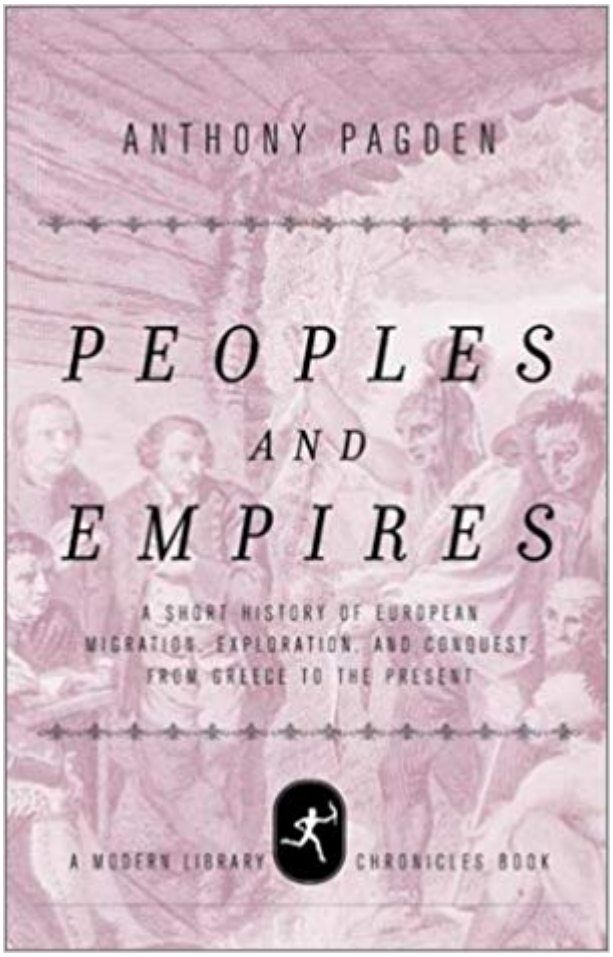
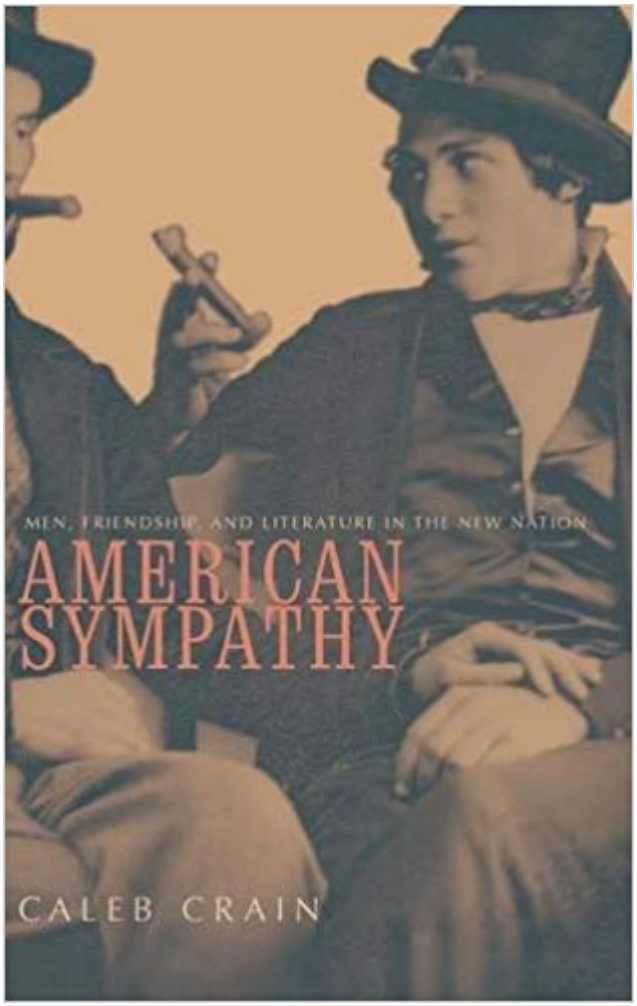
Still Life with Empire



“All of these books provide extended meditations on the ambiguities of power. Empire itself is an endlessly variant term, always imprecisely invoked and vaguely understood.”

Sense and Sympathy



“Even though Crain invokes Tocqueville and presents Emerson as particularly attuned to larger currents, he is reluctant to draw connections between his subjects and American culture, or to look elsewhere for further support of his interpretation.”

The Truth of the Picnic: Writing about American slavery


GREAT SALE
OF
LAND, NEGROES,
CORN, &
OTHER PROPERTY!
Pursuant to a decree of the Chancery Court
ALSO,
91 LIKELY NEGROES,
TERMS OF SALE.
WILLIS V. HARE,
November 24th, 1860.

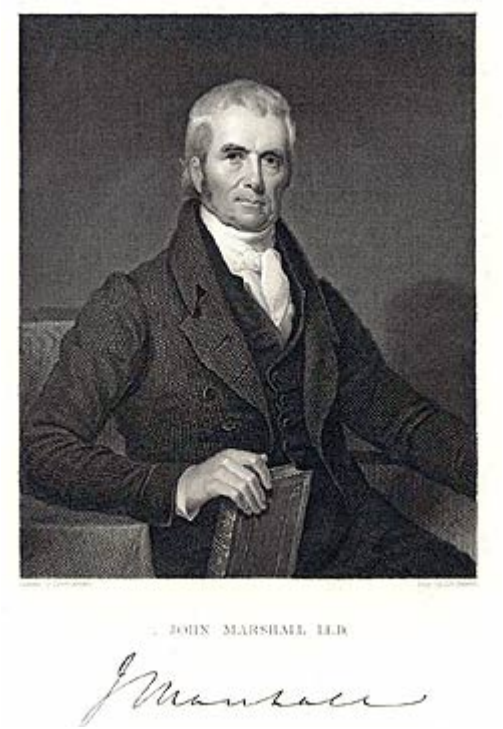
Slavery and its aftermath are human drama still unsettled. Administrators, timekeepers, civil servants, guardians of the state try to revise our understanding of the period and its outcomes. An effort to convince us that the drama is over rages. Some of us insist, and rightly so, that we are now in this drama's second act, we have not moved beyond the raised curtain, we are still in shock at what we have finally seen.

Harry Potter, My Daughter, Elihu Smith, and Me



“What would it be like to step inside the memory of the diarist? To experience a diary as if it were a video replay? What would I ask an enchanted diary if it one day spontaneously responded to my marginal annotations?”

Doctrines of Discovery



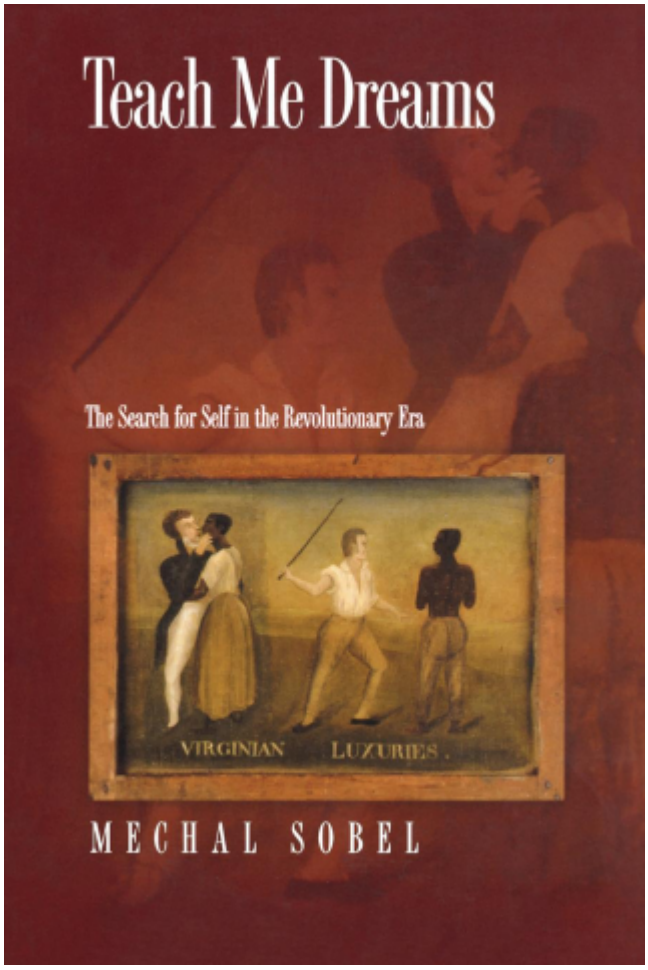
“The ‘trust’ relationship between the tribes and the federal government is at best a double-edged sword.”

Notes of a Historyteller



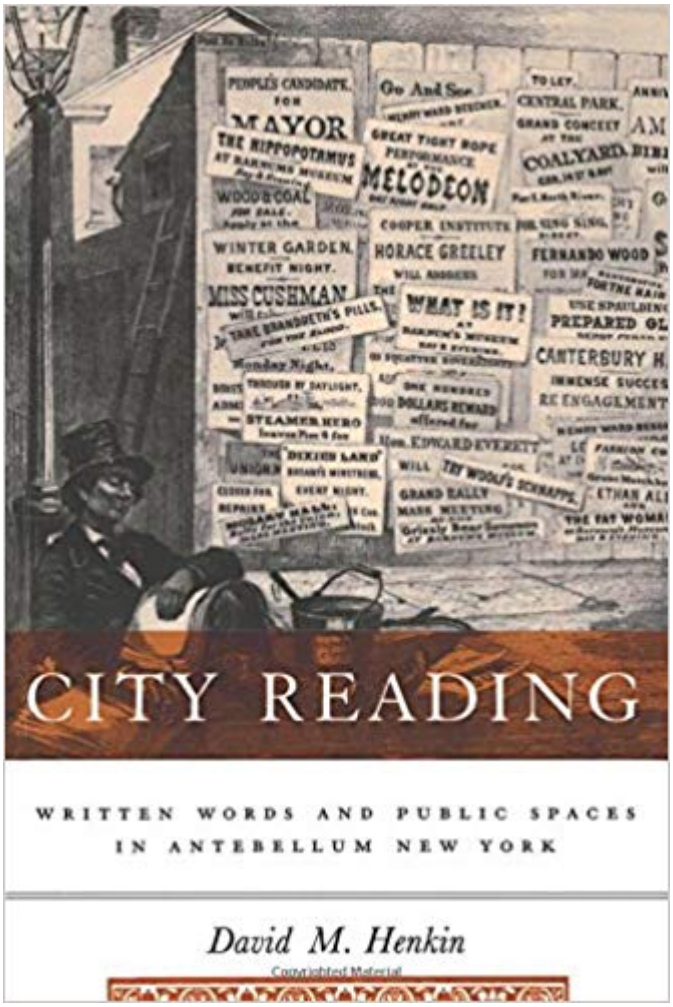
“[T]hese days it seems Americans prefer their Founding Fathers warts and all: fresher, snappier, even naughty.”

Searching for Self



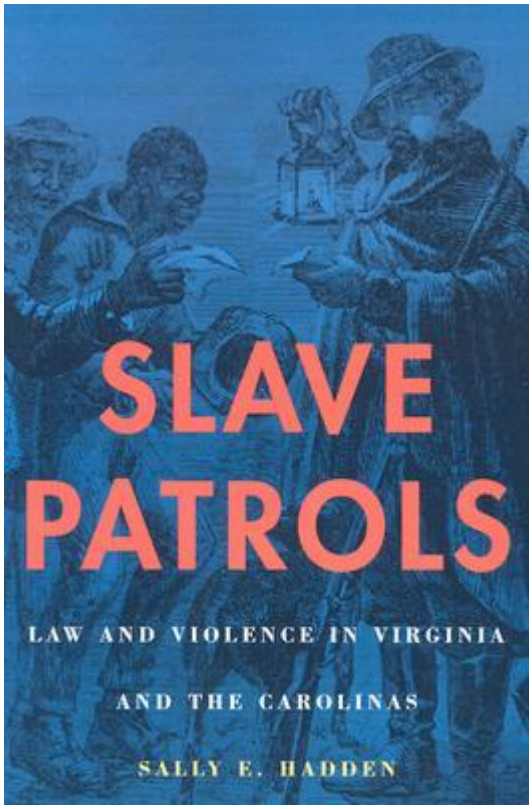
“Sobel’s book is notable in turning our attention back to a topic too long thought off limits to historians: the psychological origins of race and racism.”

The Visible Public



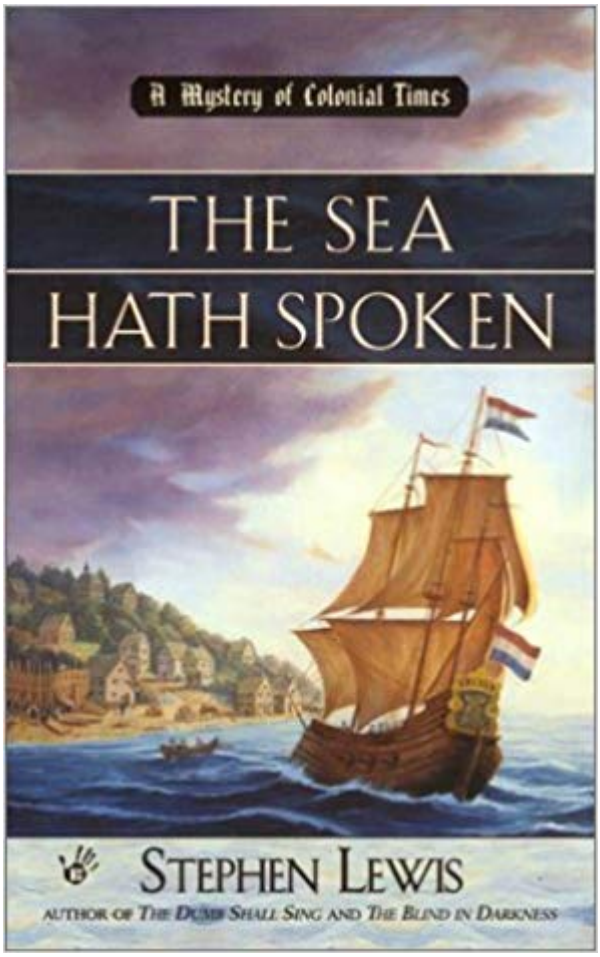
"[I]n contrast to those who simply lament the decline of bourgeois institutions of public reflection (for example, the coffeehouse), Henkin puts forward a story about a public that succeeded—and in some ways exceeded—those earlier institutions."

Investigating Patrollers



“[S]erving in a patrol may have reaffirmed Southern notions of community, kinship, masculinity, and honor.”

Midwife Tales



“I could not overlook the biggest anachronism of all—that of character.”