## [This “Miserable African”: Race, crime, and disease in colonial Boston]




Mather, like most other Christians of the time, also believed that racial equality before God did not demand equality on Earth—and, in particular, that it was wholly compatible with the institution of slavery.

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## [Searching for Smut: Hot on the trail of Anthony Comstock (1844-1915)]

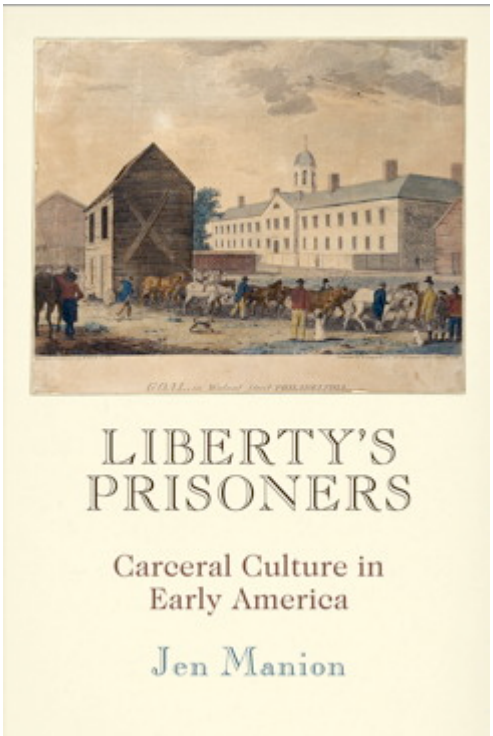



Searching for the prey of an effective censor makes the thrill of discovery

especially tantalizing, since the “treasure” is not meant to be found.

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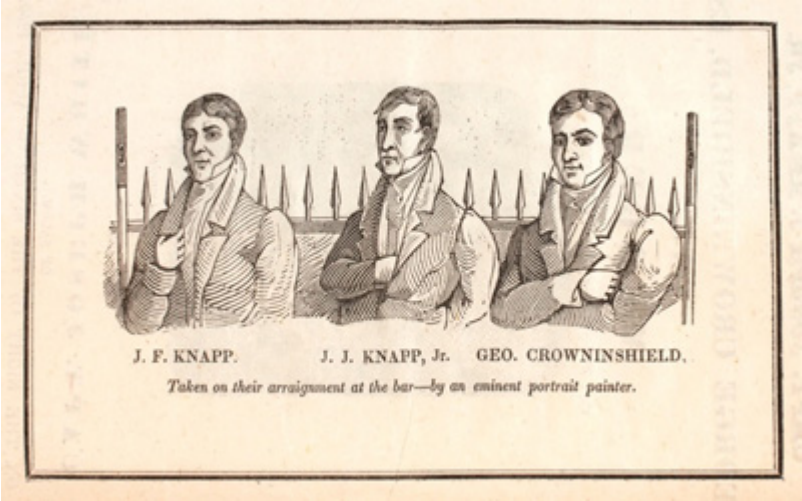
## ‘Born of Failure:’ Gender, Class, and the Early American Prison




The book is both an intersectional study of crime and an intersectional study of gender, poverty, and class.

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## Digging for Dirt: Reading Blackmail in the Antebellum Archive




If blackmail is ultimately about silence, and if silence cannot—by definition—be tracked, how is one to find signs that blackmail might be present?

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# Dr. Warren's Ciceronian Toga



If there was one thing Revolutionary orators knew, it was that if you wanted to move people to action, you had to touch something deep within them.

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## Benjamin Franklin’s “Enriching Virtues”




Presented as part of the Special Issue: Money

Franklin had designed his currency to nurture Americans’ fortitude and resolve.

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## How Betsy Ross Became Famous




Oral tradition, nationalism, and the invention of history

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# An American Flag in Japan: Townsend Harris and the materials of diplomacy, 1857-58



“This flag is the first foreign banner that was ever carried through the great city.”

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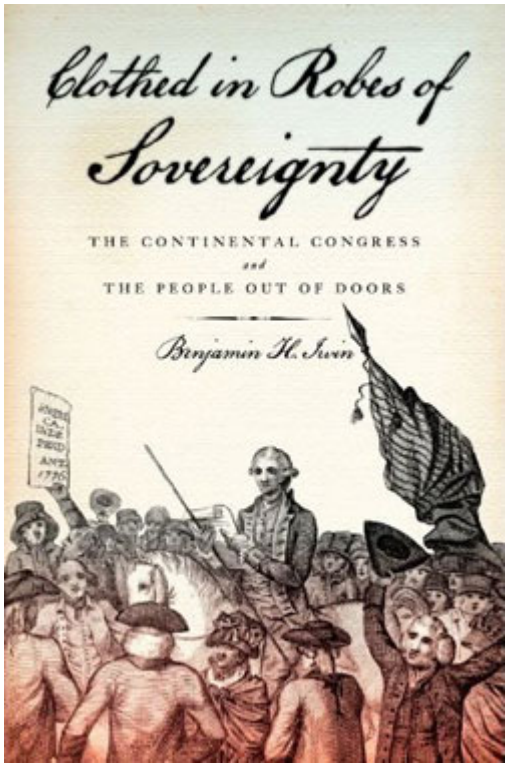
## Star-spangled Sentiment



“It is worth considering why Americans have invested their flags with such importance and how the United States has become more saturated with patriotic color than any other country in the world. The comparative intensity of American loyalties is less noteworthy than the country’s fixation on a single symbol, which has come to be associated with a remarkably wide range of emotions.”

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# Making the Nation




Congress sought to impose frugality and economic restraint as a means to unite a divergent people.