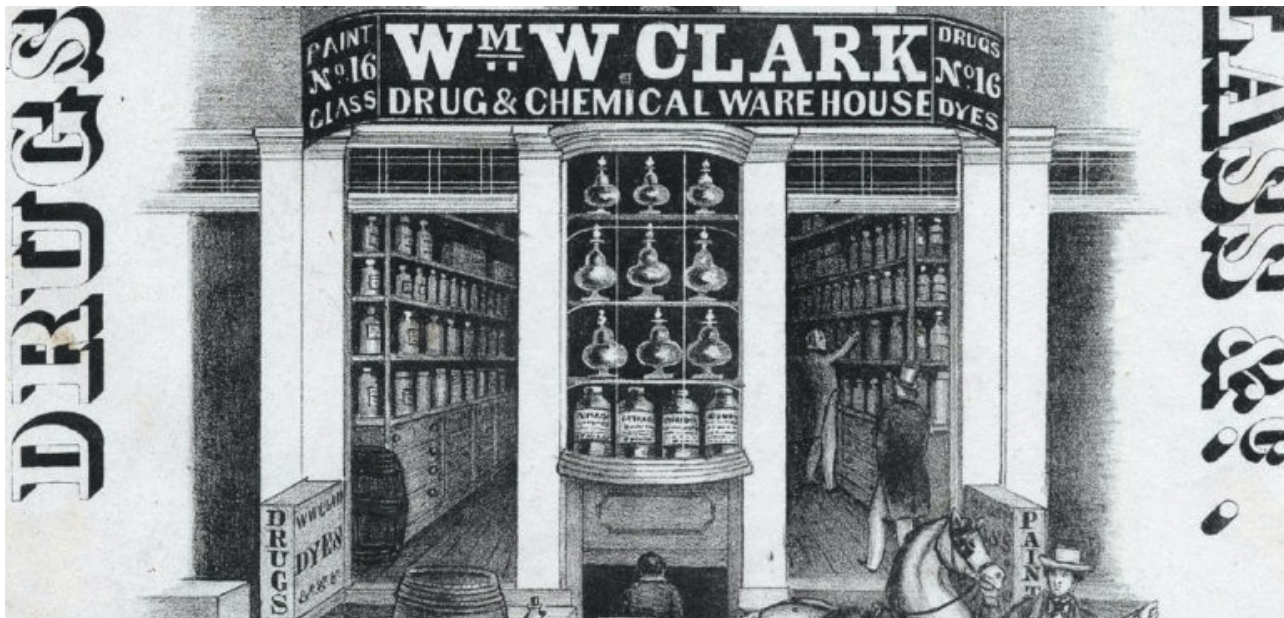


Was Edgar Allan Poe a Habitual Opium User?



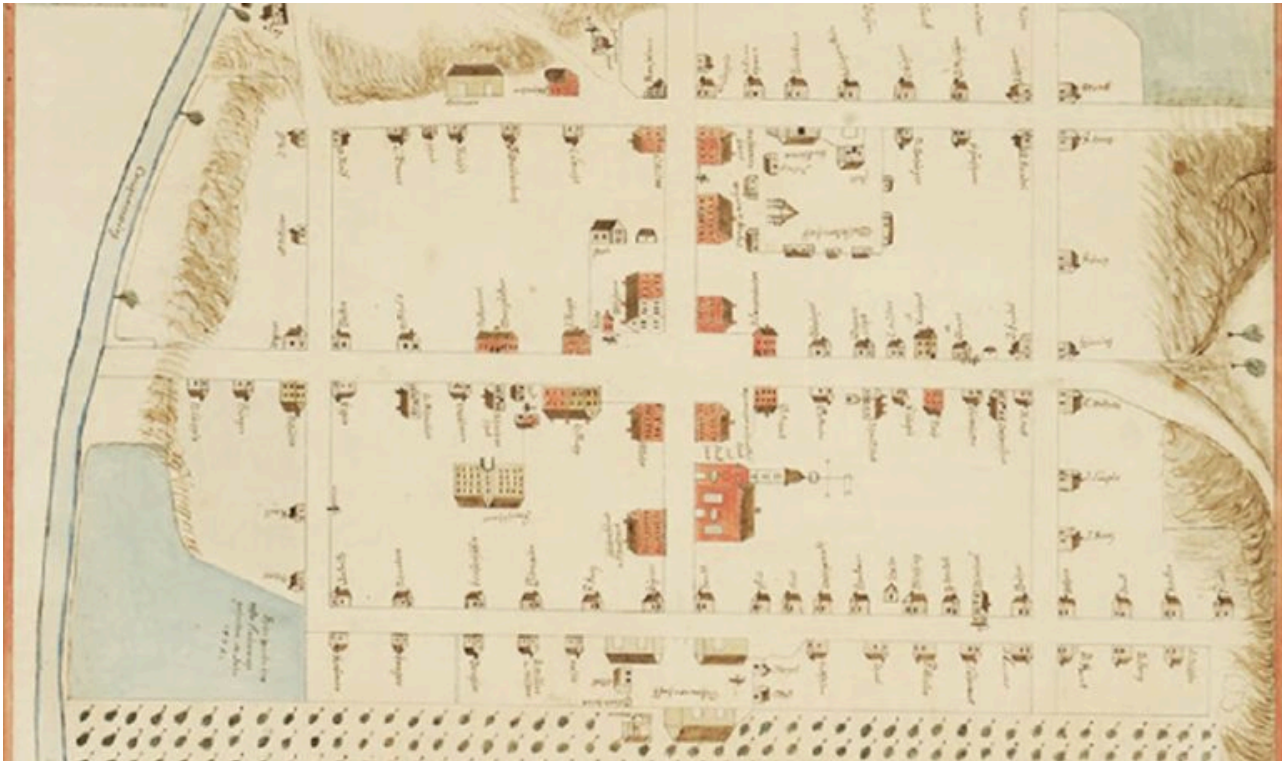
While Poe was likely using opium, the efforts to keep him quiet suggest that he was also drinking.

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.

[Salt and Deep History in the Ohio Country](#)



Indeed, early American salt makers exploited productive precedents established by generations of people who had engaged with salt resources for thousands of years. This deeper history of salt shaped space, relations, and power dynamics during the eighteenth century in ways both explicit and obscure.

[The Danger of *The Pirates Own Book*](#)



By making pirate stories dramatic and exciting, Ellms transformed pirates from news objects and historical actors to distinctly literary characters.

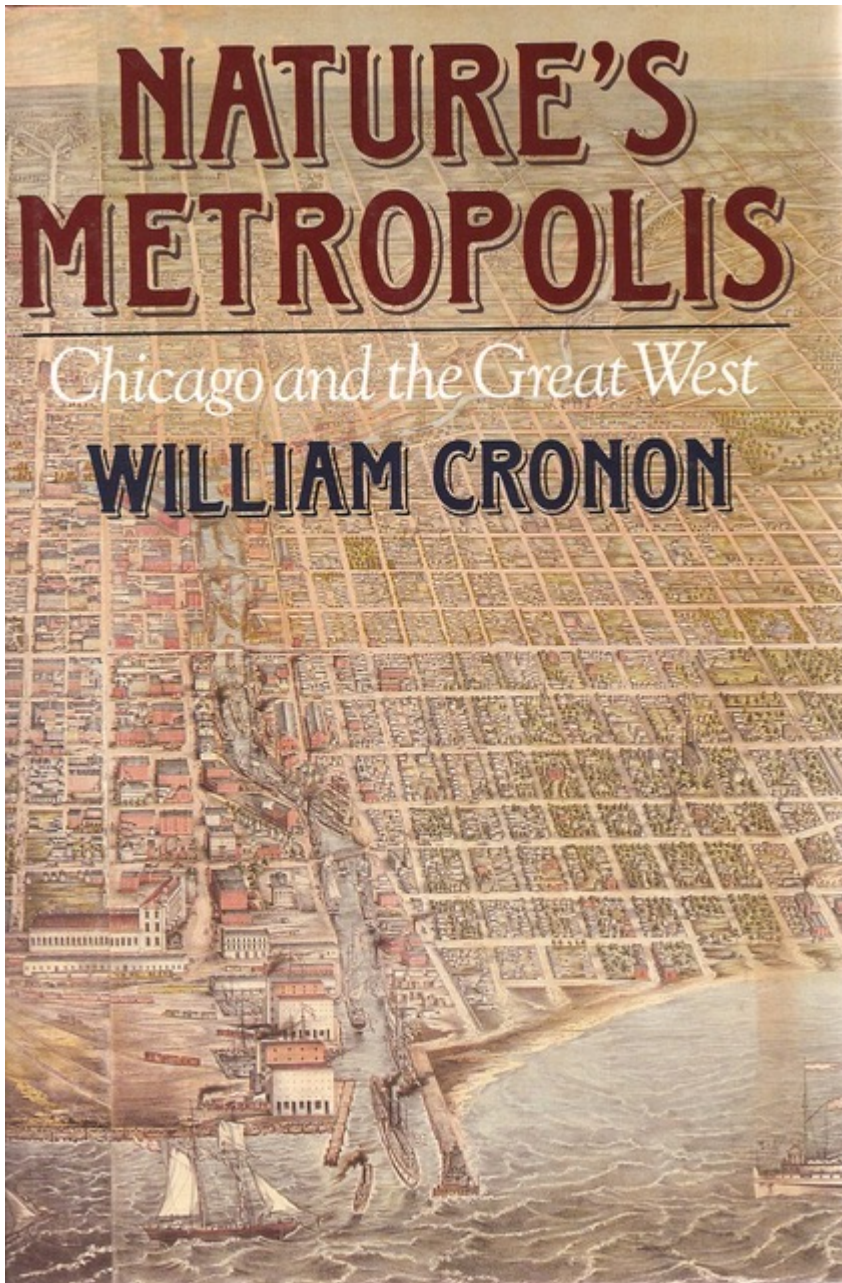
[Reparative Semantics: On Slavery and the Language of History](#)



Arise! Arise! and weep no more
dry up your tears, we shall part
no more. Come rise we go to
Tennessee,
that happy shore, to old Virginia
never - never - return.

Rather than seeking to extinguish the humanity of its victims, slavery rather invests in, and relies upon, their human capacity for suffering.

[Nature's Metropolis at 30](#)



William Cronon presents in *Nature's Metropolis* an assertion of the fundamental interconnectedness of the city and the countryside. This is figured in the history of Chicago, primarily in the nineteenth century, as the city grew from the commodification of the produce of its rural environs.

[Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, Media](#)

Theorist



In "Learning to Read," Harper prompts critical attention to textual materiality by depicting enslaved characters who advance their own literacy by exploiting white cultural expectations about the proper look of reading material.

Sullivan Ballou's Body: Battlefield Relic Hunting and the Fate of Soldiers' Remains



Confederates' quest for bones thus connects to a bizarre history of the use, and misuse, of human remains. Bones from the Bull Run battlefield were taken as acts of domination and displayed as trophies of war. However macabre, human remains became part of the deeply variegated material culture of war.

[“We left all on the ground but the head”: J. J. Audubon’s Human Skulls](#)

from a Mound at the corner of Main & 3^d Streets, Cin^o Ohio.



F. Davis Del.

Morton and his skull measurements have long been part of the scholarship on American racism, but what happens when we draw Audubon into the racial drama?