

Touching Sentiment: The Tactility of Nineteenth-Century Valentines



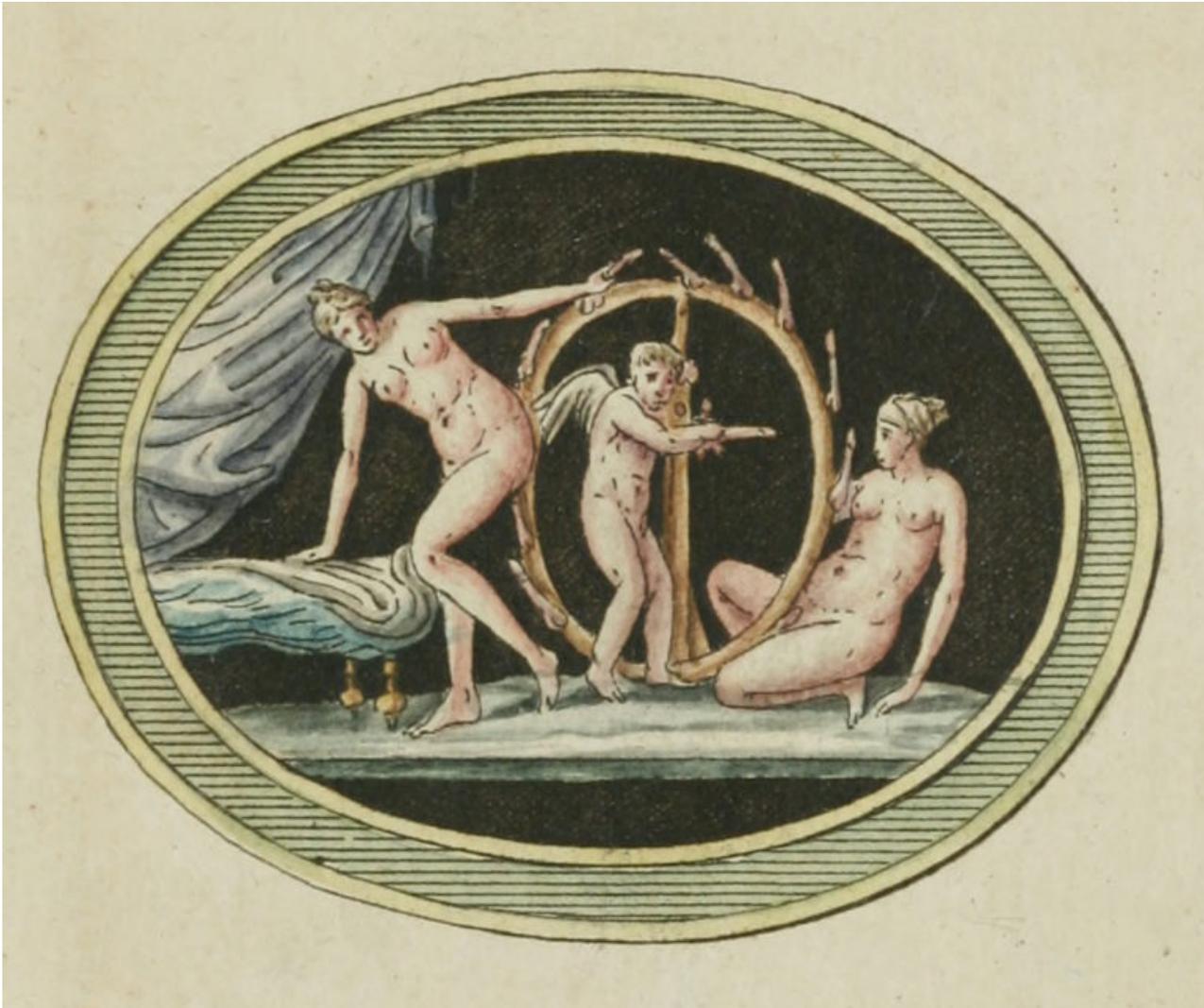
Growing increasingly three-dimensional and more ornate with every added layer of material, sentimental or “fancy” valentines, as they were called, were harbingers of hope, fondness, and desire.

Thirteen Sent, Ten Received: Account Books, Valentines, and Social Capital



Salisbury's purchases clearly evoke the image of a young man concerned with meeting the expectations of Worcester's privileged class.

Winterthur XXX: Searching for early American erotica



Erotic standards are also historically contingent: what would have raised eyebrows in the eighteenth century often seems laughably tame, even quaint to the modern viewer.

Brothels for Gentlemen: Nineteenth-Century American Brothel Guides, Gentility, and Moral Reform



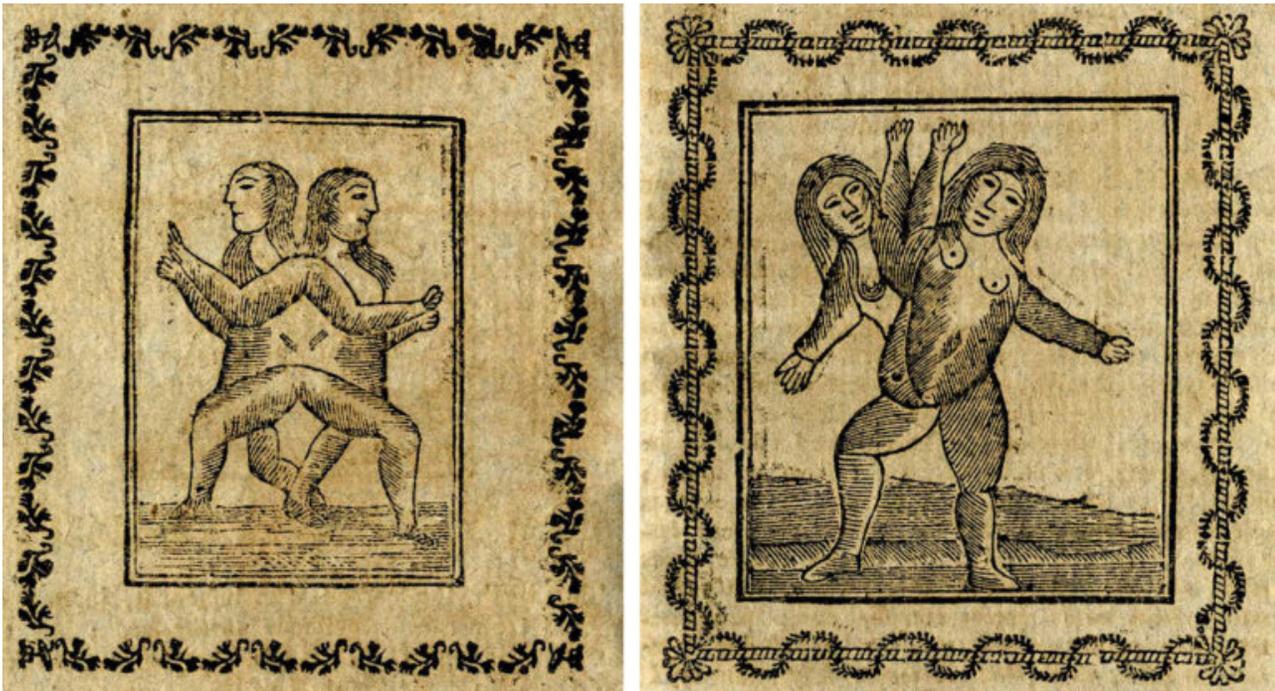
Engraved according to Act of Congress in the Year 1848, by James Baillie, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Southern District of N.Y.

SINGLE.

Published by James Baillie, 87 & 89 near 3rd Avenue, New York.

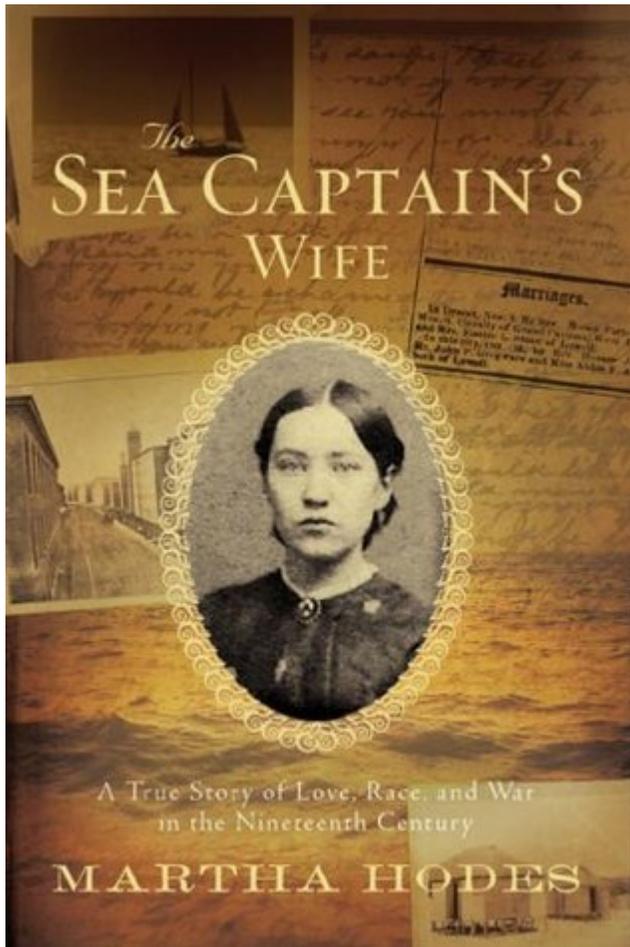
Brothel guides' positive descriptions of well-behaved, mannered, self-conscious brothelgoers suggested that if such genteel, respectable men allowed themselves to enjoy the sexual pleasures for sale in American cities, then why couldn't the reader himself?

Early America's Guide to Sex: Aristotle's Masterpiece



It is not hard to imagine the allure of such a work for readers—modest or otherwise—for it provided a rare detailed discussion of sex.

Searching for Love and Security across the Color Line



Once again abandoned by her husband and afflicted with uncertainty and poverty, Eunie began to direct her own life...

[The Manly Sport of American Politics: Or, How We Came to Call Elections “Races”](#)



Nineteenth-century Americans abandoned the traditional English phrasing of “standing” for election and begin to describe candidates who “run” for office. The race was on.

Storm of Blows



“[N]o matter how progressive, or how much it seemed to reflect a vibrant spirit of competition, of Darwinian triumph and bootstrap optimism, boxing still suffered from an image problem.”

Faith in the Ballot



Presented as part of the special Politics Issue

Early northern black church voting may be the missing link in our understanding of black political consciousness and civic mindedness.

The Politics of Martial Manhood



Presented as part of the special Politics Issue

There were far more Democrats in the 1850s who still supported the antiquated honor code that justified dueling than there were Whigs.