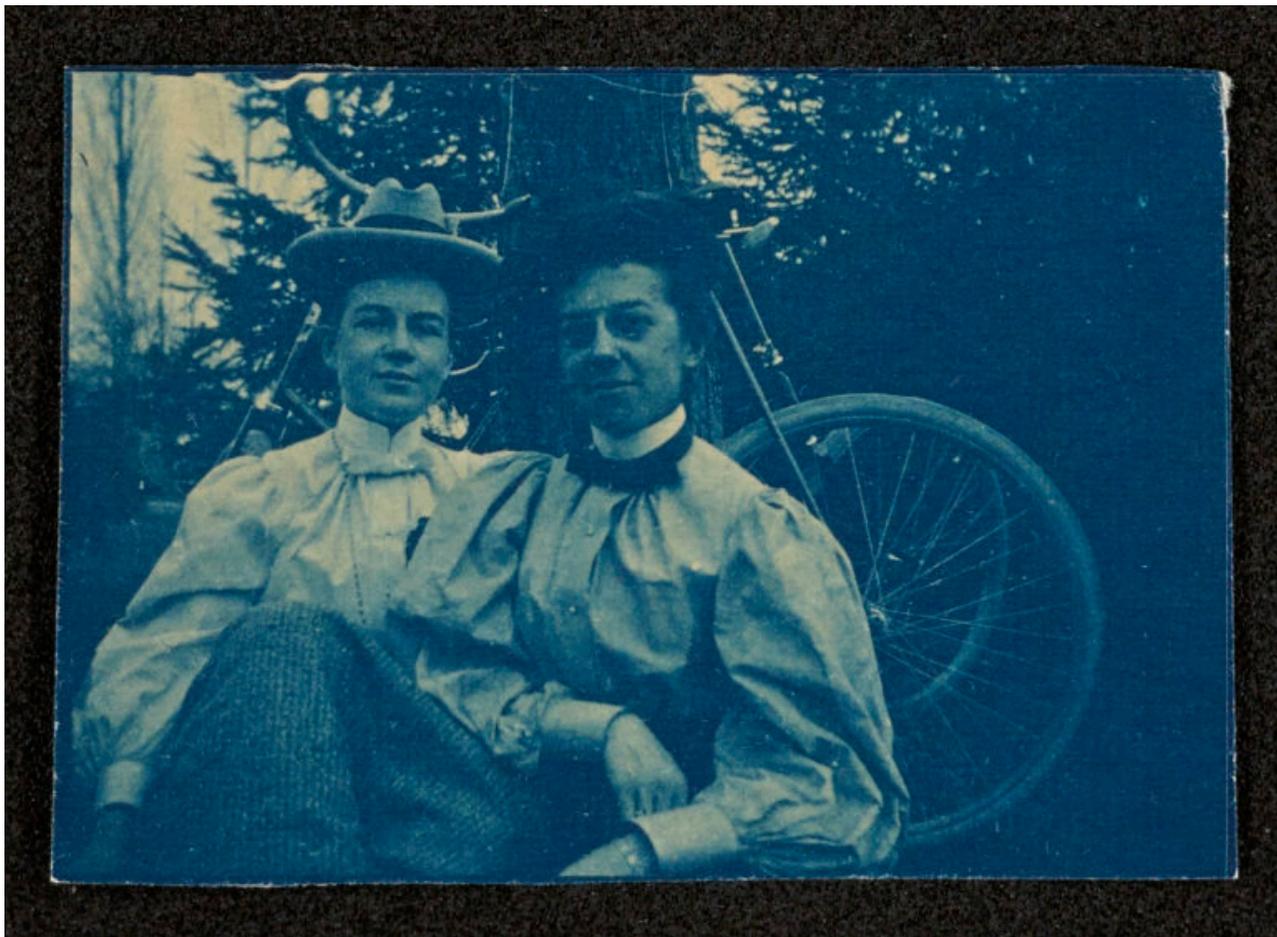


How Bicycles Liberated Women in Victorian America



Cycling culture offered individual women, as well as couples, greater freedom in daily life.

Insurance For (and Against) the Empire



Marine insurance itself was a business that flourished during periods of war and uncertainty. It had a complex relationship with the British state.

Freedom and Joy: Walt Whitman's "We two boys together clinging"



Whitman creates a beautiful tension between the images of marauding lovers, armed and fearless, and two boys clutching each other's fingers and clinging to each other.

[Fleeing from the Shores of Tripoli: America's First Messy Retreat from a Foreign War and the Backlash it Engendered](#)



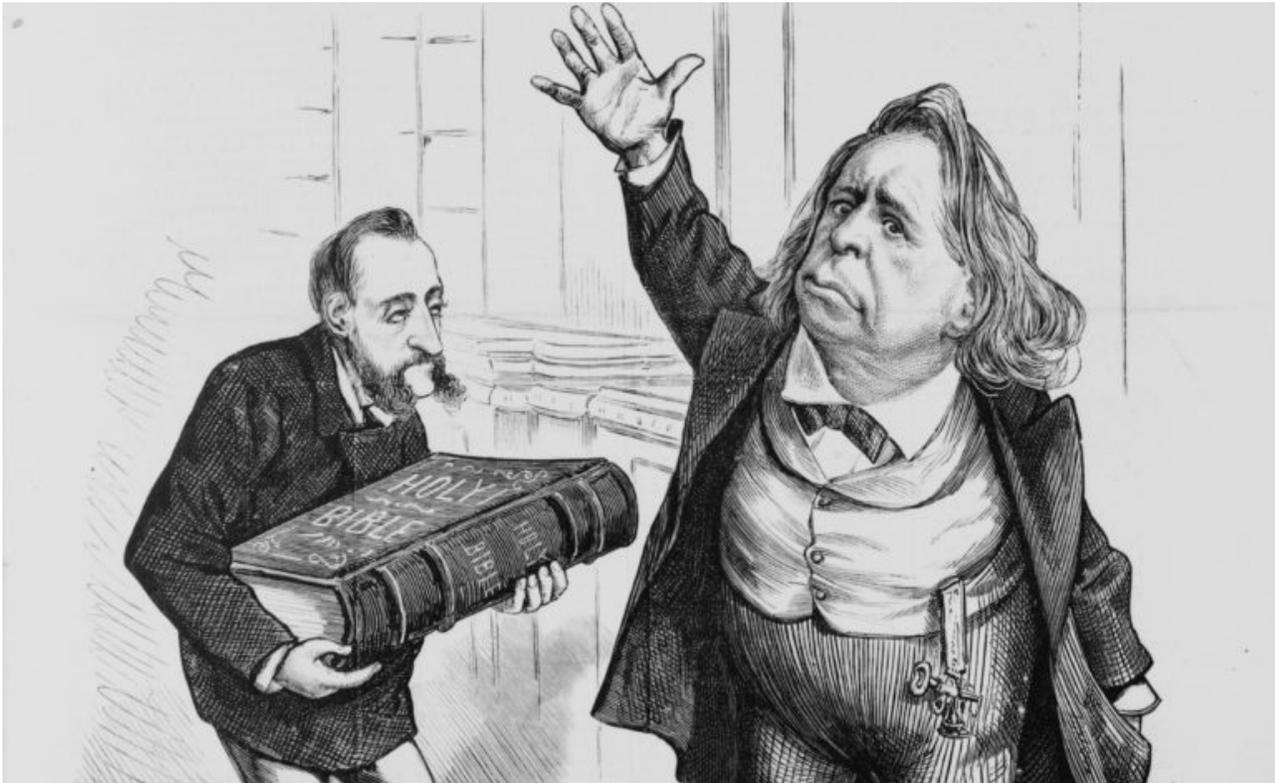
Studying the aftermath of the evacuation from Tripoli provides perspective on the current fallout from the withdrawal from Afghanistan.

[The Influences of the Underworld: Nineteenth-Century Brothel Guides, Calling Cards, and City Directories](#)



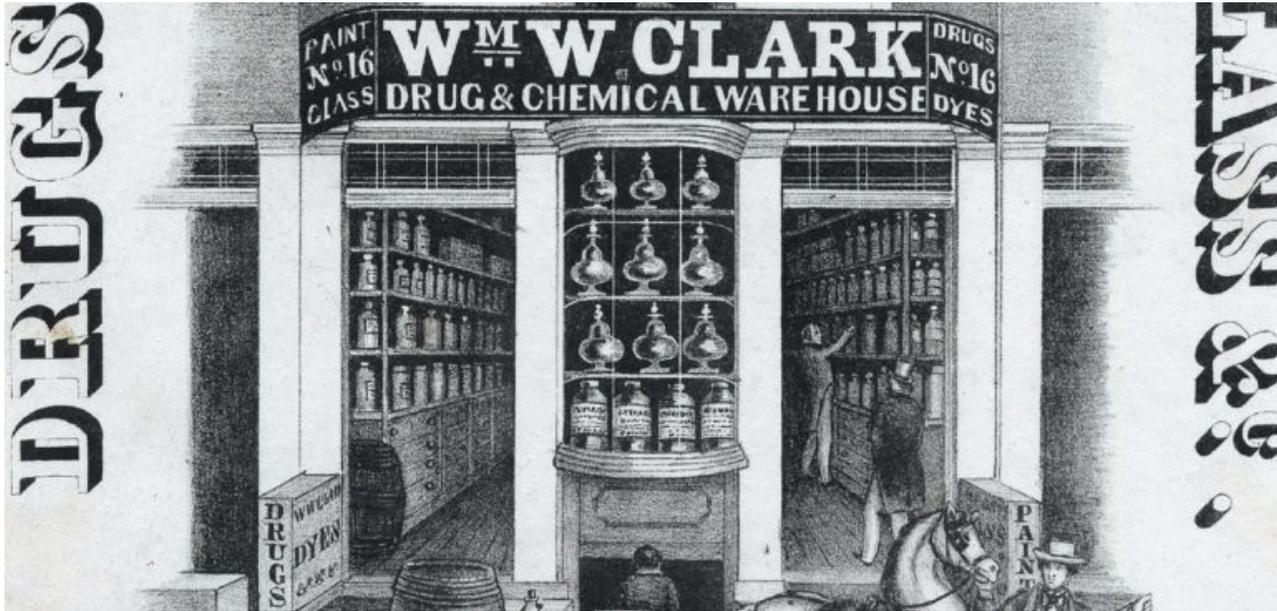
Brothel guides tended to be small, making them easy to conceal. They also mimicked other types of publications to make it easier to hide the guides' true purpose.

[When Forgiveness Enables Tyranny: The Unbearable Lightness of Henry Ward Beecher](#)



From 1863 onward, Beecher was obsessed with forgiveness. The most influential preacher in the country, he aggressively agitated for the Union to extend complete forgiveness to Confederates.

[Was Edgar Allan Poe a Habitual Opium User?](#)



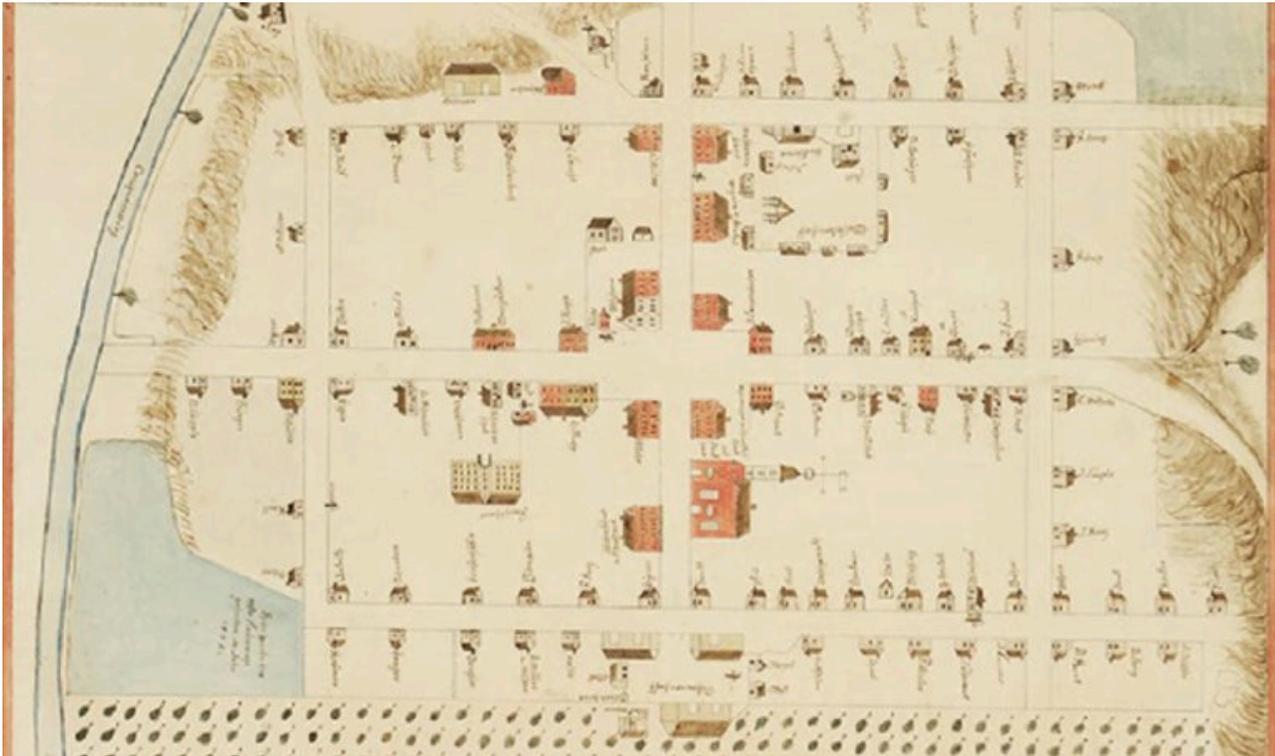
While Poe was likely using opium, the efforts to keep him quiet suggest that he was also drinking.

[Commonplace Call for Submissions](#)



Article reviews are ongoing.

[Excerpts From "Kingdom"](#)



The poems of "Kingdom" are spirit-drawings, in the tradition of the Harmonists' erstwhile Shaker acquaintances. On occasion they quote bits of Harmonist texts.

[Salt and Deep History in the Ohio Country](#)



Indeed, early American salt makers exploited productive precedents established by generations of people who had engaged with salt resources for thousands of years. This deeper history of salt shaped space, relations, and power dynamics during the eighteenth century in ways both explicit and obscure.