press in the Louvre but was reprinted in France immediately and widely in smaller format; this first English edition followed in 1785. Scarce, with only three other examples in the auction records for the last half century, including the Norman copy, sold within part 2 of his sale at Christie's in June 1998 (lot 673).

39 *A Celebrated Portrait*

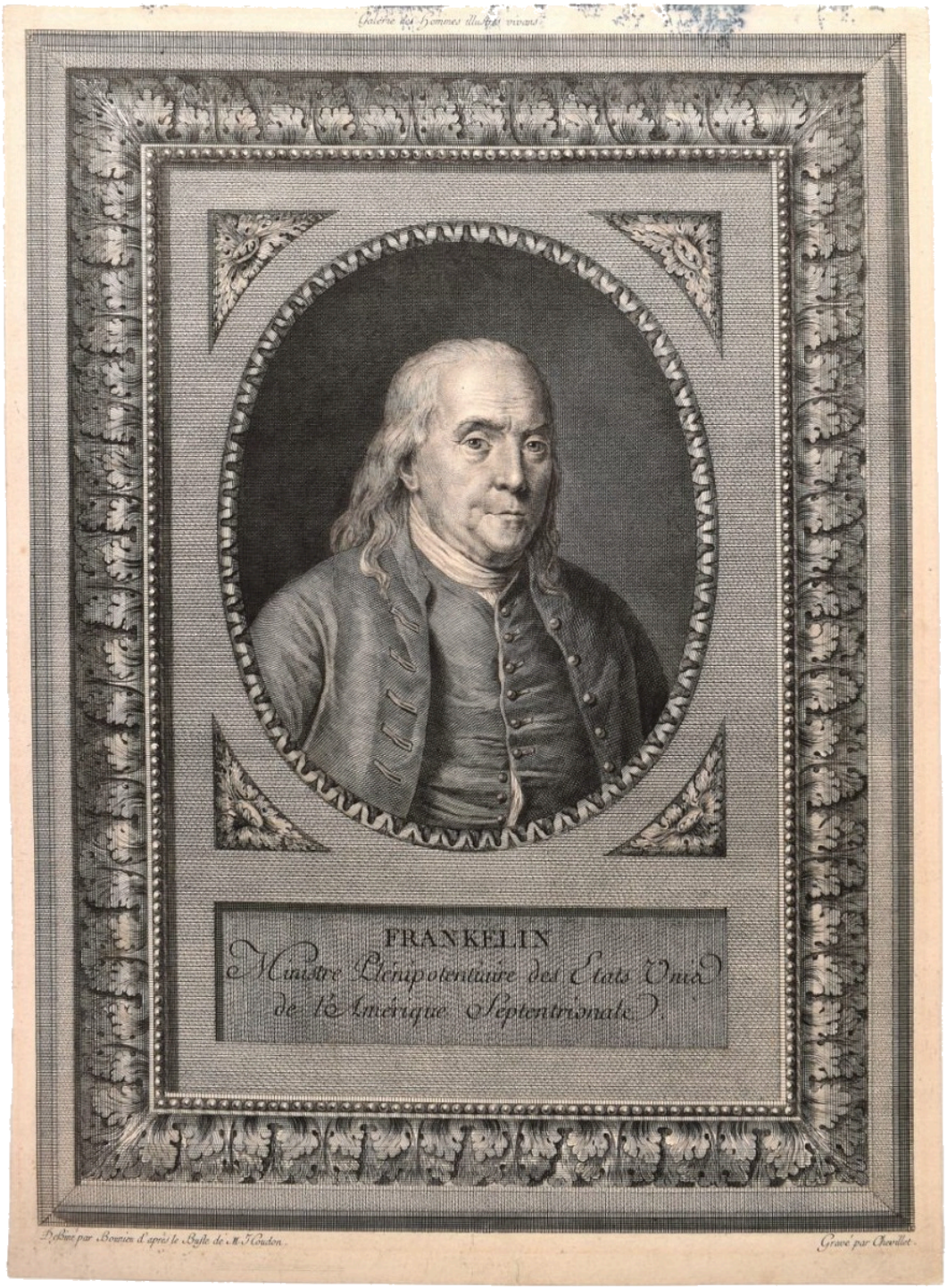
(Franklin, Benjamin). Bounieu, Michel-Honoré; after.

Frankelin [sic]. Ministre Plénipotentiare des Etats Unis de l'Amérique Septentrionale. [France: circa 1785].

Engraved portrait, by Chevillet. Approx. 14-1/4 x 10-1/2 inches (sheet size). Ink staining at top of image. Carson 1601.

[379092] **$1,500**

A celebrated 18th-century portrait after the 1778 bust by Houdin.





40 *With the First American Edition of Franklin's Chart of the Gulf Stream*

American Philosophical Society.

Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, Held at Philadelphia, for Promoting Useful Knowledge. Volume II. Philadelphia: Printed and Sold by Robert Aitken, 1786.

Five engraved folding plates (including a chart of the Gulf Stream at p. 316). xxxiiii, 397, [11] pp. 4to. First edition. Contemporary calf, spine ruled in gilt, red morocco lettering piece. Some foxing. Evans 19465; Rink 5; ESTC W15744; Wheat & Brun 721.

[378235] **$9,500**

The American Philosophical Society, the oldest learned society in the United States, was founded in 1743 by Benjamin Franklin for the purpose of "promoting useful knowledge." The first volume of the APS Transactions, however, was not published until 1771. "The volume was the first indication to many that the society was more than a name. In America, it sold well and became a source of pride to the members. ... The European reception of the volume surpassed the hopes of the most sanguine promoters. ... The chorus of praise swelled on every hand" (Hindle).

This second volume of the Transactions, issued in 1786, is most notable for its many contributions by Franklin, including his letter on smokey chimneys, an essay on measuring humidity with a hygrometer, a description of coal-burning stoves, and most importantly, his work on the Gulf Stream illustrated with a folding map – i.e., the first American edition of Franklin's map of the Gulf Stream.

continued



40 *continued*

The Gulf Stream is one of the most important natural phenomena affecting navigators in the Atlantic Ocean. First named by Benjamin Franklin, the Gulf Stream is a high speed river within the ocean, flowing from the Gulf of Mexico, around the southern tip of Florida and along the East Coast of North America to Cape Hatteras, before turning eastward across the Atlantic Ocean, where it continues to Iceland, the British Isles and Norway. Franklin began his study of the Gulf Stream in 1768, while serving as the postmaster of the British Colonies in North America. He had observed that the westward crossings were taking two weeks longer than the return journey and that this was a result of the current. Franklin discussed the matter with his cousin, Timothy Folger, a Nantucket sea captain who had worked his way up the ranks on New England fishing and merchant ships, who informed him of the current and his experiences. Franklin in turn asked Folger to compose a chart showing the location of the Gulf Stream. Franklin transmitted the finished chart to the British Postal Service and suggested that it be published for use by British sea captains charged with transmitting mail across the Atlantic. Instead of publishing a new map, the Post Office utilized an old chart of the Atlantic published by Mount & Page and had Folger's information engraved on what amounted to an obsolete chart in 1768.

"Thus, the first chart of the Gulf Stream was a fortuitous product of several complicated trends: the publication of maritime knowledge, the collaboration between landsmen and mariners, the growing pains of the British empire, and an emphatically colonial perspective on everything. It was a remarkable example of direct solicitation of information from a mariner, albeit one whose cousin was the most famous North American of the period. It was a landmark contribution to maritime cartography, which was only just beginning to chart the features of the open ocean" (Chaplin). The charts were distributed to Packet Captains for a brief period of time, but were largely ignored.

In 1775 and 1776, Franklin made two Atlantic crossings, during which time he tested the water temperatures in and out of the Gulf Stream and determined that the waters in the stream were warmer. This revived his interest in the Folger chart. On his arrival in Paris, he had it copied and printed by Le Rouge in 1782. After the Revolutionary War, Franklin published Folger's sketch of the Gulf Stream as part of an article within the present volume of the Transactions, as well as a very rare separately published offprint from the same.

This second volume of the Transactions is also of note for contributions by David Rittenhouse, Benjamin Rush, Dr. John Morgan, James Madison and others.

41 *Unpublished Manuscript Ode on Electricity*

[Malot, Marc-Antoine Lazare].

L'Electricité Pièce couronnée à l'Académie de Marseille, le 25 août 1786. [France: circa 1786].

6 pp., plus integral blank. Folio. Modern boards.

[378066] **$1,500**

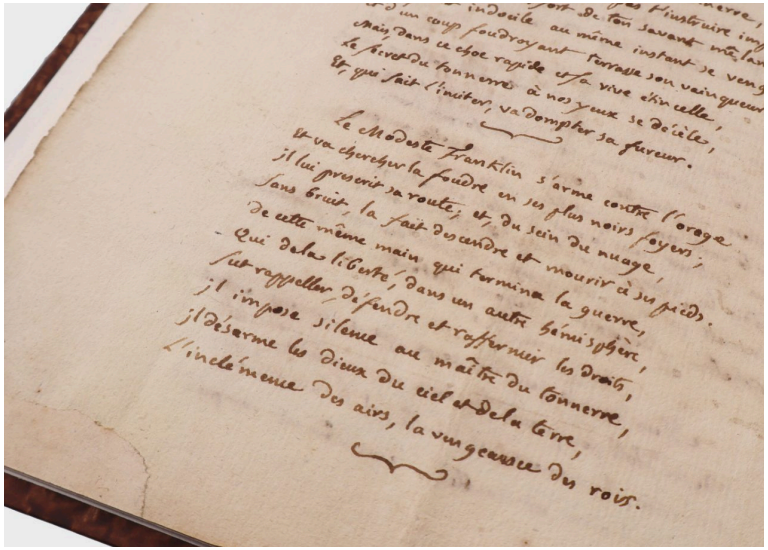
An unpublished manuscript ode on the wonders of electricity, written in 20 stanzas of decasyllabic 10-line units (dizains). The author, Marc-Antoine Lazare Malot, was a lawyer and the King's prosecutor at Avallon in Burgundy and submitted this poem to l'Académie de Marseille on August 25, 1786, for which he received a prize.

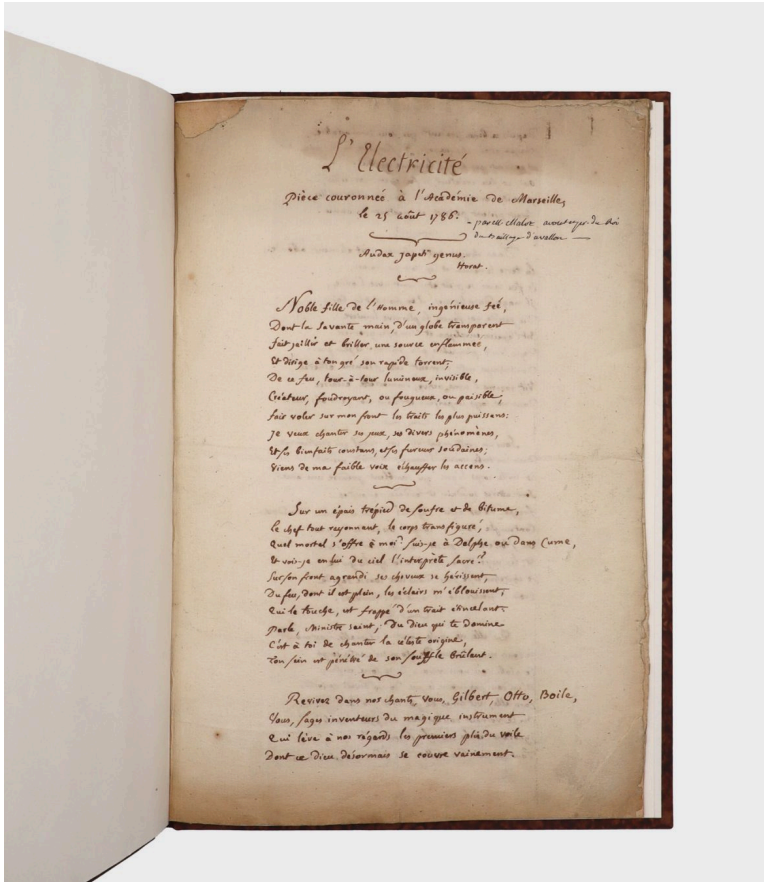
The thirteenth stanza contains lines on Benjamin Franklin:

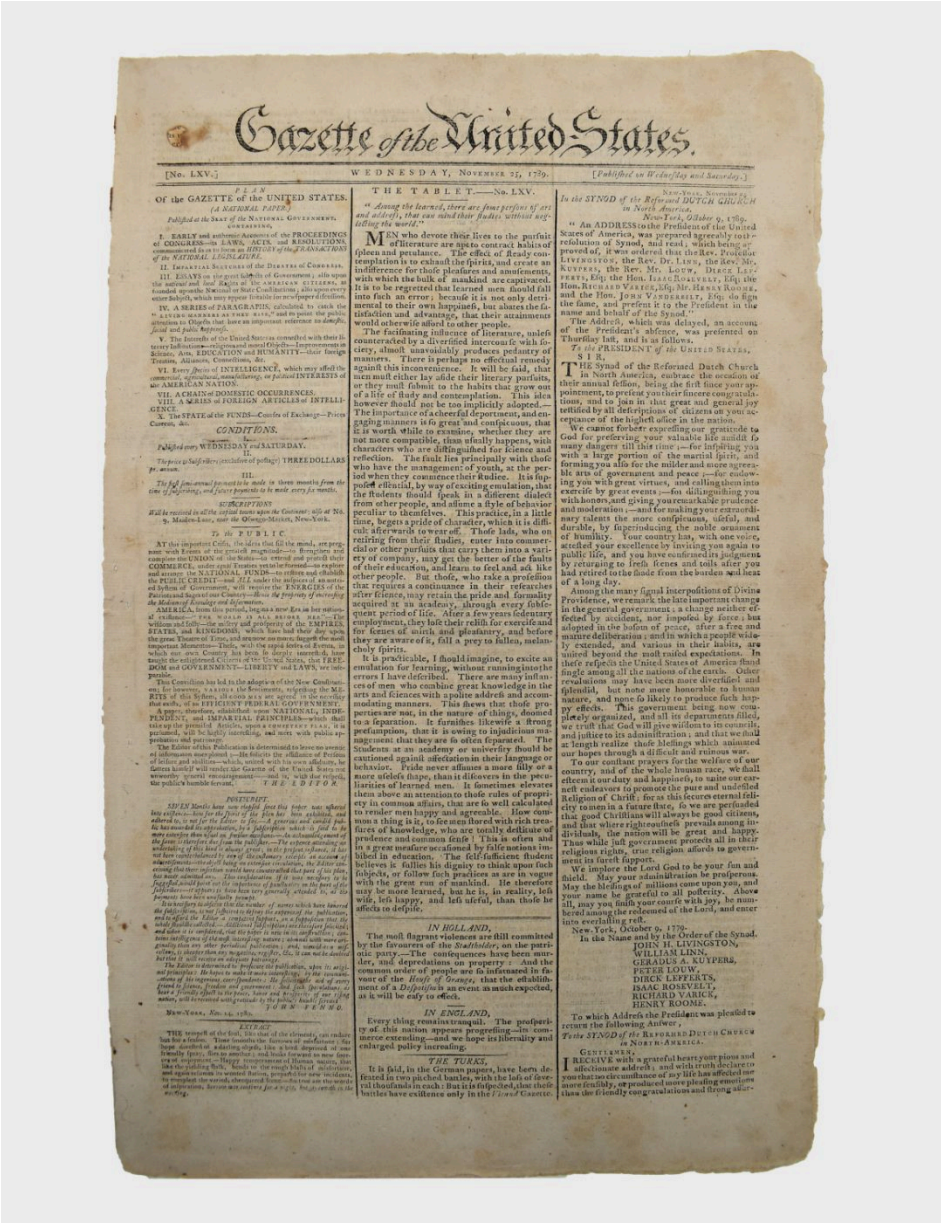
Le Modeste Franklin s'arme contre l'orage
Et va chercher la foudre en ses plus noirs foyers ;
Il lui prescrit sa route ; et, du sein du nuage,
Sans bruit, la fait descendre et mourir à ses pieds.
De cette même main qui termina la guerre,
Qui de la liberté, dans un autre hémisphère,
Sur rappeller, défendre et raffermir les droits,
Il impose silence au maître du tonnerre,
Il désarme les dieux du ciel et de la terre,
L'inclémence des airs, la vengeance des rois.

[Roughly translated]:

The modest Franklin arms himself against the storm
And goes to seek the lightning in its darkest lairs;
He prescribes its path; and from the heart of the cloud,
Silently, makes it descend and die at his feet.
With that same hand that ended the war,
That in another hemisphere recalled, defended
And reasserted the rights of liberty,
He silences the master of the thunder,
He disarms the gods of sky and earth,
The inclemency of the skies, the vengeance of kings.







Gazette of the United States.

[No. LXV.] WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1789. [Published on Wednesdays and Saturdays.]

PLAN
Of the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.
(A NATIONAL PAPER.)
Published at the SEAT of the NATIONAL GOVERNMENT,
CONTAINING,

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TO the PUBLIC.

AT this important Crisis, the idea that fill the mind, and prompt with Events of the greatest magnitude—to strengthen and complete the UNION of the States—to extend and protect their COMMERCE, under equal Treaties with the Powers of Europe—to explore and secure the NATIONAL FUNDS—to restore and establish the PUBLIC CREDIT—and ALL under the influence of an untried System of Government, will require the ENERGIES of the Patriotism and Sages of our Country—Hence the propriety of encreasing the Medium of Knowledge and Information.

AMERICA, from this period, begins a new Era in her national existence.—THE WORLD IS ALL ABROAD, SEA.—Politicians and Sects—the military and prosperity of the EMPIRES, STATES, and KINGDOMS, which have had their day upon the great Theatre of Time, and are now no more, forgott the most important Memorials—Thefe, with the rapid flotes of Events, in which our own Country has been fo largely interested, have taught the enlightened Citizens of the United States, that FREEDOM and GOVERNMENT—LIBERTY and LAWS, are inseparable.

This Conviction has led to the adoption of the New Constitution; for however, VARIOUS the Sentiments, refpecting the MERITS of this Syftem, all eyes are agreed in the neceffity that exifts, of an EFFICIENT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

A paper, therefore, eftablifhed upon NATIONAL, INDEPENDENT, and IMPARTIAL PRINCIPLES—which fhall take up the principal Articles, upon a FREQUENT PLAN, it is prefumed, will be highly intereffing, and meet with public approbation and patronage.

The Editor of this Publication is determined to leave no ornamental information unattempted:—He felicits the affiftance of Perfons of leifure and abilities—which, united with his own affiduity, he flatters himfelf will render the Gazette of the United States an univerfally general encouragement—and in which our refpect, the public's humble fervant,

THE EDITOR.

POSTSCRIPT.

SEVEN Months have now elapfed fince this paper was offered into exiftence—how far the fpirit of the fyftem has been adhered to, is not for the Editor to fay—fuccefs and candor muft be his encouragement in application, by a fubfcription which is fixed to be more reafonable than is ufual on publications—to encourage the fpirit of literature—but from the public.—To a fcheme attending to the intereft of the firft literary genius, in the prefent infancy, it has not been conftidered by any of the literary clafs, as matter of indifference—and if being in circulation, the Editor is encouraging the opinion, that a fyftem would have encreafed the fpirit of this plan, has moft affectionately, in the confideration of it not being fo, by fuppofed want of fpirit in the inhabitants of America in the part of the fubfcribers—of fpirit, it has been generally efteemed fo, of the moft honeft and well-wifhing people.

It is not fory to obferve that the number of names which have entered the publication, is not fufficient to defray the expences of the publication, and to afford the Editor a competency for his application and labour, which fhould be—Additional fubfcriptions are therefore requefted, and when it is conftdered, that the Editor is determined to fpare no pains to render intelligence of the moft interefting nature; abroad and home—no gazette has any other periodical publication; and, indeed in all refpects, is altogether free as a magazine, regifter, &c. it can not be doubted but that it will receive an adequate patronage.

The Editor is determined to profecute the publication, upon its original principles: He hopes to make it more entertaining, by the communications of his reprefent correfpondents: He folicits the aid of every friend to literature, freedom and government: And fuch fpeculators, as have a friendly afpect to the times, have and profperity of our infant nation, will be entitled with gratitude by the public's humble fervant,

JOHN FENNO.

NEW-YORK, Nov. 14, 1789.

LITERATURE.

THE tempeft of the foul, like that of the elements, can endure but for a feafon. Time reunites the fractures of misfortune: Sin begat deteftion of adulating objects, like a bird deprived of one friendly fpray, flies to another; and looks forward to new fources of enjoyment.—Happy temperament of Human nature, that like the yielding fteel, bends to the rough blafts of misfortune, and again returns to wonted fmiles, prepared for new incidents, to triumph the worfted, chaftened fpirit—for out are the wounds of misfortune, forrow not endures for a night, but, at moft, is the work of a day.

THE TABLET.—No. LXV.

"Among the learned, there are fome perfons of art and addrefs, that can mind their ftudies, without neglecting the world."

MEN who devote their lives to the purfuit of literature are apt to contract habits of fplene and petulance. The effect of ftudy contemplation is to exhauft the fpirits, and create an indifference for thofe pleafures and amufements, with which the bulk of mankind are captivated. It is to be regretted that learned men fhould fall into fuch an error; becaufe it is not only detrimental to their own happinefs, but abates the fatisfaction and advantage, that their attainments would otherwife afford to other people.

The fafcinating influence of literature, unlefs counteracted by a diverfified intercourfe with fociety, almoft unavoidably produces pedantry of manners. There is perhaps no effectual remedy againft this inconvenience. It will be faid, that men muft either lay afide their literary purfuits, or they muft fubmit to the habits that grow out of a life of ftudy and contemplation. This idea however fhould not be too implicitly adopted.—The importance of a cheerful depofitment, and engaging manners is fo great and confpicuous, that it is worth while to examine, whether they are not more compatible, than ufually happens, with characters who are diftinguifhed for fcience and reflection. The fault lies principally with thofe who have the management of youth, at the period when they commence their ftudies. It is fuppofed eflential, by way of exciting emulation, that the ftudents fhould fpeak in a different dialect from other people, and aflume a ftyle of behavior peculiar to themfelves. This practice, in a little time, begets a pride of character, which it is difficult afterwards to wear off. Thofe lads, who on retiring from their ftudies, enter into commercial or other purfuits that carry them into a variety of company, may get the better of the fault of their education, and learn to feel and act like other people. But thofe, who take a profeffion that requires a continuance in their refpective ftudies, may retain the pride and formality acquired at an academy, through every fubfequent period of life. After a few years fedentary employment, they loft their relifh for exercife and for fcenes of amufement, and before they are aware of it, fall a prey to fullen, melancholy fpirits.

It is practicable, I fhould imagine, to excite an emulation for learning, without running into the errors I have defcribed. There are many inftances of men who combine great knowledge in the arts and fciences with a polite addrefs and accommodating manners. This fhews that thofe properties are not, in the nature of things, doomed to a feparation. It furnifhes likewife a ftrong prefumption, that it is owing to injudicious management that they are fo often feparated. The Students at an academy or univerfity fhould be cautioned againft affectation in their language or behavior. Pride never affumes a more filly or a more ufelefs fhape, than it difcovers in the peculiarities of learned men. It fometimes elevates them above an attention to thofe rules of propriety in common affairs, that are fo well calculated to render men happy and agreeable. How ridiculous a thing is it, to fee men ftored with rich treafures of knowledge, who are totally deftitute of prudence and common fenfe! This is often and in a great meafure occafioned by falfe notions inbibed in education. The felf-fufficient ftudent believes it fullies his dignity to think upon fuch fubjects, or follow fuch practices as are in vogue with the great run of mankind. He therefore may be more learned, but he is, in reality, lefs wife, lefs happy, and lefs ufeful, than thofe he affects to defpife.

IN HOLLAND,

The moft flagrant violences are ftill committed by the favourers of the *Stadtholder*, on the patriotic party.—The confequences have been murder, and depredations on property.—And the common order of people are fo infatuated in favour of the *Houfe of Orange*, that the eftablifhment of a *Defpotifm* is an event as much expected, as it will be eafy to effect.

IN ENGLAND,

Every thing remains tranquil. The profperity of this nation appears progreffing—its commerce extending—and we hope its liberality and enlarged policy increafing.

THE TURKS,

It is faid, in the German papers, have been defeated in two pitched battles, with the lofs of feveral thoufands in each: But it is fufpected, that thefe battles have exiftence only in the *Vienna* Gazette.

To the SYNOD of the Reformed DUTCH CHURCH in North America.

NEW-YORK, November 9, 1789.

New-York, October 9, 1789.

"An ADDRESS to the PRESIDENT of the United States of America, was prepared agreeably to a refolution of Synod, and read; which being approved of, it was ordered that the Revs. Profeffor LIVINGSTON, the Rev. Dr. LINN, the Rev. Mr. KUYPERS, the Rev. Mr. LOUW, Dirck Lefferts, Efq. the Hon. Isaac Roosevelt, Efq. the Hon. Richard Varick, Efq. Mr. Henry Roome, and the Hon. John Vanderbilt, Efq. do fign the fame, and prefent it to the Prefident in the name and behalf of the Synod."

The Addrefs, which was delayed, an account of the Prefident's abfence, was prefented on Thurfday laft, and is as follows.

To the PRESIDENT of the United States, SIR,

THE Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church in North America, embrace the occafion of their annual feffion, being the firft fince your appointment, to prefent you their fincere congratulations, and to join in that great and general joy teftified by all defcriptions of citizens on your acceptance of the higheft office in the nation.

We cannot forbear expreffing our gratitude to God for preferving your valuable life amidft fo many dangers till this time;—for infpiring you with a large portion of the martial fpirit, and forming you alfo for the milder and more agreeable arts of government and peace;—for endowing you with great virtues, and calling them into exercife by great events;—for diftinguifhing you with honors, and giving you remarkable prudence and moderation;—and for making your extraordinary talents the more confpicuous, ufeful, and durable, by fuperinducing the noble ornament of humility. Your country has, with one voice, extolled your excellence by inviting you again to public life, and you have confirmed its judgment by returning to fresh fcenes and toils after you had retired to the fweets from the burden and heat of a long day.

Among the many fignal interpofitions of Divine Providence, we remark the late important change in the general government; a change neither effected by accident, nor impofed by force: but adopted in the bofom of peace, after a free and mature deliberation; and in which a people widely extended, and various in their habits, are united beyond the moft raifed expectations. In thefe refpects the United States of America ftand fingle among all the nations of the earth. Other revolutions may have been more diverfified and fplendid, but none more honorable to human nature, and none fo likely to produce fuch happy effects. This government being now completely organized, and all its departments filled, we truft that God will give wifdom to its councils, and juftice to its adminiftration; and that we fhall at length realize thofe bleffings which animated our hopes through a difficult and ruinous war.

To our conftant prayers for the welfare of our country, and of the whole human race, we fhall refpect it our duty and happinefs, to unite our earneft endeavors to promote the pure and undefiled Religion of Chrift: for this fecures eternal felicity to men in a future ftate, fo we are perfuaded that good Chriftians will always be good citizens, and that where righteoufnefs prevails among individuals, the nation will be great and happy. Thus while juft government protects all in their religious rights, true religion affords to government its fureft fupport.

We implore the Lord God to be your fun and fhield. May your adminiftration be profperous. May the bleffings of millions come upon you, and your name be grateful to all pofterity. Above all, may you finifh your courfe with joy, be numbered among the redeemed of the Lord, and enter into everlafting reft.

New-York, October 9, 1789.

In the Name and by the Order of the Synod.

JOHN H. LIVINGSTON,
WILLIAM LINN,
GERADUS A. KUYPERS,
PETER LOUW,
DIRCK LEFFERTS,
ISAAC ROSEVELT,
RICHARD VARICK,
HENRY ROOME.

To which Addrefs the Prefident was pleafed to return the following Anfwer,

To the SYNOD of the Reformed Dutch Church in North-America.

GENTLEMEN,

I RECEIVE with a grateful heart your pious and affectionate addrefs; and with truth declare to you that no confidence of my life has affected me more fenfibly, or produced more pleafing emotions than the friendly congratulations and ftrong aflur-

42 *With a Letter by Franklin on the Abolition of Slavery*

Franklin, Benjamin.

An Address to the Public. From the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery ... [within the Gazette of the United States ... No. LXV ... Saturday, November 25, 1789]. Philadelphia: John Fenno, November 25, 1789.

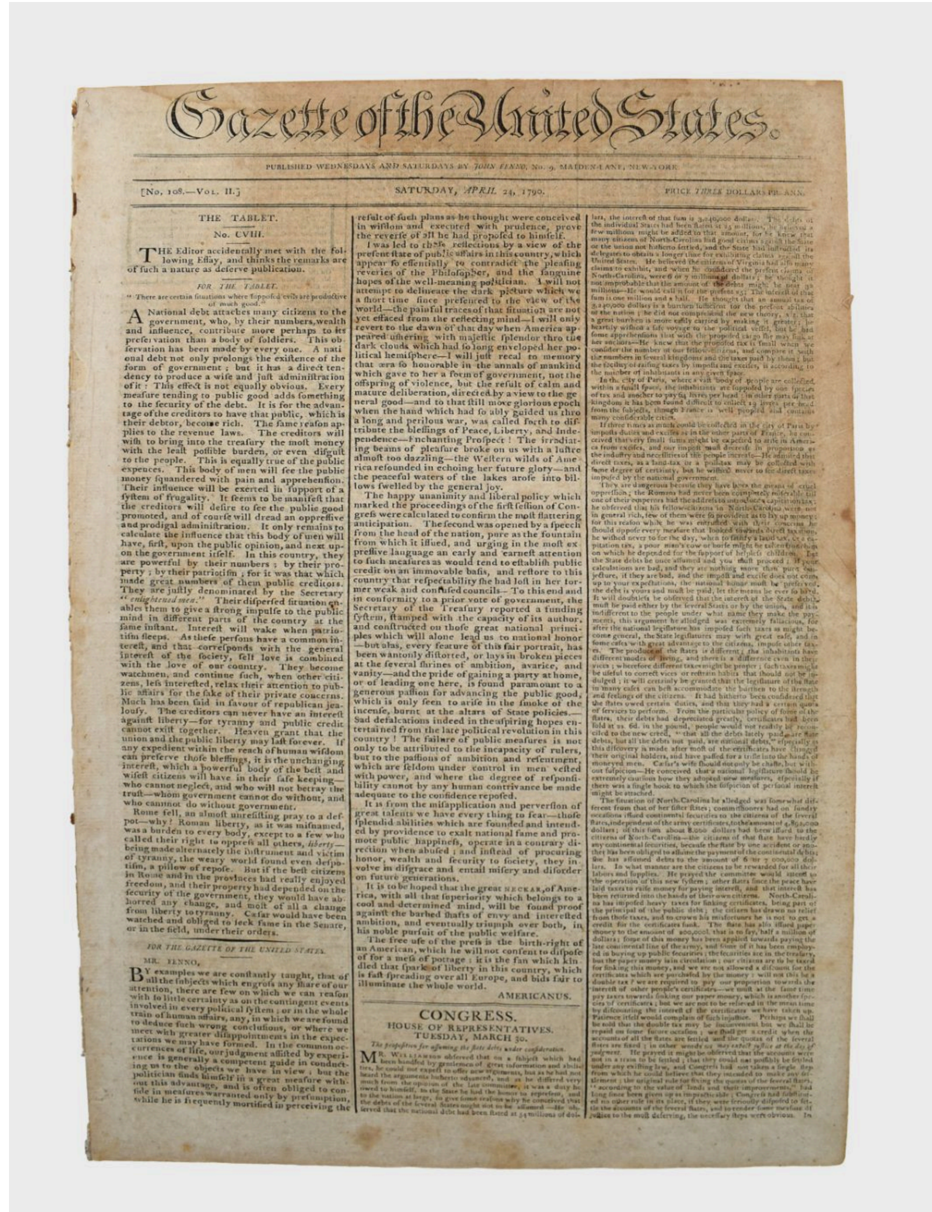
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Although founded in 1775 as the first antislavery society, the American Revolution necessitated a pause in the group's abolitionist activities. After the war, the Pennsylvania Abolition Society renewed its meetings and in 1787 appointed Benjamin Franklin as its President.

The present issue of the Gazette of the United States includes on the second page a November 9, 1789 letter from Franklin to the public concerning slavery and the actions of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society, writing in part: "Slavery is such an atrocious debasement of human nature, that its very extirpation, if not performed with solicitous care, may sometimes open a source of serious evils. The unhappy man, who has long been treated as a brute animal, too frequently sinks beneath the common standard of the human species. The galling chains, that bind his body, do also fetter his intellectual faculties, and impair the social affections of his heart. Accustomed to move like a mere machine, by the will of a master, reflection is suspended; he has not the power of choice; and reason and conscience have but little influence over his conduct, because he is chiefly governed by the passion of fear. He is poor and friendless; perhaps worn out by extreme labor, age, and disease. Under such circumstances, freedom may often prove a misfortune to himself, and prejudicial to society."

Just a few months following this letter, the Society famously petitioned the First Congress to end the international slave trade, abolish slavery, and assist free African Americans.


Gazette of the United States.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS BY JOHN FENNO, No. 9, MAIDEN-LANE, NEW-YORK

[No. 108.—Vol. II.] SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1790. PRICE THREE DOLLARS PR. ANN.

THE TABLET.

No. CVIII.

THE Editor accidentally met with the following Essay, and thinks the remarks are of such a nature as deserve publication.

FOR THE TABLET.

"There are certain situations where supposed evils are productive of much good."

A National debt attaches many citizens to the government, who, by their numbers, wealth and influence, contribute more perhaps to its preservation than a body of soldiers. This observation has been made by every one. A national debt not only prolongs the existence of the form of government; but it has a direct tendency to produce a wise and just administration of it: This effect is not equally obvious. Every measure tending to public good adds something to the security of the debt. It is for the advantage of the creditors to have that public, which is their debtor, become rich. The same reason applies to the revenue laws. The creditors will wish to bring into the treasury the most money with the least possible burden, or even disgust to the people. This is equally true of the public expences. This body of men will see the public money squandered with pain and apprehension. Their influence will be exerted in support of a system of frugality. It seems to be manifest that the creditors will desire to see the public good promoted, and of course will dread an oppressive and prodigal administration. It only remains to calculate the influence that this body of men will have, first, upon the public opinion, and next upon the government itself. In this country, they are powerful by their numbers; by their property; by their patriotism; for it was that which made great numbers of them public creditors. They are justly denominated by the Secretary "enlightened men." Their dispersed situation enables them to give a strong impulse to the public mind in different parts of the country at the same instant. Interest will wake when patriotism sleeps. As these persons have a common interest, and that corresponds with the general interest of the society, self love is combined with the love of our country. They become watchmen, and continue such, when other citizens, less interested, relax their attention to public affairs for the sake of their private concerns. Much has been said in favour of republican jealousy. The creditors can never have an interest against liberty—for tyranny and public credit cannot exist together. Heaven grant that the union and the public liberty may last forever. If any expedient within the reach of human wisdom can preserve those blessings, it is the unchanging interest, which a powerful body of the best and wisest citizens will have in their safe keeping—who cannot neglect, and who will not betray the trust—whom government cannot do without, and who cannot do without government.

Rome fell, an almost unresisting pray to a despot—why? Roman liberty, as it was misnamed, was a burden to every body, except to a few who called their right to oppress all others, liberty—being made alternately the instrument and victim of tyranny, the weary world found even despotism, a pillow of repose. But if the best citizens in Rome and in the provinces had really enjoyed freedom, and their property had depended on the security of the government, they would have abhorred any change, and most of all a change from liberty to tyranny. Cæsar would have been watched and obliged to seek fame in the Senate, or in the field, under their orders.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

BY examples we are constantly taught, that of all the subjects which engross any share of our attention, there are few on which we can reason with so little certainty as on the contingent events involved in every political system; or in the whole train of human affairs, any, in which we are found to deduce such wrong conclusions, or where we meet with greater disappointments in the expectations we may have formed. In the common occurrences of life, our judgment assisted by experience is generally a competent guide in conducting us to the objects we have in view; but the politician finds himself in a great measure without this advantage, and is often obliged to confide in measures warranted only by presumption, while he is frequently mortified in perceiving the result of such plans as he thought were conceived in wisdom and executed with prudence, prove the reverse of all he had proposed to himself.

I was led to these reflections by a view of the present state of public affairs in this country, which appear so essentially to contradict the pleasing reveries of the Philosopher, and the sanguine hopes of the well-meaning politician. I will not attempt to delineate the dark picture which we a short time since presented to the view of the world—the painful traces of that situation are not yet effaced from the reflecting mind—I will only revert to the dawn of that day when America appeared ushering with majestic splendor thro the dark clouds which had so long enveloped her political hemisphere—I will just recal to memory that æra so honorable in the annals of mankind which gave to her a form of government, not the offspring of violence, but the result of calm and mature deliberation, directed by a view to the general good—and to that still more glorious epoch when the hand which had so ably guided us thro a long and perilous war, was called forth to distribute the blessings of Peace, Liberty, and Independence—Enchanting Prospect! The irradiating beams of pleasure broke on us with a lustre almost too dazzling—the Western wilds of America resounded in echoing her future glory—and the peaceful waters of the lakes arose into billows swelled by the general joy.

The happy unanimity and liberal policy which marked the proceedings of the first session of Congress were calculated to confirm the most flattering anticipation. The second was opened by a speech from the head of the nation, pure as the fountain from which it issued, and urging in the most expressive language an early and earnest attention to such measures as would tend to establish public credit on an immovable basis, and restore to this country that respectability she had lost in her former weak and confused councils—To this end and in conformity to a prior vote of government, the Secretary of the Treasury reported a funding system, stamped with the capacity of its author, and constructed on those great national principles which will alone lead us to national honor—but alas, every feature of this fair portrait, has been wantonly distorted, or lays in broken pieces at the several shrines of ambition, avarice, and vanity—and the pride of gaining a party at home, or of leading one here, is found paramount to a generous passion for advancing the public good, which is only seen to arise in the smoke of the incense, burnt at the altars of State policies.—Sad defalcations indeed in the aspiring hopes entertained from the late political revolution in this country! The failure of public measures is not only to be attributed to the incapacity of rulers, but to the passions of ambition and resentment, which are seldom under control in men vested with power, and where the degree of responsibility cannot by any human contrivance be made adequate to the confidence reposed.

It is from the misapplication and perversion of great talents we have every thing to fear—those splendid abilities which are founded and intended by providence to exalt national fame and promote public happiness, operate in a contrary direction when abused; and instead of procuring honor, wealth and security to society, they involve in disgrace and entail misery and disorder on future generations.

It is to be hoped that the great NECKAR, of America, with all that superiority which belongs to a cool and determined mind, will be found proof against the barbed shafts of envy and interested ambition, and eventually triumph over both, in his noble pursuit of the public welfare.

The free use of the press is the birth-right of an American, which he will not consent to dispose of for a mess of pottage: it is the fan which kindled that spark of liberty in this country, which is fast spreading over all Europe, and bids fair to illuminate the whole world.

AMERICANUS.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30.

The proposition for assuming the state debts under consideration.

MR. WILLIAMSON observed that on a subject which had been handled by gentlemen of great information and abilities, he could not expect to offer new arguments, but as he had not heard the arguments hitherto advanced, and as he differed very much from the opinion of the late committee, it was a duty he owed to himself, to the State he had the honor to represent, and to the nation at large, to give some reasons why he conceived that the debts of the several States ought not to be assumed.—He observed that the national debt had been stated at 54 millions of dollars, the interest of that sum is 3,240,000 dollars. The debts of the individual States had been stated at 25 millions, he believed a few millions might be added to that amount, for he knew that many citizens of North-Carolina had good claims against the State or the union not hitherto settled, and the State had instructed its delegates to obtain a longer time for exhibiting claims against the United States. He believed the citizens of Virginia had also many claims to exhibit, and when he considered the present claims of North-Carolina, were 6 or 7 millions of dollars; he thought it not improbable that the amount of the debts might be near 30 millions—He would call it for the present 25; The interest of that sum is one million and a half. He thought that an annual tax of 3,240,000 dollars is a burthen sufficient for the present abilities of the nation; he did not comprehend the new theory, viz. that a great burthen is more easily carried by making it greater; he heartily wished a safe voyage to the political vessel, but he had some apprehensions that with the proposed cargo she may sink at her anchors—He knew that the proposed tax is small when we consider the number of our fellow-citizens, and compare it with the numbers in several kingdoms and the taxes paid by them; but the facility of raising taxes by imposts and excises, is according to the number of inhabitants in any given space.

In the city of Paris, where a vast body of people are collected, within a small space, the inhabitants are supposed by one species of tax and another to pay 64 livres per head: in other parts of that kingdom it has been found difficult to collect 14 livres per head from the subjects, though France is well peopled and contains many considerable cities.

If three times as much could be collected in the city of Paris by imposts duties and excises as in the other parts of France, he conceived that very small sums might be expected to arise in America from excises, and our impost must decrease in proportion as the industry and necessities of the people increase—He admitted that direct taxes, as a land-tax or a poll-tax may be collected with some degree of certainty, but he wished never to see direct taxes imposed by the national government.

They are dangerous because they have been the means of cruel oppression; the Romans had never been completely miserable till one of their emperors had the address to introduce a capitation tax; he observed that his fellow-citizens in North-Carolina were not in general rich, few of them were so provident as to lay up money; for this reason while he was entrusted with their concerns he should oppose every measure that looked towards direct taxation, he wished never to see the day, when to satisfy a land tax, or a capitation tax, a poor man's cow or horse might be taken from him on which he depended for the support of helpless children. But the State debts be once assumed and you must proceed; if your calculations are bad, and they are nothing more than pure conjecture, if they are bad, and the impost and excise does not come up to your expectations, the national honor must be preserved, the debt is yours and must be paid, let the means be ever so hard. It will doubtless be observed that the interest of the State debts must be paid either by the several States or by the union, and it is indifferent to the people under what name they make the payments, this argument he alledged was extremely fallacious, for after the national legislature has imposed such taxes as might become general, the State legislatures may with great ease, and in some cases with great advantage to the citizens, impose other taxes. The produce of the states is different; the inhabitants have different modes of living, and there is a difference even in their vices; wherefore different taxes might be proper; such taxes might be useful to correct vices or restrain habits that should not be indulged; it will certainly be granted that the legislature of the state in many cases can best accommodate the burthen to the strength and feelings of the citizens. It had hitherto been considered that the states owed certain duties, and that they had a certain quota of services to perform. From the particular policy of some of the states, their debts had depreciated greatly, certificates had been sold at 2s. 6d. in the pound, people would not readily be reconciled to the new creed, "that all the debts lately paid, are state debts, but all the debts not paid, are national debts," especially as this discovery is made after most of the certificates have changed their original holders, and have passed for a trifle into the hands of moneyed men. Cæsar's wife should not only be chaste, but without suspicion—He conceived that a national legislature should be extremely cautious how they adopted new measures, especially if there was a single hook to which the suspicion of personal interest might be attached.

The situation of North-Carolina he alledged was somewhat different from that of her sister states; commissioners had on sundry occasions issued continental securities to the citizens of the several states, independent of the army certificates, to the amount of 4,892,000 dollars; of this sum about 8,000 dollars had been issued to the citizens of North-Carolina—the citizens of that state have hardly any continental securities, because the state by one accident or another has been obliged to assume the payment of the continental debts; she has assumed debts to the amount of 6 or 7 000,000 dollars. In what manner are the citizens to be rewarded for all their labours and supplies. He prayed the committee would attend to the operation of this new system; other states since the peace have laid taxes to raise money for paying interest, and that interest has been returned into the hands of their own citizens. North-Carolina has imposed heavy taxes for sinking certificates, being part of the principal of the public debt; the citizen has drawn no relief from those taxes, and to crown his misfortunes he is not to get a credit for the certificates sunk. The state has also issued paper money to the amount of 200,000l. that is to say, half a million of dollars; some of this money has been applied towards paying the late continental line of the army, and some of it has been employed in buying up public securities; the securities are in the treasury, but the paper money is in circulation; our citizens are to be taxed for sinking this money, and we are not allowed a discount for the certificates which are purchased by the money: will not this be a double tax? we are required to pay our proportion towards the interest of other people's certificates—we must at the same time pay taxes towards sinking our paper money, which is another species of certificates; but we are not to be relieved in the mean time by discounting the interest of the certificates we have taken up. Patience itself would complain of such injustice. Perhaps we shall be told that the double tax may be inconvenient but we shall be repaid on some future occasion; we shall get a credit when the accounts of all the states are settled and the quotas of the several states are fixed; in other words we may expect justice at the day of judgment. He prayed it might be observed that the accounts were not in a train to be settled; that they could not possibly be settled under any existing law, and Congress had not taken a single step from which he could believe that they intended to make any settlement; the original rule for fixing the quotas of the several states, "according to the value of lands and their improvements," had long since been given up as impracticable; Congress had substituted no other rule in its place, if they were seriously disposed to settle the accounts of the several states, and to render some measure of justice to the most deserving, the necessary steps were obvious. In

43 *With an Account of his Death*

(Franklin, Benjamin).

[News of Benjamin Franklin's death within the Gazette of the United States ... Saturday, April 24, 1790]. Philadelphia: John Fenno, April 24, 1790.

4 pp., bifolium. Disbound, dampstaining, trimmed close at top margin.

[378876] **$2,000**

After months of illness, Benjamin Franklin passed away on April 17, 1790 at the age of 84. An estimated 20,000 people, about two-thirds of the entire Philadelphia population, attended his April 21 funeral procession from the State House to the Christ Church Burial Ground.

This issue of the Gazette of the United States, published three days later, includes the text of James Madison's Congressional resolution, a notice of the interment, and an April 20 letter from Dr. John Jones giving an account of his illness and passing.



44 *A Handsome Color Aquatint Portrait*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Vanloo, Charles Philippe Amedée, after.

Francklin. Color aquatint and engraving, by Pierre Michel Alix after Vanloo, on wove paper. Paris: Chez Marie François Drouhin ... Imprimé ches lui par Bechet, [ca. 1790].

15 x 10-3/4 inches sheet size. Sellers, pp. 391-94.

[378303] **$5,000**

A handsome aquatint portrait of Benjamin Franklin, based on a painting by French portraitist Charles Philippe Vanloo. In this captivating portrait print, engraver Pierre Michel Alix appealed to Revolutionary sentiment by replacing the sumptuous fur collar and cloak worn by Franklin in Vanloo's painting with a simple gray coat and white cravat. The result is a vivid and attractive portrait that draws attention almost exclusively to Franklin's wise and witty face, which is rendered all the more engaging through Alix's skillful use of nuanced flesh tones.

According to Sellers, Vanloo's portrait was painted from life at the request of Franklin's intimate friend, Madame Helvetius, between 1777 and 1785. "Amuse me," Franklin reportedly told her friends, "or you will have the most sorrowful portrait of me." Apparently they succeeded, as Franklin's visage is enlivened by a slight smile, as he gazes intently at the viewer through his spectacles. Vanloo's portrait hung for 150 years in the Helvetius family home, the Château de Lumigny, Seine et Marne, before it was purchased by a Parisian gallery and sold to the American Philosophical Society in 1948, where it resides today.

Charles Philippe Amédée Vanloo was a French genre and portrait painter, with a taste for scientific subjects. His "La Lanterne Magique" belongs to the National Gallery, Washington. His "L'Electricité," exhibited at the Salon of 1777, features an electrical machine that is similar to one that appears in the mezzotint portrait of Franklin after Benjamin Wilson. Pierre Michel Alix was a printmaker best known for his use of multiple-plate color printing techniques in the late eighteenth century (evident on the present portrait by the small registration pin holes at the top and bottom of the oval portrait). His color-printed works include numerous portraits of notables of the era, Franklin's being perhaps the most important. An unusually vivid and appealing portrait of the great diplomat, scientist, inventor, author and wit, who found a second home in the hearts of the French.

The print is scarce, all the more so on the full sheet and not trimmed to the oval image.

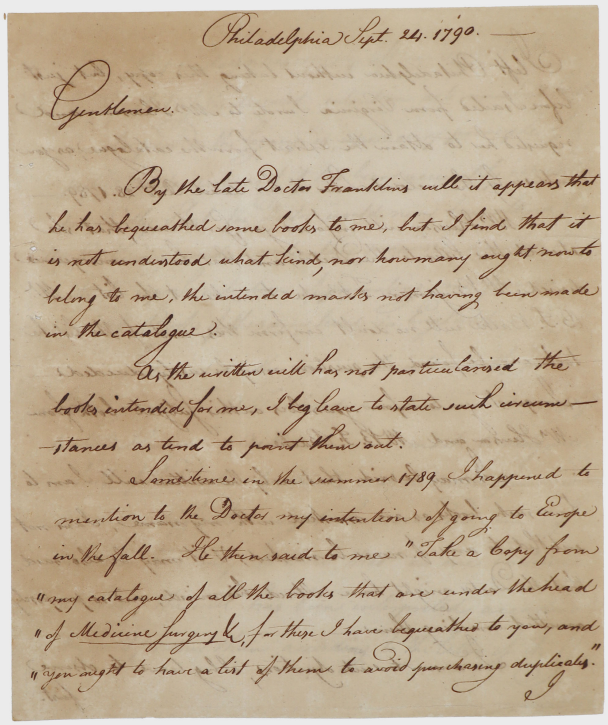
45 *On the Disposition of Franklin's Library*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Williams, Jonathan.

Autograph Letter, Signed ("Jon. Williams") to Henry Hill, John Jay, Francis Hopkinson and Edward Duffield ("The Gentlemen Executors of Doctor Franklin's Will") concerning books from Benjamin Franklin's library. Philadelphia: September 24, 1790.

4 pp., folded 4to sheet. Toning, usual folds.

[378830] **$3,500**


Philadelphia Sept. 24. 1790.

Gentlemen.

By the late Doctor Franklins will it appears that he has bequeathed some books to me, but I find that it is not understood what kind, nor how many ought now to belong to me, the intended marks not having been made in the catalogue.

As the written will has not particularised the books intended for me, I beg leave to state such circumstances as tend to point them out.

Sometime in the summer 1789 I happened to mention to the Doctor my intention of going to Europe in the fall. He then said to me "Take a Copy from "my catalogue of all the books that are under the head "of Medicine Surgery &c. for those I have bequeathed to you, and "you might to have a list of them to avoid purchasing duplicates."

Numbering over 4000 volumes, Benjamin Franklin's library was among the most significant collections in the United States. Upon his death, the vast majority of the library was left to his grandson William Temple Franklin and was subsequently sold between 1801 and 1803 by Philadelphia bookseller Nicholas Dufief. Other specific books or sets, however, were gifted by Franklin per the terms of his will to various institutions, including the Library Company of Philadelphia and the American Philosophical Society; and other works were gifted to his grandson William Bache and Jonathan Williams. The books gifted to Bache and Williams were delineated (or intended to have been delineated) by Franklin on a manuscript catalogue of his collection. That list, however, by the text of the present letter, was lost, inadvertently destroyed, or never marked by Franklin before his death.

Williams (1750–1815) was the great-nephew of Benjamin Franklin. He served as Franklin's secretary during the latter's residence in France as U.S. ambassador, and for part of that time was a U.S. commercial agent. While in France he also studied military science, especially fortification. He returned to the U.S. in 1785 and served for several years as a judge. After Franklin's death, he would serve for several years as vice president and corresponding secretary of the American Philosophical Society and authored an important work on thermometrical navigation, expanding upon Franklin's investigations into the Gulf Stream.

In the present letter, written to the executors of Franklin's will – Henry Hill, John Jay, Francis Hopkinson and Edward Duffield – Williams addresses the issue of which books from Franklin's library had been bequeathed to him. He writes:

"By the late Doctor Franklin's will it appears that he has bequeathed some books to me, but I find that it is not understood what kind, nor how many ought now to belong to me, the intended marks not having been made in the catalogue.

continued

45 *continued*

As the written will has not particularised the books intended for me, I beg leave to state such circumstances as tend to point them out.

Sometime in the summer 1789 I happened to mention to the Doctor my intention of going to Europe in the fall. He then said to me 'Take a copy from my catalogue of all the books that are under the head of Medicine, Surgery &c, for these I have bequeathed to you, and you ought to have a list of them to avoid purchasing duplicates.'

I left Philadelphia without taking this copy, but just before I sailed from Virginia I wrote to Mrs Hewson, and requested her to obtain the extract from the catalogue, as you will see by the enclosed letter to her dated Oct 28. 1789.

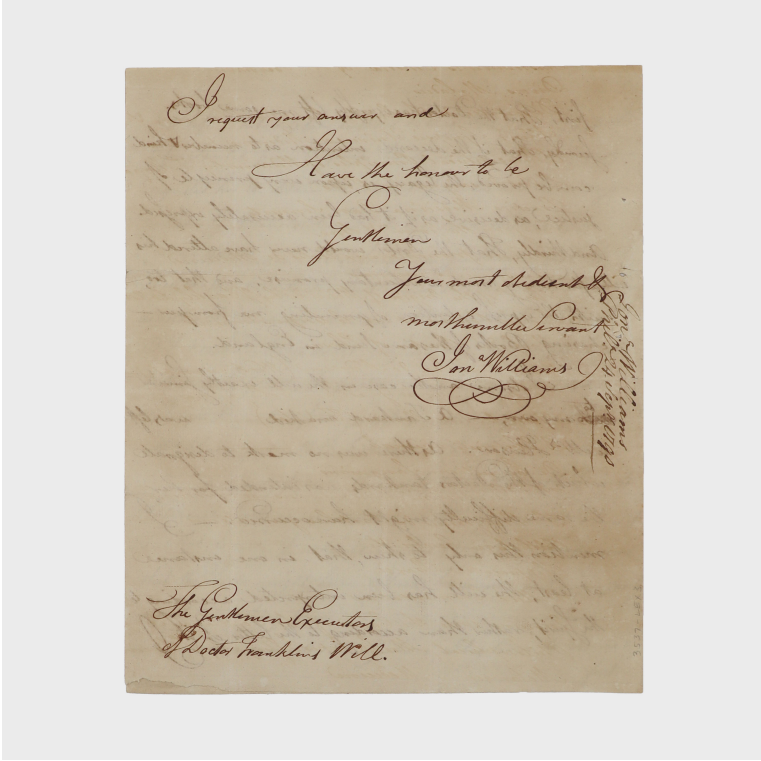
Mrs Hewson will inform you Gentlemen, that she shewed this letter to the Doctor, and that he in consequence desired Mr Benjamin F. Bache to make out the list. Mr B. F. Bache will no doubt confirm this, and if the list he took can be found, the question may be easily decided.

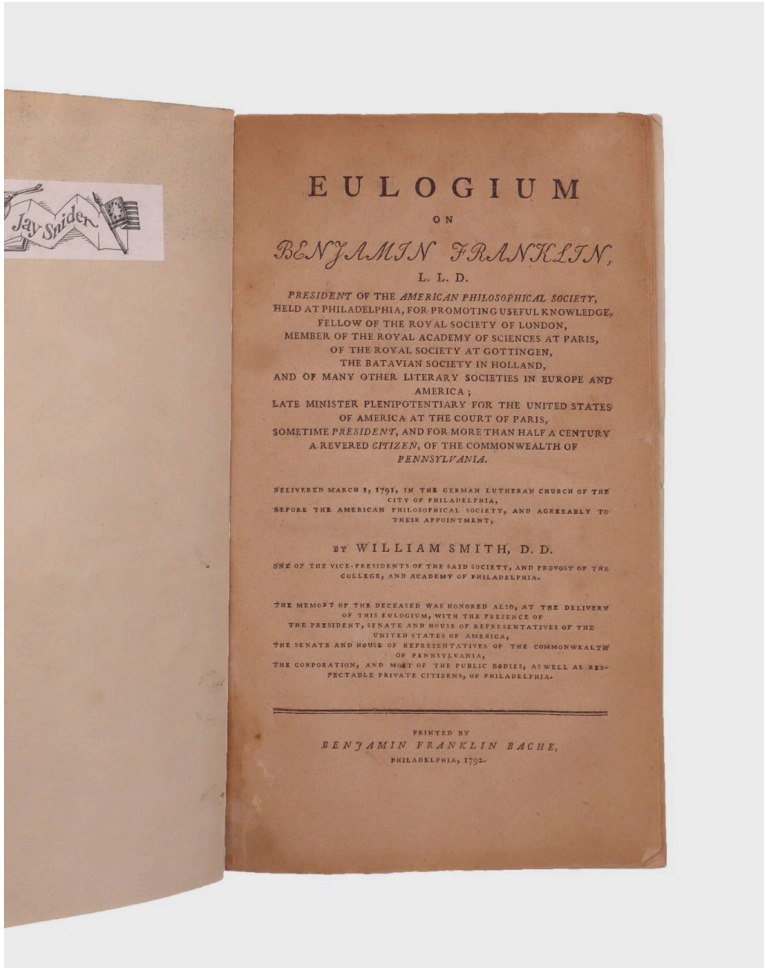
I request you to inform yourselves on this subject both from Mrs Hewson and Mr B. F. Bache.

It may be said, that as by the written will I am to have such books as are marked with my name, I am not entitled to any if none be marked; & it may be also said, that the Doctor might have altered his mind, and so purposely omitted marking them.

In answer to such objections, I beg leave to observe first, That the Doctor has expressly left me some books. Secondly, That if the decedent's intention as to number & kind can be proved, the legacy is, upon every principle of justice, as decisive as if it had been accurately expressed. And thirdly, That the Doctor would never have altered his will after having made a voluntary promise, and that too, with the express intention of preventing me from purchasing Books of the same kind in England..."

A certified contemporary copy of the present letter is located in the Knox Manuscripts, XXVII, 37, Massachusetts Historical Society. See Edwin Wolf II, A Key to the Identification of Franklin's Books, PMHB vol. 80, no. 4 (1956): 407–9.





46 *A Noted Eulogy*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Smith, William.

Eulogium on Benjamin Franklin, L.L.D. President of the American Philosophical Society, Held at Philadelphia, for Promoting Useful Knowledge, fellow of the Royal Society of London, member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, of the Royal Society at Gottingen, the Batavian Society in Holland, and of many other literary societies in Europe and America; late minister plenipotentiary for the United States of America at the court of Paris, sometime president, and for more than half a century a revered citizen, of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Benjamin Franklin Bache, 1792.

[4], 40, v, [1] pp. Without the terminal blank. 8vo. First edition. Modern wrappers. Text toned. Evans 24799; ESTC W32082; Ford 963; Sabin 84602; Howes S689.

[378376] **$850**

"Dr. Smith was aided in the preparation of this address by David Rittenhouse, Thomas Jefferson, Jonathan Williams, and Benjamin Rush. The piece forms a somewhat amusing contrast to the savageness of the Doctor's earlier writings against Franklin" (Ford).

47 *Uncut in Boards*

Franklin, Benjamin.

Works of the Late Doctor Benjamin Franklin: Consisting of his Life Written by Himself, together with Essays, Humorous, Moral & Literary, Chiefly in the Manner of the Spectator. London: Printed for G.G.J. and J. Robinson, 1793.

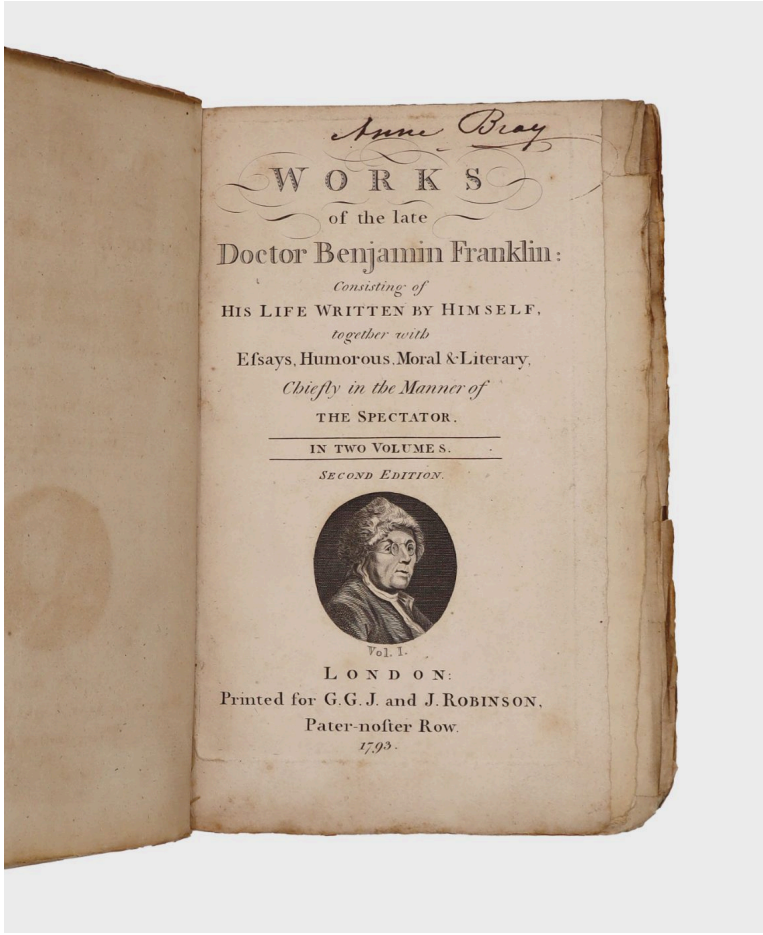
[iii]-x,[1, blank],[1, contents],[1, blank], 317,[1, errata]; [v], 290 pp. Uncut. 2 vols. 8vo. Original paper boards, rebacked with paper at an early date. Very good. Provenance: Mary Lodge (signature dated 1796); Anne Bray (early signature). Ford 438; Howes F323; Sabin 25600; ESTC N26015; Reese & Osborn, Struggle for North America 91 (ref).

[378040] **$7,500**

Second English edition, including part of Franklin's autobiography translated into English for the first time. Rare, especially uncut in boards.

"A collection of the 'popular' pieces of Franklin, together with a re-translation of the autobiography from the French translation of Gibelin, and Stuber's continuation. The editing was done by Benjamin Vaughan, who has clearly made use of his MS. copy of the autobiography in the re-translation. The work was prepared for publication in 1791, but withheld on account of Temple Franklin's announcement of an edition of his grandfather's writings. An additional volume of Franklin's scientific writings was also announced, but never printed" (Ford).

Importantly, this edition contains three essays not in the first edition.


Anne Bray

WORKS

of the late

Doctor Benjamin Franklin:

Consisting of

HIS LIFE WRITTEN BY HIMSELF,

together with

Eſsays, Humorous, Moral & Literary,

Chiefly in the Manner of

THE SPECTATOR.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

SECOND EDITION.

Vol. I.

LONDON:

Printed for G.G.J. and J. ROBINSON,

Pater-noſter Row.

1793.





48 *First American Edition of Franklin's Autobiography*

Franklin, Benjamin.

The Works of the Late Dr. Benjamin Franklin, consisting of his life written by himself, together with Essays, humorous, moral & literary, chiefly in the Manner of the Spectator. New York: Printed by Tiebout & Obrian for H. Gain [and others], [1794].

Engraved frontispiece portrait & engraved vol. 1 title, each by Peter Maverick. 174; [3]-139, [3] pp. Two volumes in one. 16mo. First American edition of Franklin's Autobiography. Contemporary calf, red leather spine label, minor wear. Ford 441; Evans 27007; Howes F323; ESTC W17368; cf. Grolier American 21.

[378132] **$6,500**

Franklin wrote the first five chapters of his autobiography in England in 1771 covering his life from 1706 to 1731, resumed again 13 years later in Paris and again in 1788 when he returned to the United States. A draft of the first part was obtained by a French publisher and printed in Paris in 1791. That work would be translated into English and printed in London in 1793, with a continuation by the editor added. The complete version with all parts as written by Franklin would be published in 1818 by his grandson and literary heir William Temple Franklin.

The Tiebout & Obrian edition of Franklin's Works, a reprint of a British edition by G. G. J. and J. Robinson from 1793, contains the first American edition of the Autobiography, which comprises the entire first volume. The second volume, issued bound together with the first volume and without an engraved title [see Ford], comprises various essays including Franklin's Way to Wealth.

"The most widely read of all American autobiographies ... this book holds the essence of the American way of life" (Grolier American).

49 *First Edition of a Classic Piece of Frankliniana*

(Franklin, Benjamin). Dighton, Robert; after.

Bowles's Moral Pictures or Poor Richard Illustrated. Being Lessons for the Young and Old, on Industry, Temperance, Frugality &c. By the late Dr. Benj. Franklin. London: Bowles and Carver, [circa 1795].

Hand colored engraving. Approx. 18-1/2 x 23-1/4 inches. Paper backed, staining and toning. Ford 137.

[379083] **$3,000**

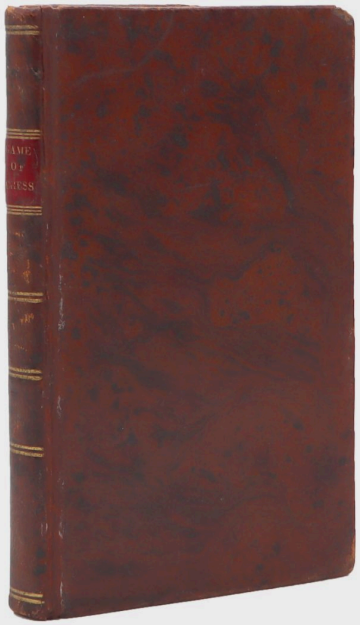
The first edition of Bowles's Moral Pictures, or, Poor Richard Illustrated, a collection of charmingly illustrated maxims from Benjamin Franklin's Way to Wealth, published in many shapes and forms over the years for the entertainment and edification of young people in Britain and America.

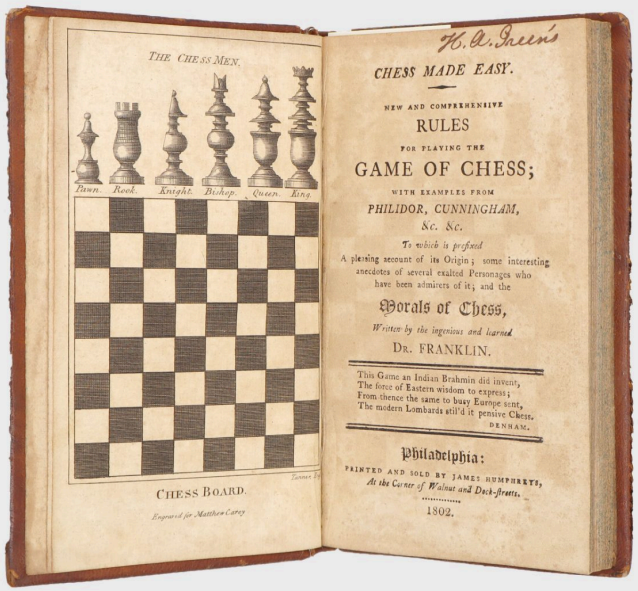
The artist, Robert Dighton, was a prolific caricaturist and printseller who worked primarily in partnership with the publisher, Carington Bowles. While his caricatures were what made ends meet, he may be best known for the present series of illustrations, which have appeared in a profusion of editions and formats over the years in both England and America, including a Manchester edition only a year after this first, a Boston edition printed just after the Civil War, contemporary and later jigsaw puzzles, folding pocket issues, and even a 20th-century series printed on individual ceramic tiles.

The sense of humor and eye-catching scenes which served Dighton well as a contemporary of Gilray and Cruikshank are on full display in this print, with entertaining vignettes illustrating such classic maxims as "Three removes are as bad as a fire; and a rolling stone gathers no moss," "The eye of the master will do more work than both his hands," and "Early to bed, and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise."

A rare and enduring series of illustrations for a classic piece of Frankliniana.







50 *The First American Book on Chess*

(Chess). [Franklin, Benjamin].

Chess Made Easy. New and Comprehensive Rules for Playing the Game of Chess ... to which is Prefixed a Pleasing Account of its Origin; Some Interesting Anecdotes of Several Exalted Personages who have been Admirers of it; and the Morals of Chess, written by the Ingenious and Learned Dr. Franklin. Philadelphia: Printed and Sold by James Humphreys, 1802.

Engraved frontispiece. 97, [8] pp. 16mo. First American edition. Contemporary tree calf, gilt morocco label, very slight wear to corners, front joint neatly repaired. Contemporary ink notations on rear free endpaper, minor foxing. A handsome, very good copy. Ford 335; Shaw and Shoemaker 2025; Hagedorn 1.

[378098] **$15,000**

The first American chess book, including the text of Benjamin Franklin's Morals of Chess (first published in the Columbian Magazine in December 1786).

Franklin was a chess enthusiast and active player, and his essay contains practical advice on the game, coupled with the type of moral advice that also appeared in his autobiography. Chess had been included in editions of Hoyle published in the United States in the 1790s, but this is the first American book devoted solely to the game. The text includes a consideration of the game's history, rules, and tactics. Examples are taken from Philidor and Cunningham, and the frontispiece is an engraving of a chess board and the pieces.

First published in London in 1797, this is the first American edition. Both are rare on the market: the last example the Lothar Schmid copy, sold Sotheby's April 2026 for £14,080.

51 *Extra-Illustrated*

Franklin, Benjamin.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Benjamin Franklin ... Comprising the Private Correspondence and Public Negociations of Dr. Franklin, and his select Political, Philosophical, and Miscellaneous Works, Published from the Original Mss. London: Printed for Henry Colburn, 1818-1819.

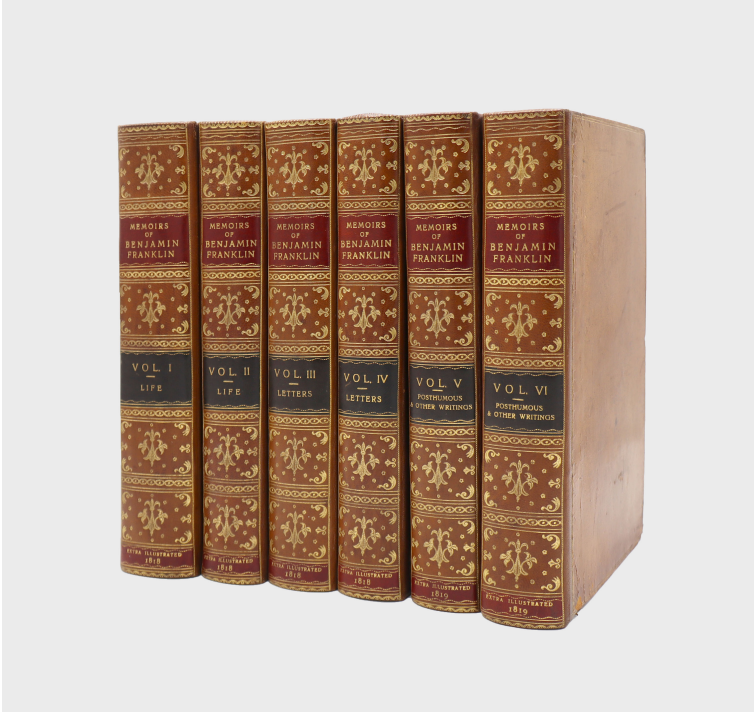
Extra-illustrated with approx. 60 plates. 6 vols. 8vo. Mixed issue: third edition (vols. 1-4) and second edition (vols. 5-6). Contemporary calf, expertly rebacked, spine gilt, endpapers renewed, marbled edges. Sabin 25545; Howes F323; Ford 564.

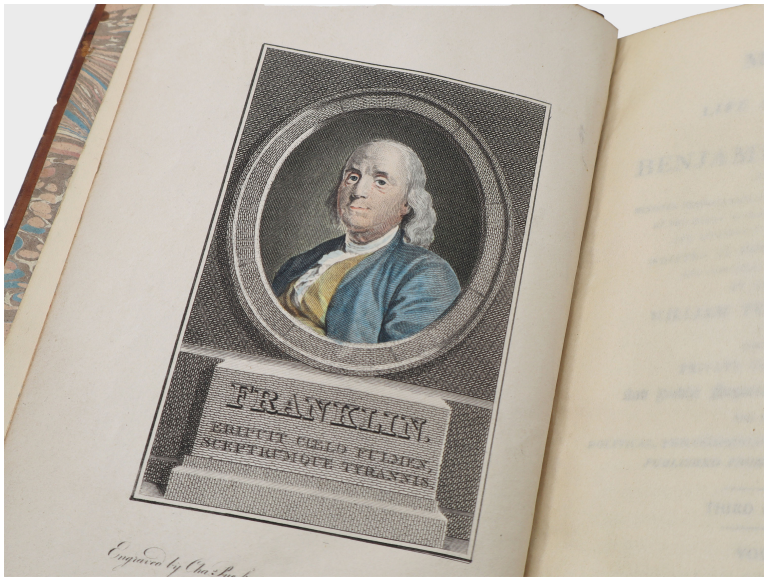
[378205] **$3,500**

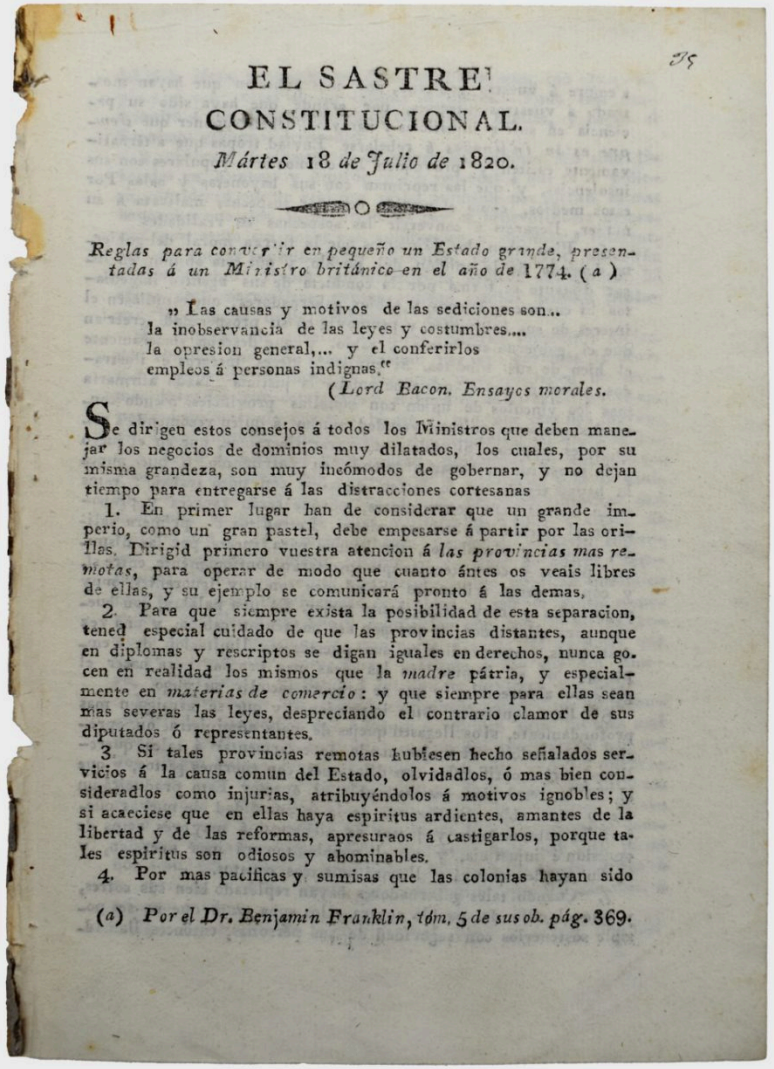
This authorized edition of Franklin's works was edited by his grandson, William Temple Franklin; it includes Franklin's Autobiography along with over thirty additional Franklin pieces. First published in quarto format in 1818.

This example extra-illustrated with numerous plates, mostly being portraits of contemporaries mentioned within the text.

Franklin wrote the first five chapters of his autobiography in England in 1771 covering his life from 1706 to 1731, resumed again 13 years later in Paris and again in 1788 when he returned to the United States. A draft of the first part was obtained by a French publisher and printed in Paris in 1791. That work would be translated into English and printed in London in 1793, with a continuation by the editor added. The complete version with all parts as written by Franklin would not be published until the present 1818 edition by his grandson and literary heir William Temple Franklin. "The most widely read of all American autobiographies ... this book holds the essence of the American way of life" (Grolier American).







EL SASTRE
CONSTITUCIONAL.
Mártes 18 de Julio de 1820.

Reglas para convertir en pequeño un Estado grande, presentadas á un Ministro británico en el año de 1774. (a)

„ Las causas y motivos de las sediciones son.. la inobservancia de las leyes y costumbres.... la opresion general,... y el conferirlos empleos á personas indignas.“
(*Lord Bacon. Ensayos morales.*

Se dirigen estos consejos á todos los Ministros que deben manejar los negocios de dominios muy dilatados, los cuales, por su misma grandeza, son muy incómodos de gobernar, y no dejan tiempo para entregarse á las distracciones cortesanas

1. En primer lugar han de considerar que un grande imperio, como un gran pastel, debe empesarse á partir por las orillas. Dirigid primero vuestra atencion á *las provincias mas remotas*, para operar de modo que cuanto ántes os veais libres de ellas, y su ejemplo se comunicará pronto á las demas.

2. Para que siempre exista la posibilidad de esta separacion, tened especial cuidado de que las provincias distantes, aunque en diplomas y rescriptos se digan iguales en derechos, nunca gocen en realidad los mismos que la *madre* pátria, y especialmente en *materias de comercio*: y que siempre para ellas sean mas severas las leyes, despreciando el contrario clamor de sus diputados ó representantes.

3. Si tales provincias remotas hubiesen hecho señalados servicios á la causa comun del Estado, olvidadlos, ó mas bien consideradlos como injurias, atribuyéndolos á motivos ignobles; y si acaeciese que en ellas haya espiritus ardientes, amantes de la libertad y de las reformas, apresuraos á castigarlos, porque tales espiritus son odiosos y abominables.

4. Por mas pacificas y sumisas que las colonias hayan sido

(a) *Por el Dr. Benjamin Franklin, tóm. 5 de sus ob. pág.* 369.

52 *Earliest Mexican Printing of Franklin*

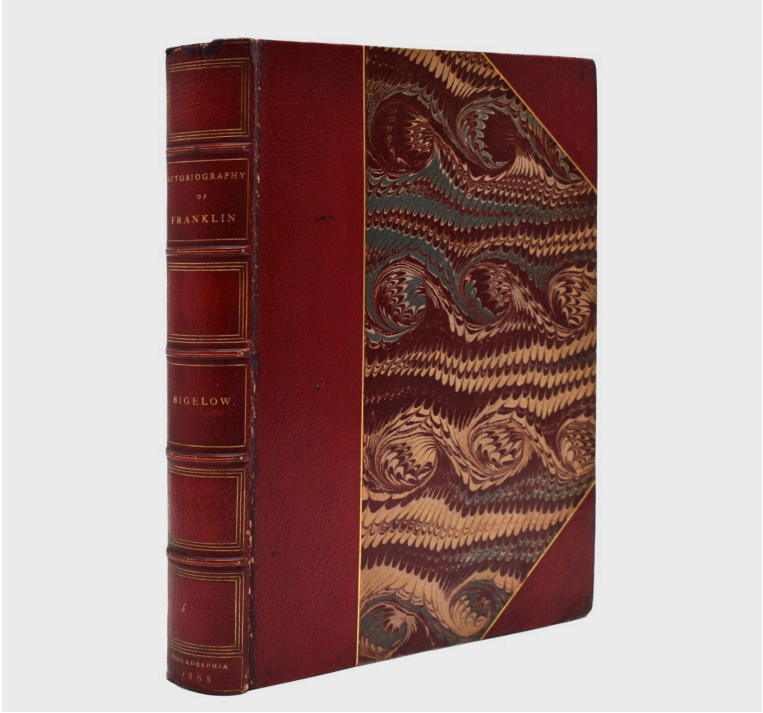
Franklin, Benjamin.

El Sastre Constitucional. Mártes 18 de Julio de 1820 ... Reglas para convertir en pequeño en Estado grande ... [Franklin's Rules by which a Great Empire May Be Reduced to a Small One]. Mexico: Imprenta de Ontiveros, 1820.

4 pp. Small 4to. Disbound.

[379099] **$1,500**

Likely the earliest Mexican printing of any work by Franklin, and notable that Franklin's satirical essay from the pre-Revolutionary period would be republished in the midst of the Mexican War for Independence. Scarce.



53 *Large Paper Copy*

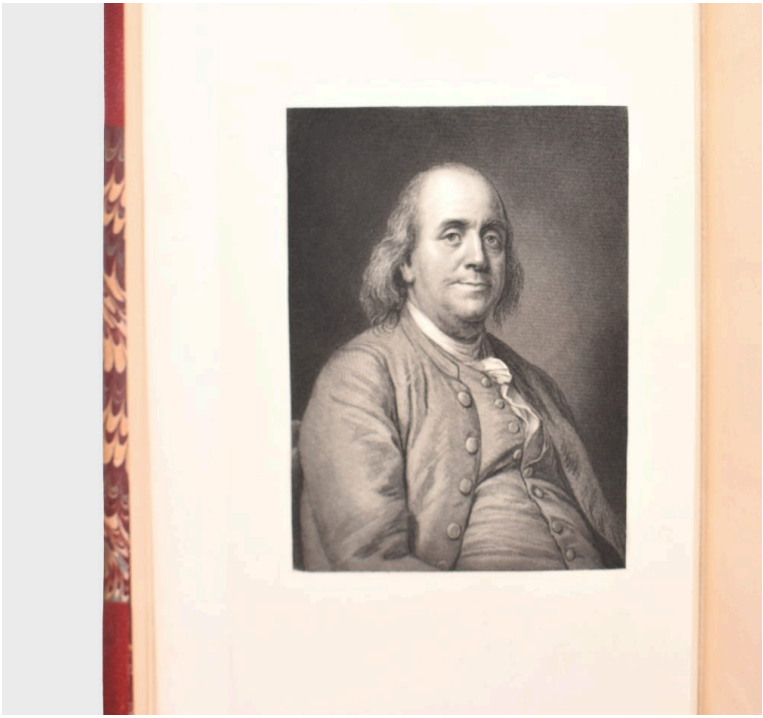
Franklin, Benjamin.

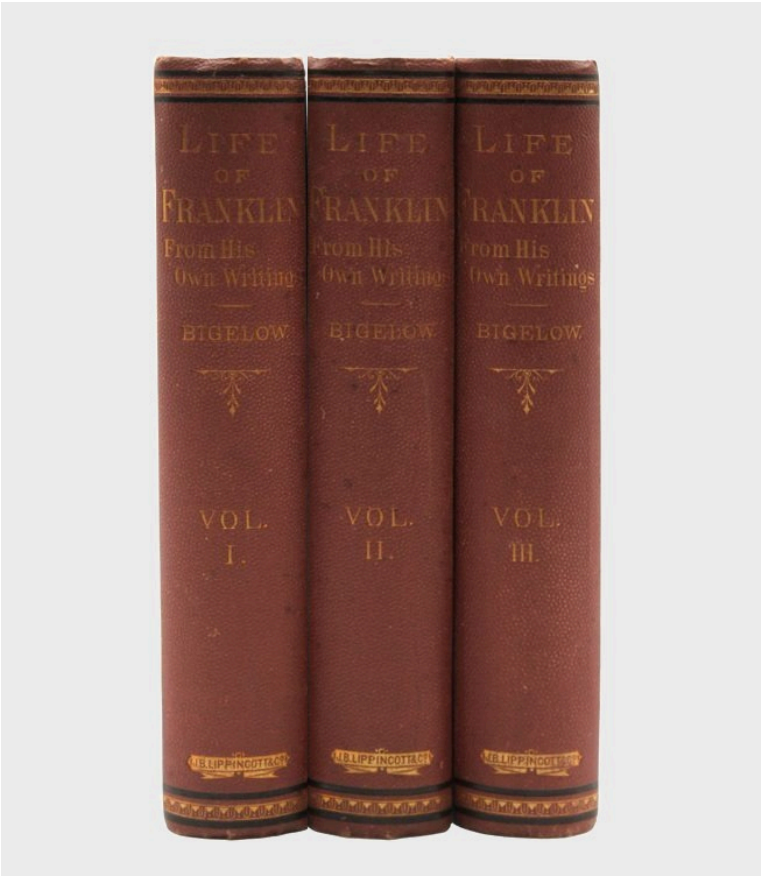
Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott; London: Trübner, 1868.

Engraved portrait frontispiece. 409 pp. Large octavo. Large Paper Copy, #94 of 100 copies. Half red morocco and marbled paper covered boards, bound by Bradstreet, worn at joints and extremities. Provenance: James Hale Bates (armorial bookplate). Ford 423; Howes F323 "aa".

[378925] **$2,500**

One of a hundred copies of the deluxe issue of this important edition of Franklin's autobiography, based on the complete manuscript discovered by John Bigelow in Paris in 1866. This is the first "modern" edition based on the manuscript; Howes calls it the first complete edition.





54 *Lovely Set of Bigelow's Life*

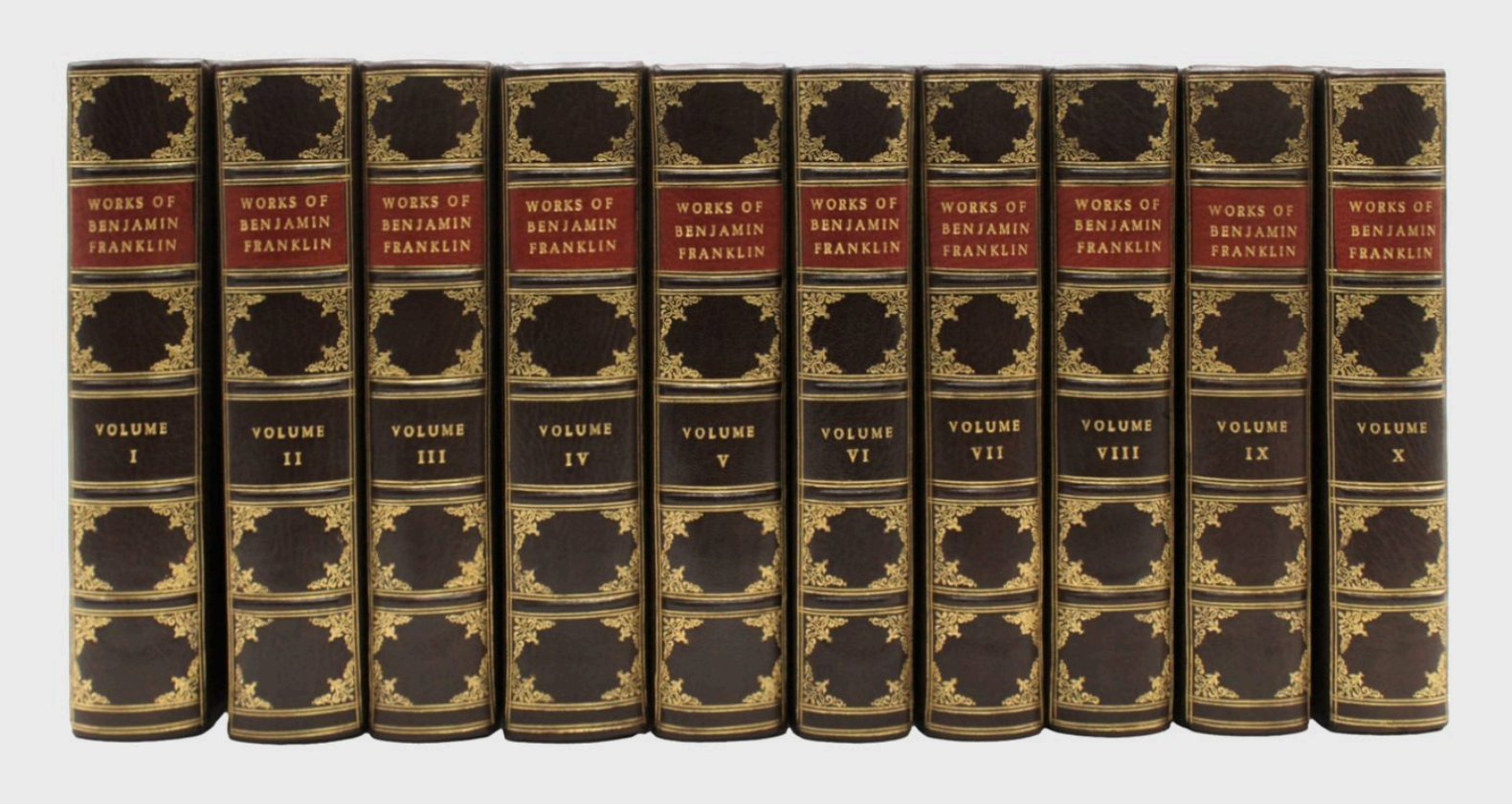
Franklin, Benjamin; – John Bigelow, editor.

The Life of Franklin, Written by Himself. Now First Edited from Original Manuscripts and from his Printed Correspondence and Other Writings. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co; London: Trübner & Co, 1874.

Portrait frontispiece. 3 vols. 8vo. Publisher's russet cloth, covers bordered in black, spine gilt. Ford 424.

[378369] **$850**

"This is the Bigelow text of the autobiography, with a continuation made up chiefly of extracts from Franklin's own letters and writings" (Ford).



55 *Limited Edition*

Franklin, Benjamin.

The Complete Works. Edited by John Bigelow. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1887-1889.

Plates. 10 vols. 8vo. Letter-Press Edition of 600 copies, this set lettered Q of an undesignated number of lettered Presentation copies. Modern half morocco and marbled paper covered boards, spines gilt, top edge gilt. Ford 600.

[378368] **$6,000**

A fine, nicely printed set, containing material not previously published, and the unexpurgated version of Franklin's Autobiography. "Mr. Bigelow has not only corrected many of Sparks' errors, but has added some six hundred new pieces to what had hitherto been printed as Franklin's. The chronological arrangement is also a great improvement of the classical one of all prior editions" (Ford).



All items, as usual, are guaranteed as described and are returnable within 10 days for any reason. All books are shipped UPS (please provide a street address) unless otherwise requested. Overseas orders should specify a shipping preference. All postage is extra. New clients are requested to send remittance with orders. Libraries may apply for deferred billing. All New York and New Jersey residents must add the appropriate sales tax. We accept American Express, Master Card, and Visa.

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