

## Editor's Note—Birds, Bots, and Elephants: Commonplace and Social Media



So, what is the right decision for Commonplace when it comes to choosing a social media strategy?

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## The Fabric of Our Nation: A Nineteenth-Century Night Shirt Reveals the Complex Value of Material Objects



Commemoration, commerce, and complex social connections combined to dictate the paths and diversions of this obscure object and others.

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## [William & Mary's Nottoway Quarter: The Political Economy of Institutional Slavery and Settler Colonialism](#)



The dispossession of Native lands for the purposes of organizing English tobacco plantations was a deepening and broadening of merchant capitalism in Virginia.

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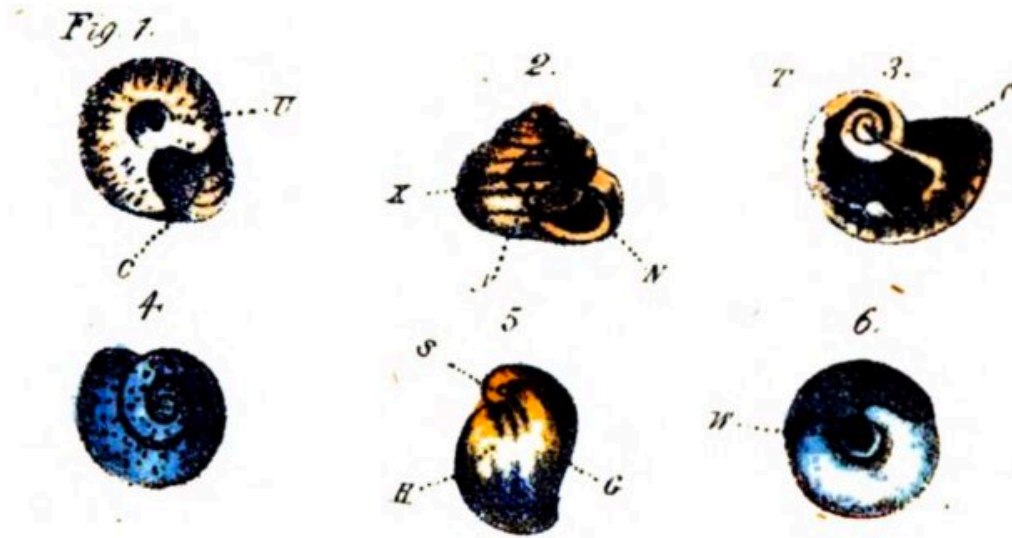
## The Curious Affair of the Horsewhipped Senator: A Diplomatic Crisis That Didn't Happen



The senators, like the grand jurors, knew their man, and probably conceded that Temple had given him the hiding he had been asking for.

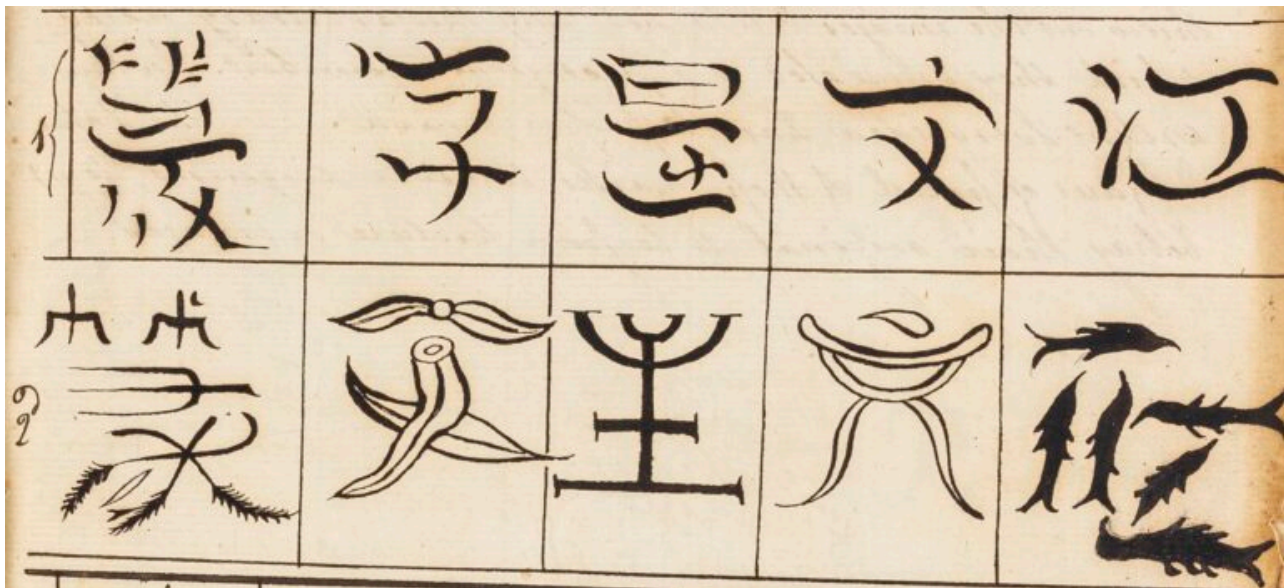
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## Edgar Allan Poe: Pioneering Mollusk Scientist



Poe's work reminds us that the separation of "Arts" and "Sciences" into discrete discourses of knowledge is itself a quite recent invention.

## Collecting for Salvation: American Antiquarianism and the Natural History of the East



The outlines of "salvation antiquarianism"—with the emphasis on "saving" both in terms of preservation and Christian redemption—appears particularly clearly in the AAS's inaugural 1813 address.

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## Loosening the Tongue: Language Learning among Early American Missionaries to the Ottoman Empire



Especially in the early years, with no grammar books or dictionaries of spoken languages, missionaries relied heavily on their cultural know-how and linguistic expertise and came to learn about the nuances of Armenian culture through them.

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## As Deep as it is Vast: An Introduction to *The Dawn of Everything* in Early America

# **THE DAWN OF EVERYTHING**



**A NEW HISTORY OF  
HUMANITY**



**DAVID GRAEBER AND  
DAVID WENGROW**

The Dawn of Everything provides a framework that engages with “big history” or “deep history” while avoiding explanations that flirt with biological, demographic, environmental, or technological determinism.

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## [Bookends: Two Authors Reflect on their First Books](#)



Ultimately, books are static, material things. As historians and writers, we’re always changing, and so is the field of history.

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## [A Minister’s Desk? Reanimating Space, Rethinking Furniture](#)



What happens when we place furniture into a context of lively and fraught interaction?