“The Greatest Eloquence”: James Cathcart and the Power of Words in Eighteenth-Century Barbary



Cathcart’s moves through the slave hierarchy to a position of relative comfort and prosperity were accomplished partly through his ability to navigate—or manipulate—complex relationships and partly through the power of literacy.

The Story the Torn Gown Told: Forensic Evidence and Lanah Sawyer’s Prosecution of Henry Bedlow for Rape, New York, 1793



“The life of a citizen,” they reminded the all-male jury, “lies in the hands of woman.” The result made prosecuting sexual assaults among acquaintances all but impossible.

A Tale of Two Toms: On the Uses and Abuses of History



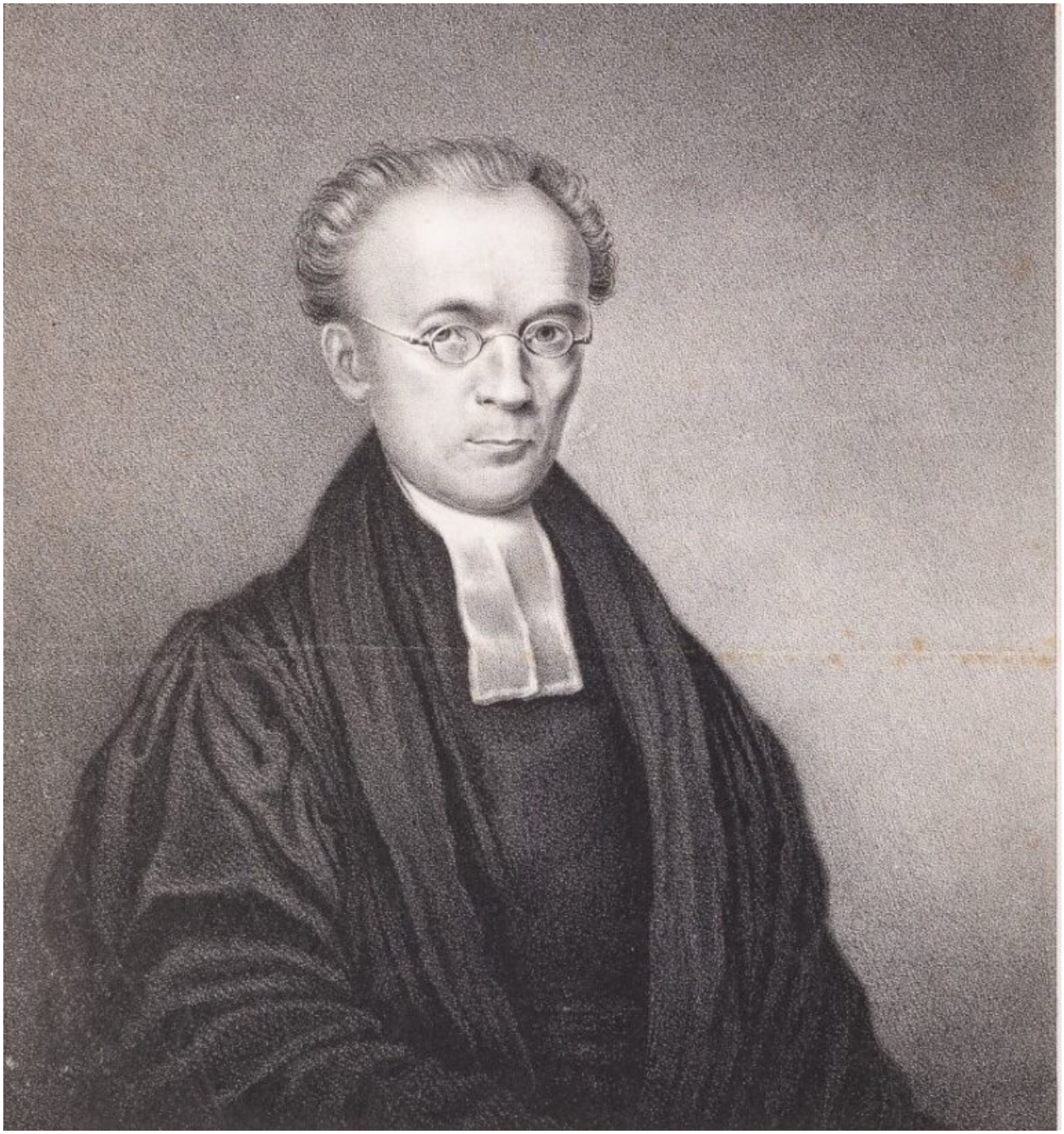
While we strive to approach our discipline objectively—to maintain distance—we also want to bridge the gap between ourselves and the past. We want to understand it, to feel it, and distance makes that empathy difficult.

Can We Scan the Piggin?: Revisiting Early American Material Culture and Campus Collections across Pandemic Time



To put it otherwise, we cannot naturalize or uncritically center the extant assemblage of materials. We must historicize and contextualize why certain belongings, stories, and memories are visible, and others much less so.

On the Importance of Archival Perseverance: The Mss. of William Jenks's *Memoir of the Northern Kingdom*



Since I hadn't found Memoir in the likely places based on the finding guide, I began going systematically, folder by folder, through the fifty boxes, more

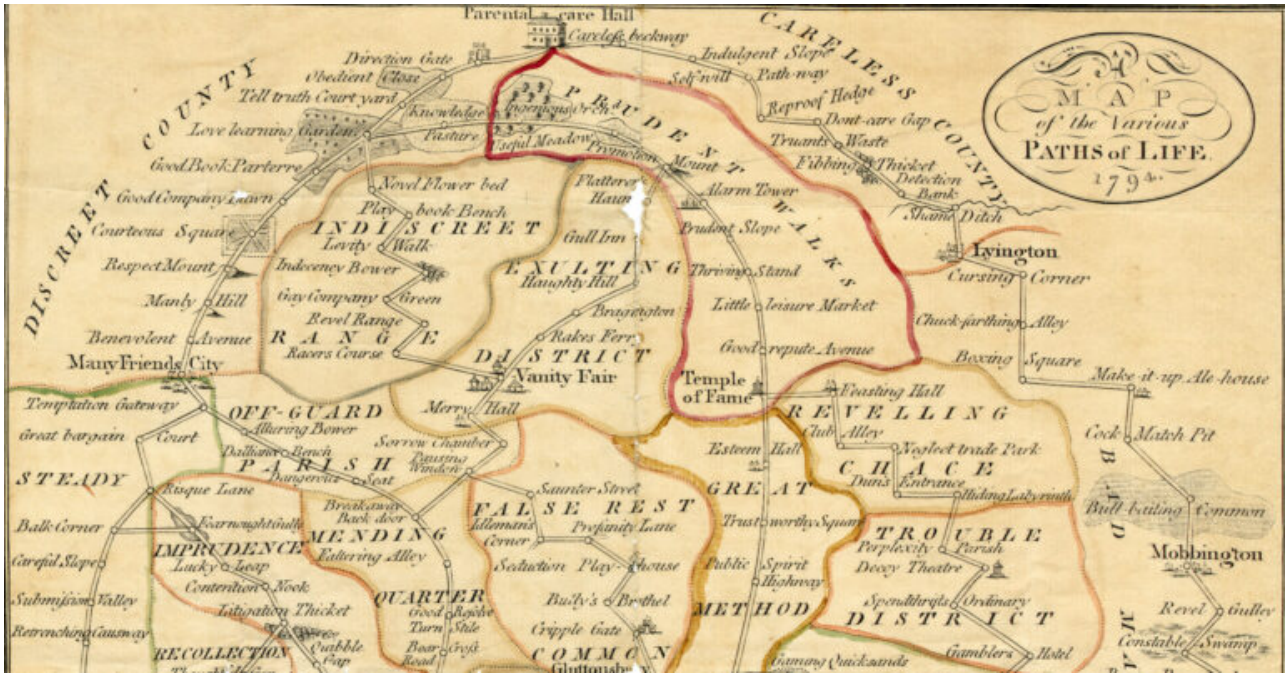
than a few of which still at that time contained bundles of Jenks's many sermons inside, wrapped in wastepaper exactly as they had been when deposited at the library.

A Healthy Paradise: Annie Denton Cridge's Feminist Utopia



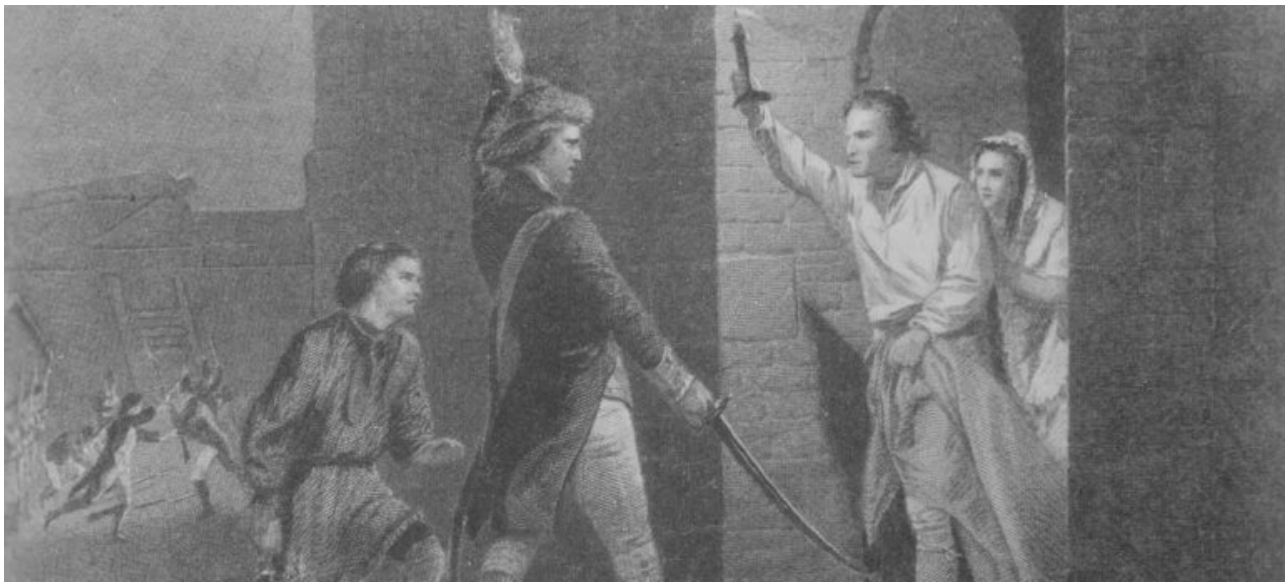
Cridge's American utopia did not singularly hinge on technological innovation or economic equality. It was a comprehensive achievement that combined political and economic equality with women's autonomy and health.

"A Very Curious Religious Game": Spiritual Maps and Material Culture in Early America



The Quaker spiritual journey, often invisible due to its silent, humble and individual nature, is illustrated in this map.

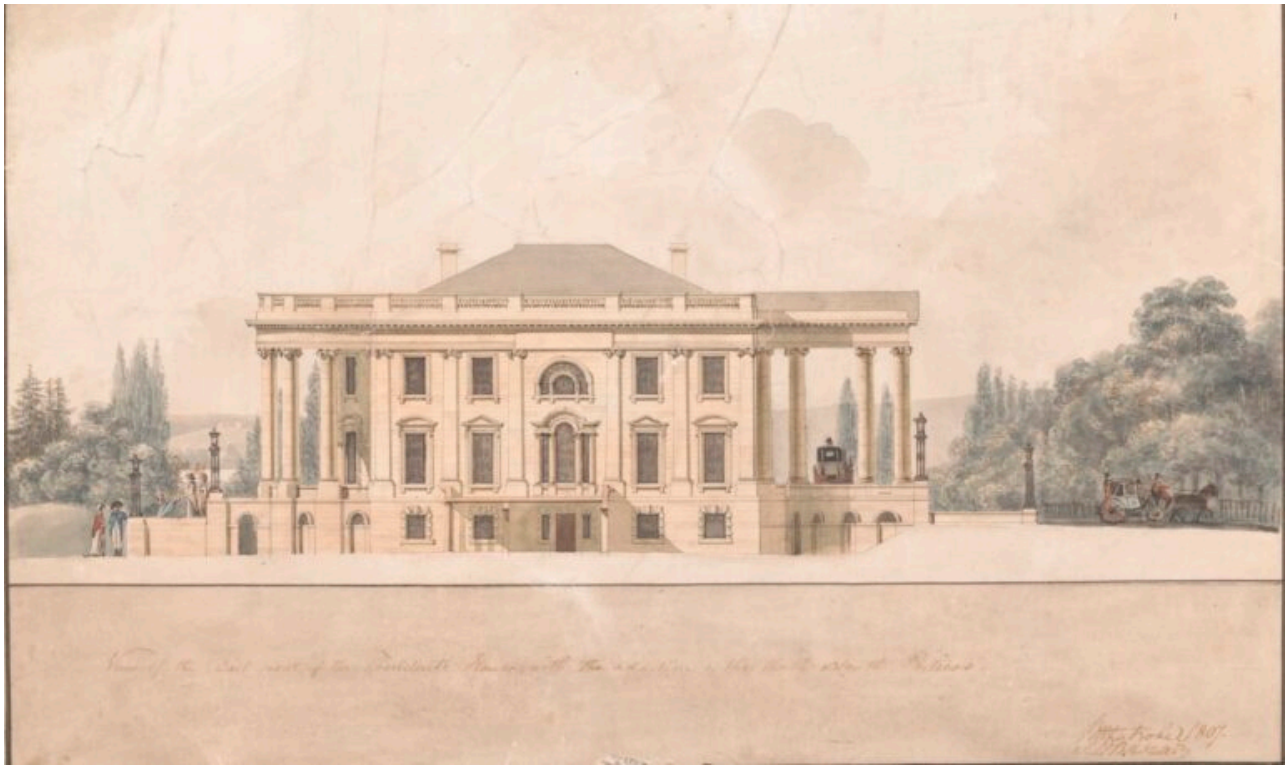
Family, Liberty, and Vermont: The Allegiance of Ethan Allen in the Revolutionary Era



He held multiple allegiances during the Revolution, all of which were connected

or stemmed from the importance he placed on familial self-preservation.

How to Party Like a President: The Dinners Behind the Dinner Records of Thomas Jefferson



For eight years, he skillfully combined traditional elite dining with an anti-monarchical ideology and Virginian sociability in a way that pleased his dinner guests and promoted his own agenda.

New Seats at the Tea Party



When facilitated responsibly, historical role-play can be an invaluable educational method because it encourages empathy and taking ownership of one’s participation in the classroom.