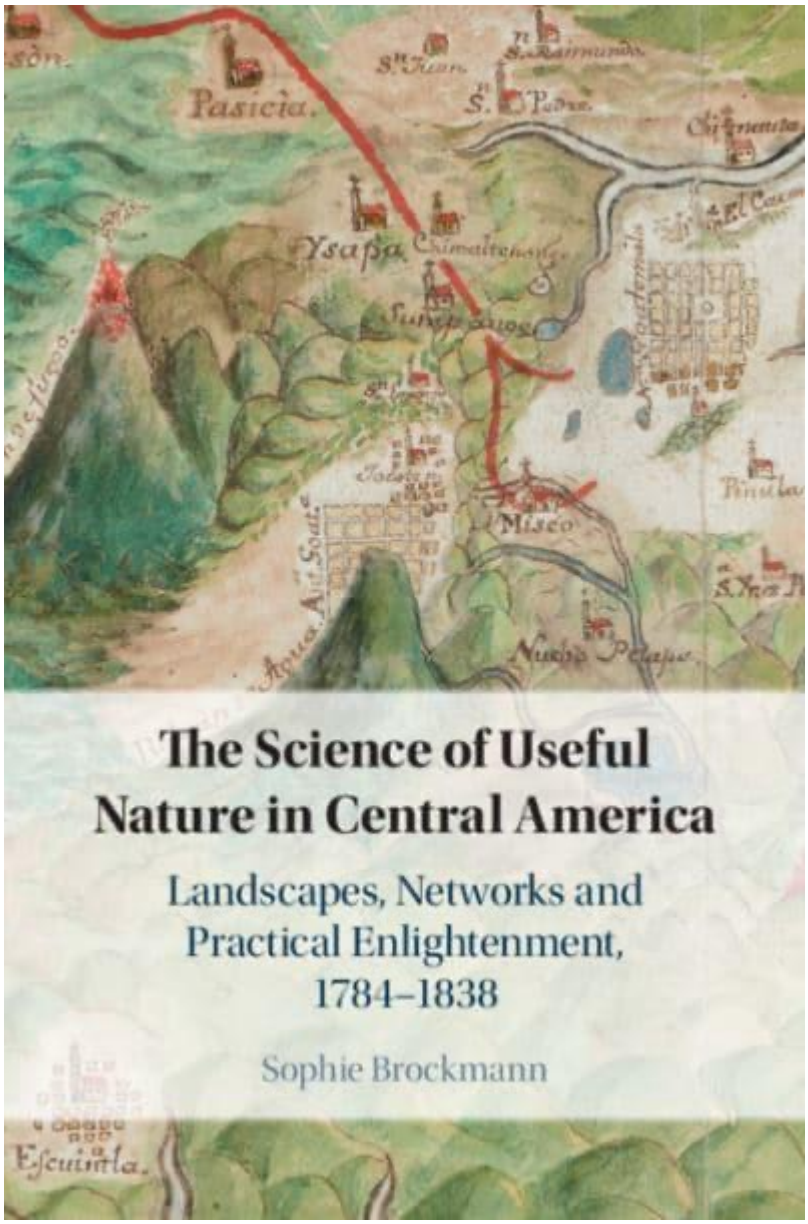
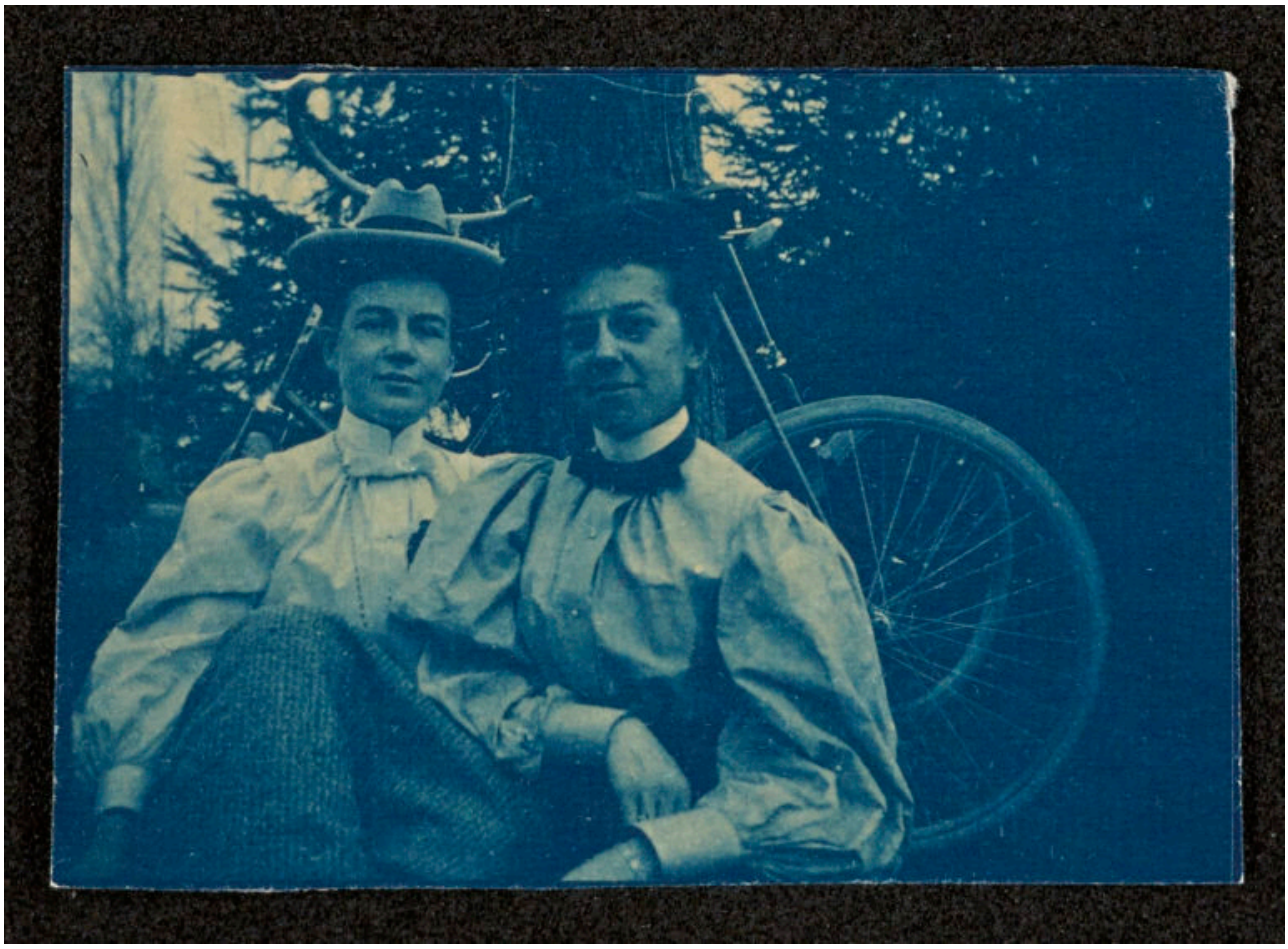
[Land that Could Become Water: Dreams of Central America in the Era of the Erie Canal]



Brockmann's research and her insightful arguments taught me not only that plenty of knowledge production occurred in Central America before the 1820s but also that this "practical" information was designed to serve locals rather than foreigners.

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.

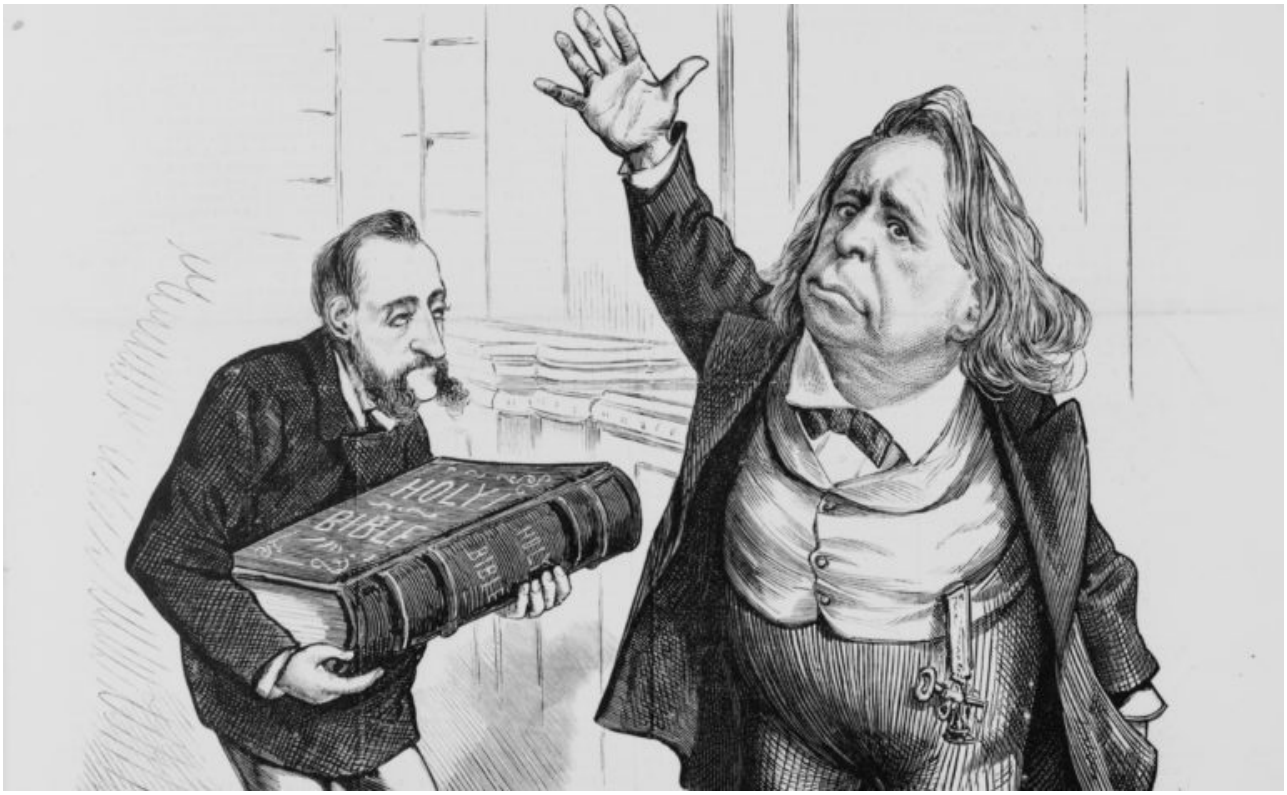
The Influences of the Underworld: Nineteenth-Century Brothel Guides, Calling Cards, and City Directories



ALLEN'S DANCE HOUSE.

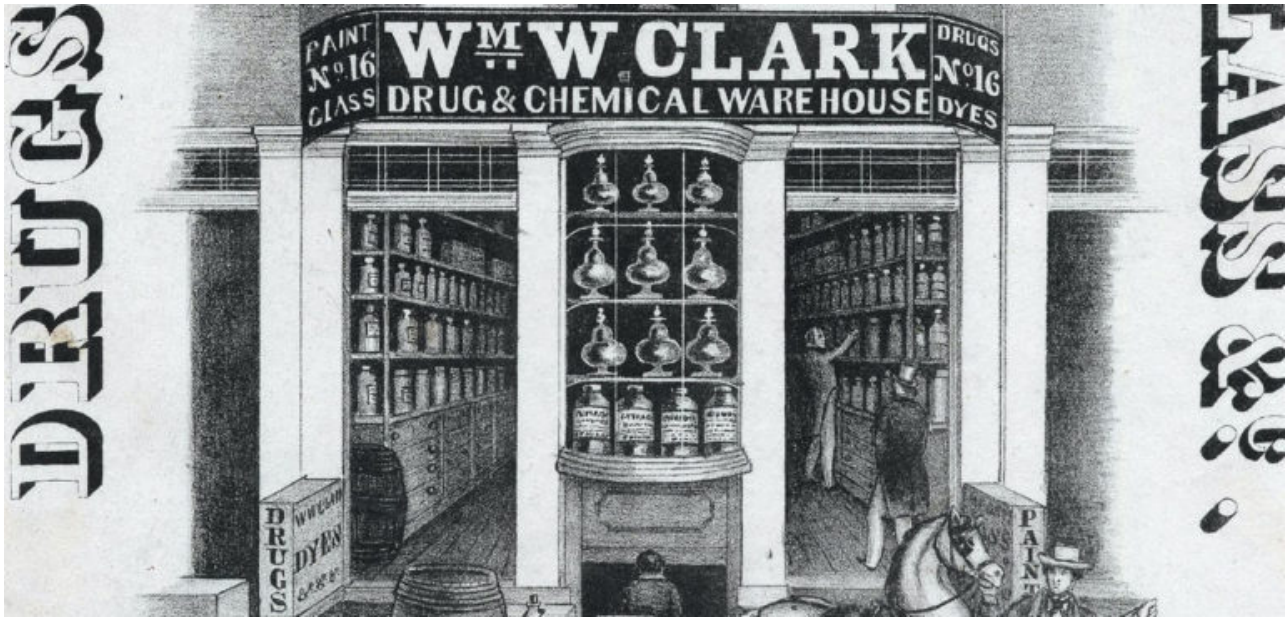
Brothel guides tended to be small, making them easy to conceal. They also mimicked other types of publications to make it easier to hide the guides' true purpose.

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?



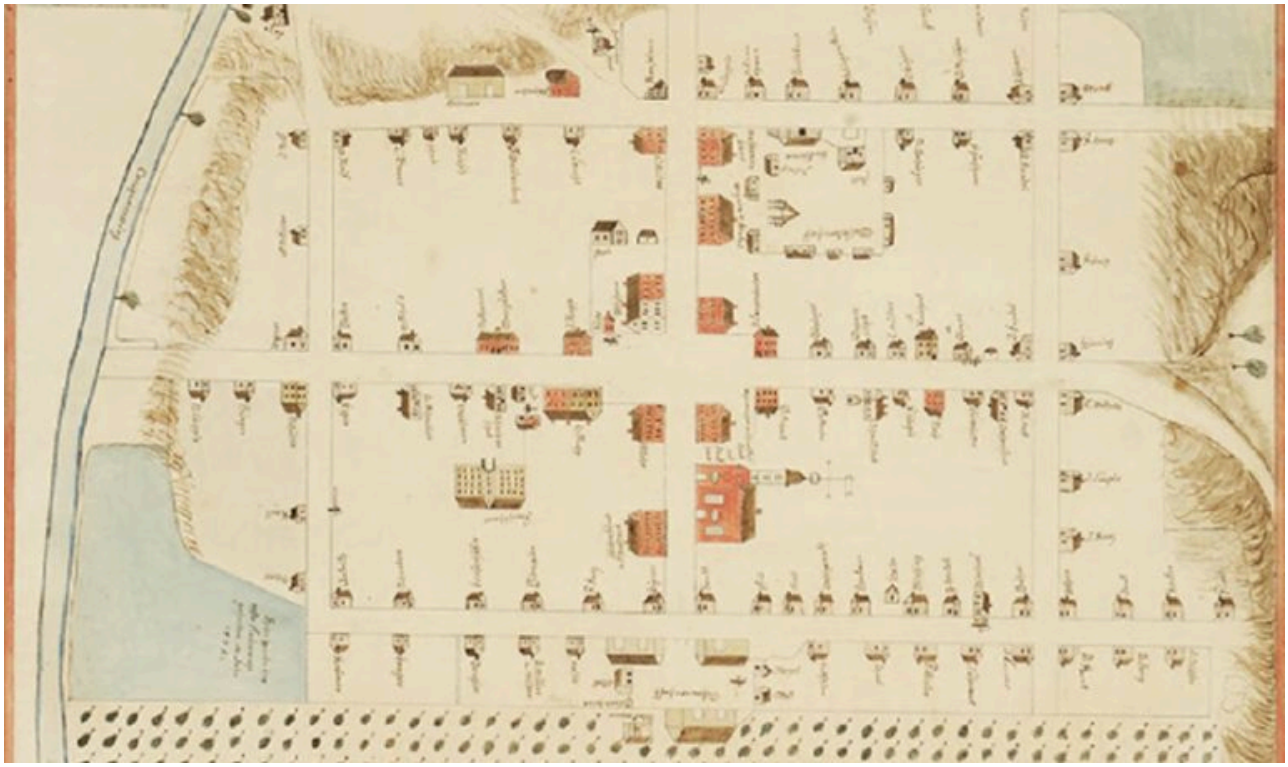
While Poe was likely using opium, the efforts to keep him quiet suggest that he was also drinking.

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.