Private Wealth, Public Influence



Even as Democrats condemned powerful private institutions in the name of equality, the most prescient nineteenth-century observer of American democracy, Alexis de Tocqueville, applauded those institutions.

Monticello



Not until the end of the nineteenth century did people begin to think that Monticello, as a historical place, should be preserved in something like its “original state.”

The Founders’ Fiction



Presented as part of the Special Literature Issue

Does literature matter to politics and law?

“None Need Think Their Sympathy Wasted”



Presented as part of the Special Literature Issue

While I don’t ask students to assess whether Anne Bradstreet’s or Thomas Shepard’s beliefs are closer to their own, early Americanists do often have allegiances to authors and texts.

Why We Need a New History of Exploration: Lewis and Clark, Alexander von Humboldt, and the explorer in American culture



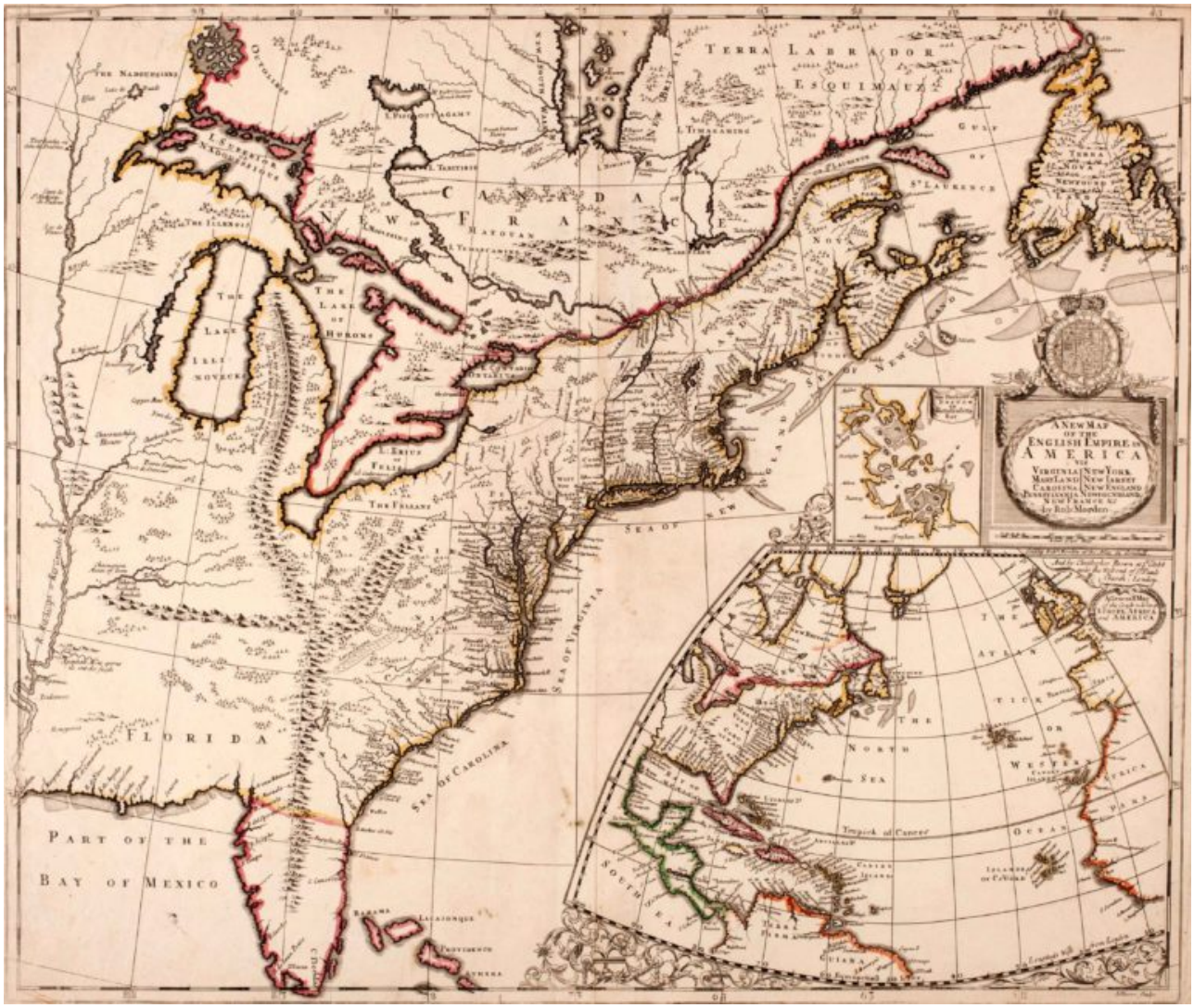
In the 1820s, the idea of the traveler was in flux, a category that had come to encompass every itinerant from Joseph Banks, science officer of the Endeavour, to British lads on vacation.

Hard Facts for Hard Times: Social knowledge and social crisis in the nineteenth century



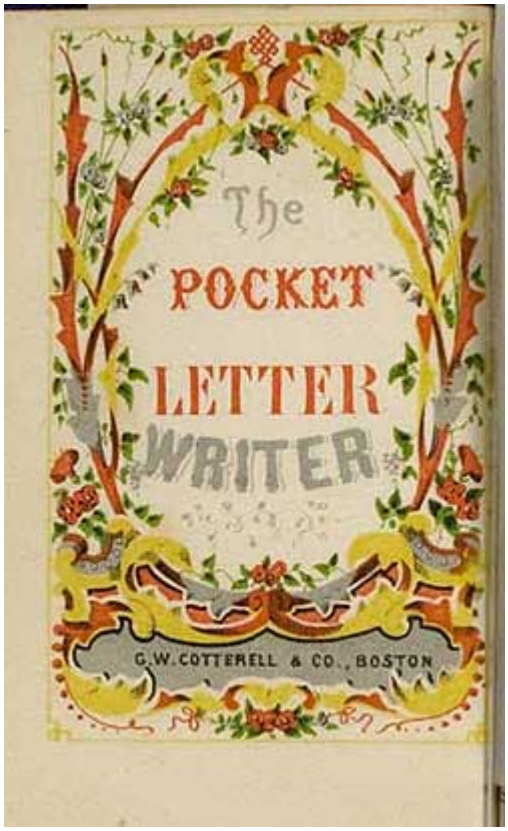
Nineteenth century social and economic knowledge at once functioned as an instrument of capitalism while also serving as a tool for minimizing capitalism’s most disturbing consequences.

The Rich Diversity of the Edge



The edge between a forest and a field, with its mixture of habitats, can also host a rich diversity of species. Some are drawn to and thrive on the edge—generalists such as raccoons and coyotes—while other species cannot survive in or even enter the edge.

Reading Our E-mail



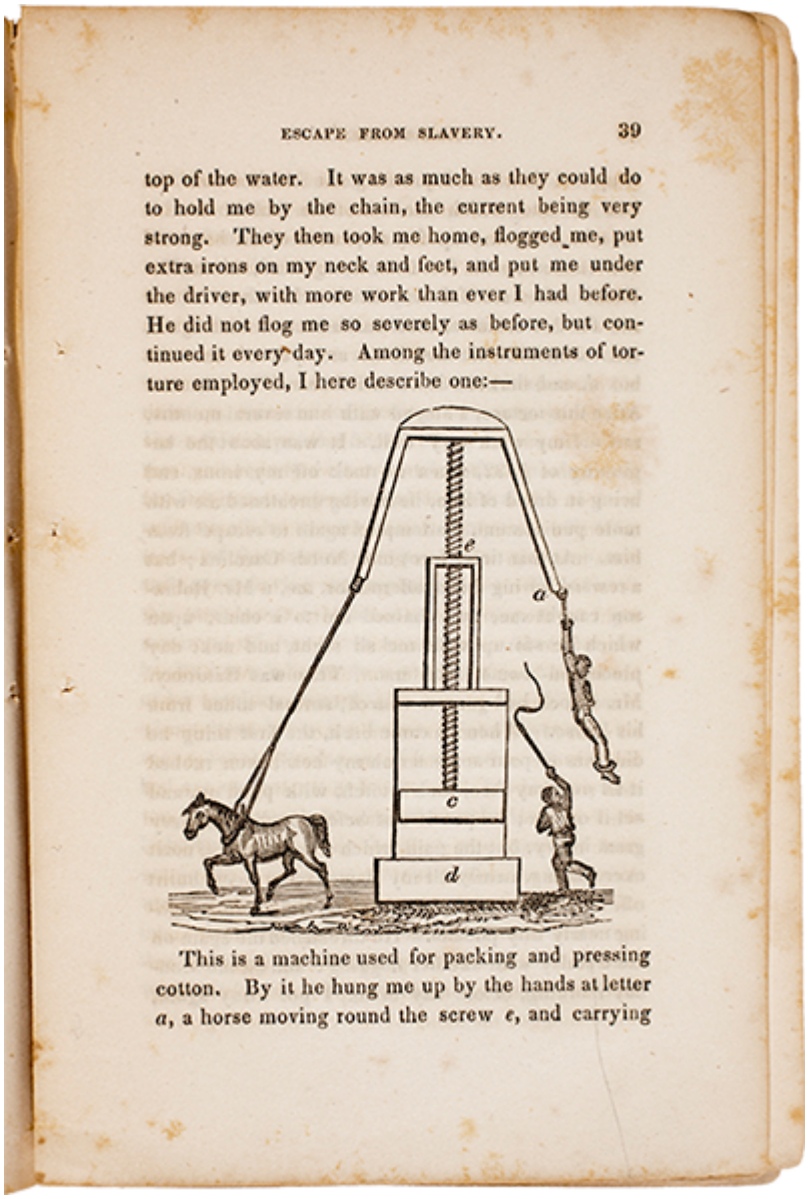
It has been several decades since large numbers of Americans used the U.S. mail for the majority of their long-distance communications or for casual daily contact with nearby friends and family.

Creative Disorientation: The Challenges of Studying, and Teaching, Atlantic World History



How should the course move forward, and what should the storyline be?

Diagram of a Fugitive Slave Narrative



ESCAPE FROM SLAVERY. 39

top of the water. It was as much as they could do to hold me by the chain, the current being very strong. They then took me home, flogged me, put extra irons on my neck and feet, and put me under the driver, with more work than ever I had before. He did not flog me so severely as before, but continued it every day. Among the instruments of torture employed, I here describe one:—

This is a machine used for packing and pressing cotton. By it he hung me up by the hands at letter *a*, a horse moving round the screw *e*, and carrying

An interesting close-reading of an illustration from Moses Roper’s slave narrative.