

EVENTS OF 1806

General Events of 1807

SPRING	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
SUMMER	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
FALL	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
WINTER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER

Following the death of [Jesus Christ](#) there was a period of readjustment that lasted for approximately one million years.

-[Kurt Vonnegut](#), THE SIRENS OF TITAN



THE NEW-ENGLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR 1807. By Isaac Bickerstaff. [Providence, Rhode Island](#): John Carter.

CURTIS'S POCKET [ALMANACK](#), AND REGISTER OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE FOR THE YEAR 1807. Samuel Curtis. Amherst, New Hampshire: Printed by Joseph Cushing. The 1800 census of New Hampshire by town, its militia officers, its postmasters, its attorneys, its county criers, its ministers, etc. The description of [Dartmouth College](#) indicated that its library comprised some 3,000 volumes.

[George Ticknor](#) graduated from [Dartmouth College](#). He would be studying Latin and Greek with the Reverend Dr. John Sylvester John Gardiner, rector of Boston's Trinity Church.



[Noah Webster, Jr.](#)'s SECOND DICTIONARY, A DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPILED FOR THE USE OF COMMON SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES. In its preface the lexicographer described the great strides in "education in youth during the past 30 years" especially in "common schools, in which are taught the branches of learning necessary for the yeomanry of the country." He considered his work particularly designed to contribute to such "common" education for basic citizenship.

During this year appeared also his 3d such work product, titled COMMON SCHOOL DICTIONARY. He warned against exposing schoolchildren to definitions that would merely baffle them (upon this publication Webster began work on his *magnum opus*, THE AMERICAN DICTIONARY).

EVENTS OF 1808



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-  During this year and the following one [Carl Phillip Gottfried von Clausewitz](#) would be a prisoner of war in France and Switzerland (this was gentlemanly war: don't think concentration camp, think word of honor).

-  With [George, Prince of Wales](#)'s encouragement, his wife [Caroline](#) was falsely accused of bearing a bastard child, and this led to a officious Parliamentary Commission of Enquiry into Princess Caroline's conduct and a revelation that although she had not produced any such child, she was indeed being extraordinarily indiscreet. This would lead to the little girl in question being placed under the care of [King George III](#). (However, that monarch continued in ill-health and there would be yet another mental breakdown.)

-  [Malcolm Laing](#) began to represent Orkney and Shetland in Parliament, as a Liberal politician focusing on the improvement of agriculture.

-  Captain [Edward Jesse](#) resigned from the Leicestershire Militia as he got married with Matilda Morris, 3d daughter of Sir John Morris, Bart. of Glamorganshire. The union would produce a son (John Heneage Jesse) and two daughters (Mrs. Matilda Charlotte Jesse Houstoun and Mrs. Curwen).

-  [Christian Friedrich Wilhelm Jacobs](#) became classical tutor in the lyceum of München.

-  [William Hazlitt](#)'s A REPLY TO THE ESSAY ON POPULATION, BY THE REV. T.R. MALTHUS, IN A SERIES OF LETTERS. TO WHICH ARE ADDED, EXTRACTS FROM THE ESSAY; WITH NOTES (London: Printed for Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme, Paternoster-Row).

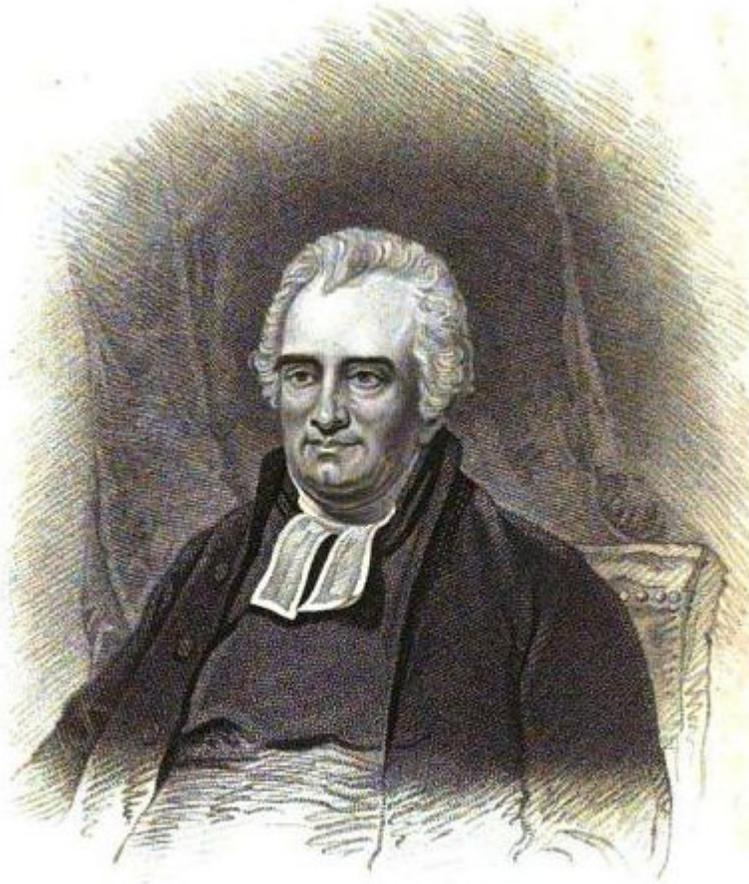
A REPLY TO REV. MALTHUS

1807

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The [Reverend Vicesimus Knox II, D.D.](#)'s A SERMON, PREACHED AT THE OPENING OF THE PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETY IN ST. GEORGE'S FIELDS. The Reverend would also prepare A PAMPHLET ON THE NATIONAL ADVANTAGES OF CLASSICAL LEARNING.



At the age of 21 [Benjamin Robert Haydon](#) exhibited for the 1st time at the Royal Academy. His painting "The Repose in [Egypt](#)" would be purchased in the following year by Thomas Hope for the Egyptian Room of his townhouse in Duchess Street. Shortly the young artist would receive a commission from Lord Mulgrave, and an introduction to Sir George Beaumont.



[Izaak Walton](#)'s THE LIVES OF JOHN DONNE: SIR HENRY WOTTON, MR. RICHARD HOOKER, MR. GEORGE HERBERT, AND DR. ROBERT SANDERSON (York: Printed by T. Wilson and R. Spence, in High-Ousegate. Sold by T. Payne, No. 88, Pall-Mall, and J. Mawman, Poultry, London; and by Wilson and Spence, York). [The 1st edition of this had been prepared by Thomas Zouch at Wycliffe on January 16, 1796.]

LIFE OF DR. JOHN DONNE

JOHN DONNE

RICHARD HOOKER



[John Wedderburn Halkett](#), Governor-in-Chief of Tobago, returned to London and was appointed 1st Chief Commissioner of West Indian Accounts.

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-  Published posthumously, [Jean-Pierre Claris de Florian](#)'s *LA JEUNESSE DE FLORIAN, OU MÉMOIRES D'UN JEUNE ESPAGNOL*.
-  Birth of [Ebenezer Elliott](#)'s and Fannie Gartside Elliot's 1st child, Ebenezer Elliott.
-  At Drury Lane, [Charles Lamb](#)'s farce MR H met with a chorus of boos.
-  By this point there were in England 14,000 "Sealed" persons supporting the prophecies of [Joanna Southcott](#). She retired with her faithful friends Miss Jane Townley and Ann Underwood to a garden-cottage in quiet Blockley in the Cotswolds.
-  [Henry Root Colman](#) became a Congregational minister and a schoolteacher at Hingham, Massachusetts.
-  [Edward George Earle Bulwer](#)'s father died while he was four years of age, and the family relocated to London.
-  The degree of LL.D. was conferred upon the Reverend [David Brewster](#) by Marischal College, Aberdeen. He undertook the editorship of the newly projected EDINBURGH ENCYCLOPAEDIA, of which the first part would appear in 1808 (the final volume would appear in 1830).



1807

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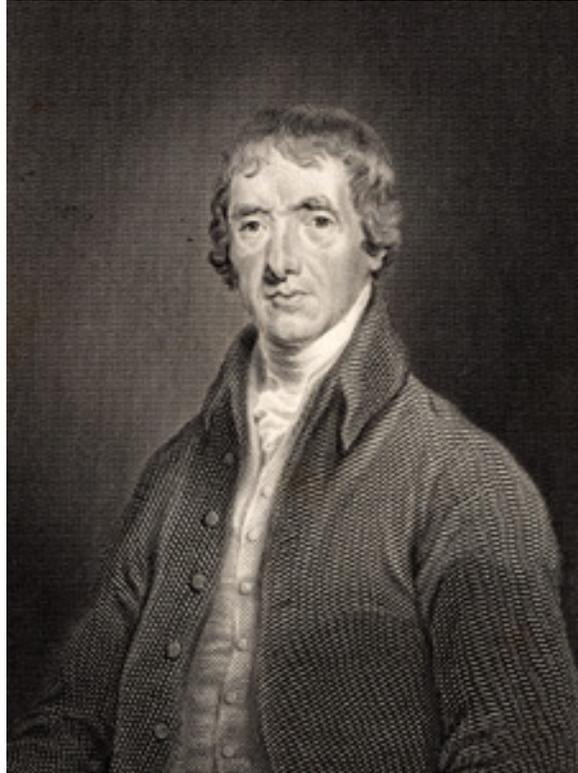
During this year and the following one, [Asher Benjamin](#) would be designing the Headquarters House at 54-55 Beacon Street in Boston.



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➡ From this year into 1809, [John Aikin](#) would be editing a gazette, [The Athenaeum](#).



➡ Adam Müller opined that “The single works of art and single genres were considered to be like limbs and nerves and muscle system of a large body, each one functioning independently in its own fashion and each one regarded as an obedient part of a beautiful and incomparable whole.”

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

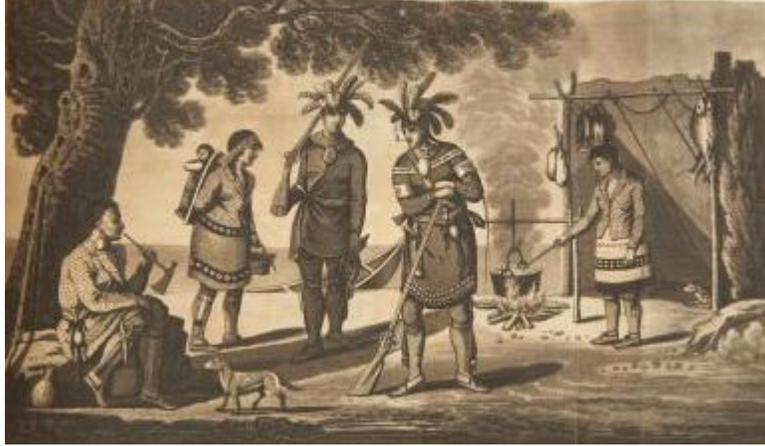
➡ [Amos Freeman, Brister](#) and [Fenda Freeman](#)’s son, married Sally Coffey of Medway. (Although we don’t have a record, Sally must have died shortly thereafter as [Amos](#) would remarry with Love Oliver on September 6, 1809.)

➡ [Silas Lee](#) became a Judge of Probate in Lincoln County, [Maine](#).

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 [George Heriot](#)'s TRAVELS THROUGH THE CANADAS, CONTAINING A DESCRIPTION OF THE PICTURESQUE SCENERY ON SOME OF THE RIVERS AND LAKES; WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRODUCTIONS, COMMERCE, AND INHABITANTS OF THOSE PROVINCES (London: Printed for Richard Phillips; 602 pages with 27 aquatint



engravings and a large fold-out map of [Canada](#) in color)



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included an illustration of “La Dansa Ronde, Circular Dance of the Canadians.”



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In an “Encampment of the Domiciliated Indians,” he depicted teepees made of bark:



[Hugh Gray](#) traveled in [Canada](#).

The district of Pictou in Nova Scotia was divided into three townships: Pictou, Egerton, and Maxwellton.

[Andrew Stuart](#), who had studied law in Lower [Canada](#), was admitted to the bar and set up practice at [Québec](#). Henry Black would be a partner in this law firm. Stuart would defend Pierre-Stanislas Bédard after he was arrested for his involvement with the newspaper *Le Canadien*.

Curling was introduced as a winter ice sport in [Canada](#) (of course, this game had been being played in Europe since the 16th Century and in Scotland since the early 17th Century).

SKATING

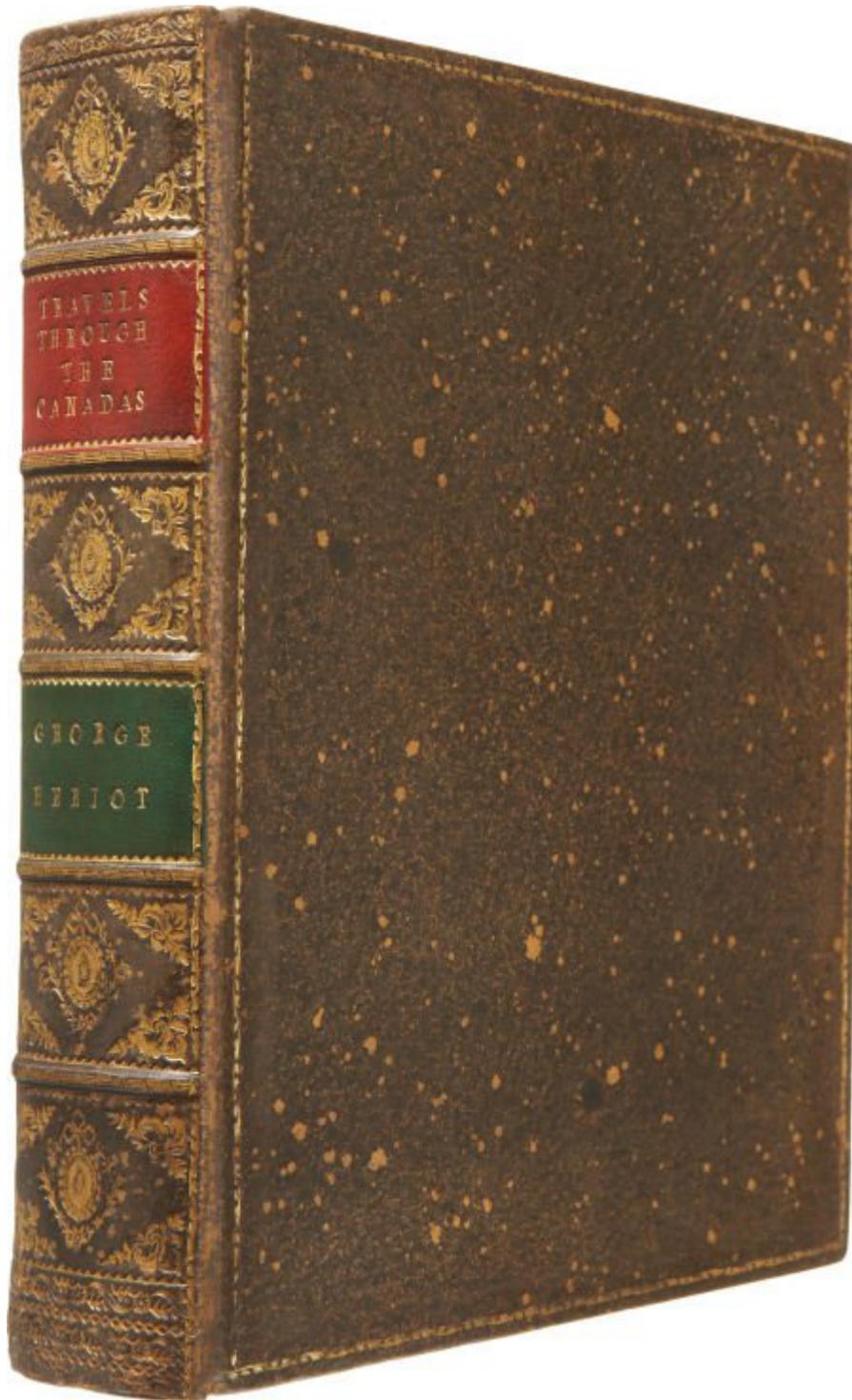
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WHAT?

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THE WORKS OF [SIR WILLIAM JONES](#). WITH THE LIFE OF THE AUTHOR, BY LORD TEIGNMOUTH. IN THIRTEEN VOLUMES. (London: Printed for J. Stockdale, Piccadiley; and John Walker, Paternoster-Row).

- WORKS OF WM. JONES 1
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 2
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 3
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 4
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 5
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 6
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 7
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 8
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 9
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 10
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 11
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 12
- WORKS OF WM. JONES 13

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➡ The [Great Meetinghouse](#) of the [Friends](#) in [Newport, Rhode Island](#) was enlarged to accommodate the New England [Yearly Meeting](#). The renewed structure featured a spacious gallery above, which was intended for the use of persons of color (as it would turn out, this gallery would ordinarily be quite empty, except that during the week of the Yearly Meeting it would be packed with white people).



➡ Judge William Potter sold the remainder of his interest in his mansion and estate “Little Rest” (later to be known as [Kingston](#)), [Rhode Island](#) to his relative Elisha R. Potter, and relocated to Genesee in upstate [New York](#).

➡ Shakers founded a colony at South Union, Kentucky.

➡ Henry Clay was elected by the Kentucky legislature to fill an unfinished Senate term.



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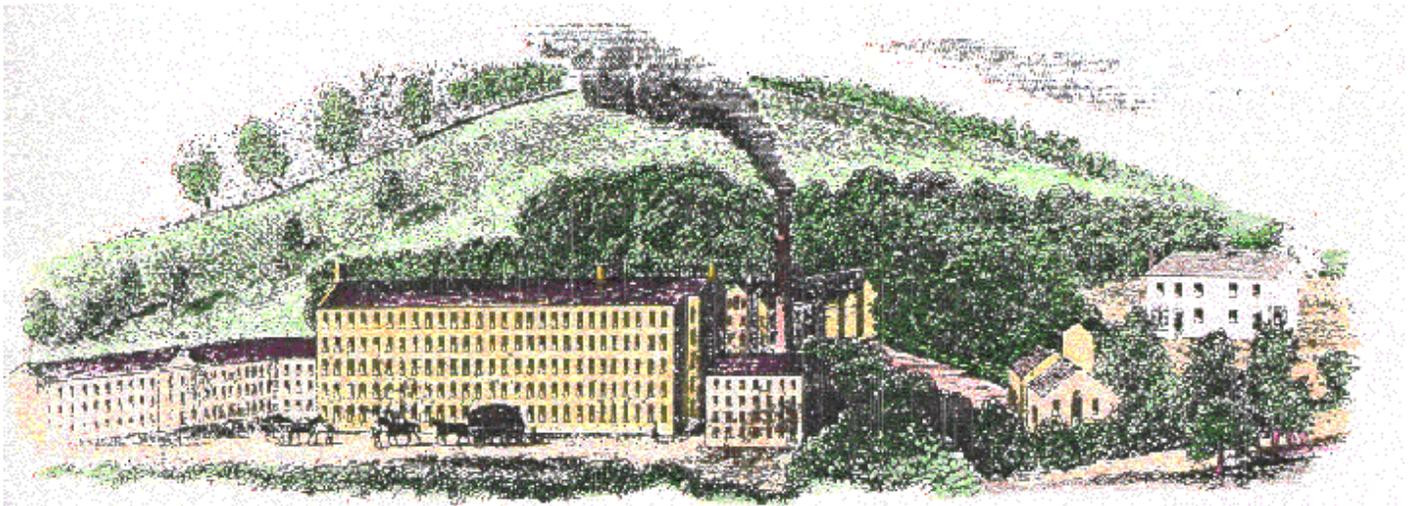
→ Construction of a short railway near the site of the inclined plane which had been built on Beacon Hill in [Boston](#) in 1795.

→ Initially, in [Boston](#), [Michele Felice Cornè](#) resided and worked at 27 Hanover Street. By 1810 he would be residing at 61 Middle Street.



→ [Daniel Webster](#) began his own legal practice, in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

→ Samuel Collyer, a London orphan who had reached the age of 10, and Harriet Norman, a Norwich orphan who had reached the age of 9, were put to labor in Yorkshire in the flax (linen) mill of Messrs Colbeck and Ellis (West House Mill) in the parish of Fewston, on the north side of the River Washburn across Blubberhouses bridge. After a few years there, Samuel would be apprenticed to the blacksmith at the mill, John Birch.



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Friend Luke Howard's "Meteorological Register" began to regularly be published in The Athenaeum: A Magazine of Literary and Miscellaneous Information. His portrait was painted by John Opie:

WEATHER



HOWARD PUBLICATIONS

Friend Luke prepared a digest entitled "Cloud" for Volume 8 of Abraham Rees's THE CYCLOPÆDIA; OR, UNIVERSAL DICTIONARY OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND LITERATURE (39 text volumes and 6 plates volumes. London: Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown, that would be complete in 1820).¹



Ree's THE CYCLOPÆDIA

Edward Kennion engraved a new set of cloud illustrations for him, and for this received £3 11s.

As early as 1761, British Friends had declared the international slave trade to be "a practice repugnant to our Christian profession." In 1787, Friend William Dillwyn had helped to set up an anti-slavery committee in London, all but three of whose members were Quakers. When the ending of English participation in the international slave trade in this year, it was recognized that this international trade in new slaves was not the only evil connected with human enslavement and that this work therefore would need to continue, and so a

1. He would also contribute articles on "rain," on "dew," on "Penn," and on "Quakers."

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group of Quakers, including Friends William Allen and [Luke Howard](#), in this year formed an “African



Institution.” The focus of the movement would come to be on ending slavery in America. Recognizing that slavery had destroyed the whole basis of African society, the Institution would seek to improve the lives of black Africans through Christianity and through education. The African Institution would also campaign for the abolition of the slave trade in other countries and press for legitimate trade with Africa as well as for strict enforcement of the ban upon the English slave trade. The African Institution would survive until 1827.²

➡ In his later life [Elkanah Watson](#) had purchased a farm in the eastern Albany suburb of Pittsfield, Massachusetts. This year, on the village green, to the great interest of all, he displayed the very latest thing in American animal husbandry, a pair of [merino sheep](#).

Well, but this wasn't the only fascinating thingie — according to Joseph Felt's ANNALS OF SALEM, in this year an exhibition of phantasmagoria apparatus was touring Massachusetts.

➡ Jerome Bonaparte was made king of Westphalia.

➡ France invaded Spain and Portugal, dethroning the Portuguese royal family. Portugal's John VI fled to Brazil (his son Pedro would declare it independent, under him, in 1822).

➡ England's Peninsular Campaign began.

➡ Charles Bell's “System of Comparative Surgery.”

➡ At the Treaty of Detroit, the Wyandotte lost most of their real estate.

➡ The 1st Ascot Gold Cup in horse racing.

➡ Sydney Owenson (Lady Morgan)'s LAYS OF AN IRISH HARP (poems).

2. Refer to Wayne Ackerson's 2005 monograph, THE AFRICAN INSTITUTION (1807-1827) AND THE ANTISLAVERY MOVEMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN (Ceredigion, United Kingdom: Edwin Mellen Press).

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➡ Claude Robin's *VOYAGES DANS L'INTERIEUR DE LA LOUISIANE, LE FLORIDE OCCIDENTALE, ET DANS LES ILES DE LA MARTINIQUE ET DE SAINT-DOMINGUE, PENDANT LES ANNÉES 1802-6.*

➡ [Robert Southey](#)'s LETTERS FROM ENGLAND BY DON ESPRIELLA.

➡ THE COLUMBIAD by Joel Barlow (1754-1812).

➡ The Asante invaded the Fante confederacy of states.

➡ Sierra Leone became a crown colony. Sugar prices continued downward.

➡ Madeira, Curacao, and the Danish West Indies were captured by the British.

➡ [William Wordsworth](#)'s POEMS, IN TWO VOLUMES ("Ode. Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood" ends the last volume).



Wordsworth's Poems, in Chronological Sequence

- A Prophecy. February 1807
- Thought of a Briton on the Subjugation of Switzerland
- To Thomas Clarkson, on the Final Passing of the Bill for the Abolition of the Slave Trade
- The Mother's Return, by my Sister
- Gipsies
- O Nightingale! thou surely art
- To Lady Beaumont
- Though narrow be that old Man's cares
- Song at the Feast of Brougham Castle
- The White Doe of Rylstone; or, The Fate of the Nortons
- The Force of Prayer; or, The Founding of Bolton Priory. A tradition
- Composed while the Author was engaged in Writing a Tract occasioned by the Convention of Cintra
- Composed at the same Time and on the same Occasion,
- George and Sarah Green
- Hoffer
- Advance — come forth from thy Tyrolean ground
- Feelings of the Tyrolese
- Alas! what boots the long laborious quest



- And is it among rude untutored Dales
- O'er the wide earth, on mountain and on plain
- On the Final Submission of the Tyrolese
- Hail, Zaragoza! If with unwet eye
- Say, what is Honour? — 'Tis the finest sense
- The martial courage of a day is vain
- Brave Schill! by death delivered, take thy flight
- Call not the royal Swede unfortunate
- Look now on that Adventurer who hath paid
- Is there a power that can sustain and cheer
- Ah! where is Palafox? Nor tongue nor pen
- In due observance of an ancient rite
- Feelings of a Noble Biscayan at one of those Funerals
- On a celebrated Event in Ancient History
- Upon the same Event
- The Oak of Guernica
- Indignation of a high-minded Spaniard
- Avaunt all specious pliancy of mind
- O'erweening Statesmen have full long relied
- The French and the Spanish Guerillas
- Epitaphs translated from Chiabrera
- Weep not, beloved Friends! nor let the air
- Perhaps some needful service of the State
- O Thou who movest onward with a mind
- There never breathed a man who, when his life
- True is it that Ambrosio Salinero
- Destined to war from very infancy
- O flower of all that springs from gentle blood
- Not without heavy grief of heart did He
- Pause, courteous Spirit! — Balbi supplicates
- Maternal Grief
- Characteristics of a Child three Years old
- Spanish Guerillas
- The power of Armies is a visible thing
- Here pause: the poet claims at least this praise
- Epistle to Sir George Howland Beaumont, Bart. From the South-West Coast of Cumberland
- Upon perusing the foregoing Epistle thirty years after its Composition
- Upon the sight of a Beautiful Picture, painted by Sir G. H. Beaumont, Bart.
- Inscriptions
- In the Grounds of Coleorton, the Seat of Sir George Beaumont, Bart., Leicestershire
- In a Garden of the Same
- Written at the Request of Sir George Beaumont, Bart., and in his Name, for an Urn
- For a Seat in the Groves of Coleorton
- Song for the Spinning-Wheel
- Composed on the eve of the Marriage of a Friend in the Vale of Grasmere
- Water-Fowl
- View from the top of Black Comb
- Written with a Slate Pencil on a Stone, on the Side of the Mountain of Black Comb

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 [Thomas Moore's IRISH MELODIES.](#)



1807

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 [Charles and Mary Lamb](#)'s TALES FROM [SHAKESPEARE](#), in which he had dealt with the tragedies and she with the comedies (this become a bestseller in [William Godwin](#)'s "Children's Library").



WILLIAM GODWIN'S LIFE

 Joseph Chandler was [Concord](#)'s deputy and representative to the General Court.

In [Concord](#), Nathan Wood was a Selectman.

Samuel Hoar, Jr. began a practice of law in [Concord](#).

The Turnpike Company, although committed to replace an existing wooden bridge with a bridge in stone (Eddy Bridge) over the Assabet River in [Concord](#), failed to do so.



July 20, 1859: ... P. M.—To Eddy Bridge.

Abel Hosmer says that the Turnpike Company did not fulfill their engagement to build a new bridge over the Assabet in 1807; that the present stone bridge was not built till about the time the Orthodox meeting-house was built. (That was in 1826.) Benjamin says it was built soon after the meeting-house, or perhaps 1827, and was



placed some fifty feet higher up-stream than the old wooden one.

Town Clerks of Lincoln³

Ephraim Flint	1746-1752, 1754, 1756-1757	Grosvenor Tarbell	1799-1803
Ebenezer Cutler	1753, 1755, 1759	Thomas Wheeler	1804-1806
Samuel Farrar	1758, 1760-1766	Elijah Fiske	1810-1821
John Adams	1767-1777	Stephen Patch	1822-1827
Abijah Pierce	1778-1779, 1781	Charles Wheeler	1828-1830
Samuel Hoar	1780, 1782, 1787-1798, 1807-1809	Elijah Fiske	1831
Richard Russell	1783-1786		

For a year, Wyman Richardson, hired from elsewhere, would be teaching Concord's grammar students.

1785	Nathaniel Bridge	9 months	1812	Isaac Warren	1 year
1786	JOSEPH HUNT	2½ years	1813	JOHN BROWN	1 year
1788	William A. Barron	3 years	1814	Oliver Patten	1 year
1791	Amos Bancroft	1 year	1815	Stevens Everett	9 months
1792	Heber Chase	1 year	1815	Silas Holman	3 months
1793	WILLIAM JONES	1 year	1816	George F. Farley	1 year
1794	Samuel Thatcher	1 year	1817	James Howe	1 year
1795	JAMES TEMPLE	2 years	1818	Samuel Barrett	1 year
1797	Thomas O. Selfridge	1 year	1819	BENJAMIN BARRETT	1 year
1798	<u>THOMAS WHITING</u>	4 years	1820	Abner Forbes	2 years
1802	Levi Frisbie	1 year	1822	Othniel Dinsmore	3 years
1803	Silas Warren	4 years	1825	James Furbish	1 year
1807	Wyman Richardson	1 year	1826	<u>EDWARD JARVIS</u>	1 year
1808	Ralph Sanger	1 year	1827	Horatio Wood	1 year
1809	Benjamin Willard	1 year	1828	David J. Merrill	1 year
1810	Elijah F. Paige	1 year	1829	John Graham	1 year
1811	Simeon Putnam	1 year	1831	John Brown	

This was the condition of Concord's finances:

3. Ibid.



In consequence of having to maintain *eight* bridges, and the liberal appropriations for schools and other objects, the taxes in Concord are supposed to be higher, in proportion to its wealth, than in many towns, amounting to about \$3 on every inhabitant. In 1803, the roads and bridges, independent of a highway tax of \$1000, cost \$1,244; in 1805, \$967; in 1807, \$1,290; and on an average, for the last 40 years, about one eighth of all the town expenses. The following table will exhibit the appropriations for several periods since.

Year.	State Tax.	County Tax.	Minister.	Incidental.	Total.
1785	£711. 6s. 4d.	£25. 3s. 3d.	£100. 10s. 9d.	£748. 8s. 1d.	£1,585. 8s. 5d.
1790	£128. 9s. 4d.	£32. 16s. 6d.	£113. 19s. 6d.	£596. 2s. 11d.	£871. 18s. 3d.
1795	\$613.33	\$233.16	\$646.66	\$2,327.15	\$3,820.31
1800	\$611.33	\$161.56	\$567.26	\$2,763.52	\$4,103.78
1810	\$662.14	\$398.92	\$633.05	\$3,010.47	\$4,704.58
1820	\$568.94	\$331.13	\$794.17	\$4,243.92	\$5,938.16
1830	\$222.00	\$417.17	\$709.00	\$4,072.01	\$4,781.01

The amount of debts due from the town, in 1825, was \$3,284.04, and in 1831, \$5,288.65.⁴

Representatives of Carlisle to the General court of Massachusetts:

Deacon Ephraim Robbins	1807-1808
Reverend Paul Litchfield	1808-1811
Captain Timothy Heald	1812-1813
Captain Thomas Heald	1815
Jonathan Heald, Jr., Esq.	1816
John Heald, Esq.	1818, 1821, 1823
Dr. John Nelson	1824
John Heald, Esq.	1826-1827, 1830



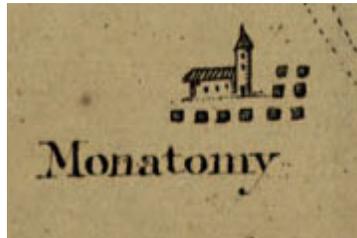
Coinage of the term “barroom.”

4. Lemuel Shattuck's 1835 A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF CONCORD;... Boston: Russell, Odiorne, and Company; Concord MA: John Stacy
 (On or about November 11, 1837 Henry Thoreau would indicate a familiarity with the contents of at least pages 2-3 and 6-9 of this historical study. On July 16, 1859 he would correct a date mistake buried in the body of the text.)

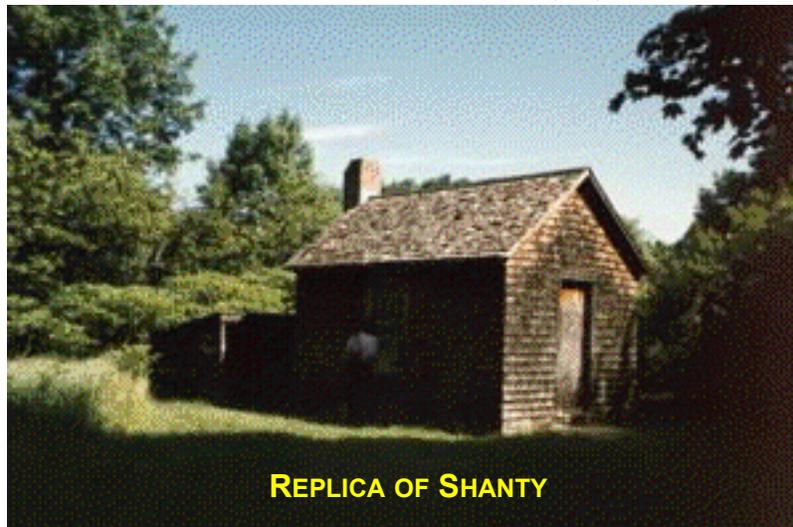
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➡ The Northwest or 2nd Parish of Cambridge known informally as Menotomy at this point was incorporated as a separate town and took the name West Cambridge (it would change its name again, in 1867, to Arlington).



➡ A “villa book” was published by J. Taylor in London, ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS FOR RUSTIC COTTAGES, PICTURESQUE DWELLINGS, VILLAS &C. by William Fuller Pocock (1779-1849). Would [Henry Thoreau](#) ever consult this as a source for his architectural remarks in [WALDEN; OR, LIFE IN THE WOODS?](#)



REPLICA OF SHANTY

EMERSON'S SHANTY

➡ On the Isle of [Jersey](#), Ann Guillet was born to Charles William Guillet (1772-1809) and Marie Thoreau.

➡ Aaron Burr was brought to trial on a charge of having attempted to establish an independent nation comprised of Mexico and parts of the Louisiana Territory, with the idea of making himself the ruler.

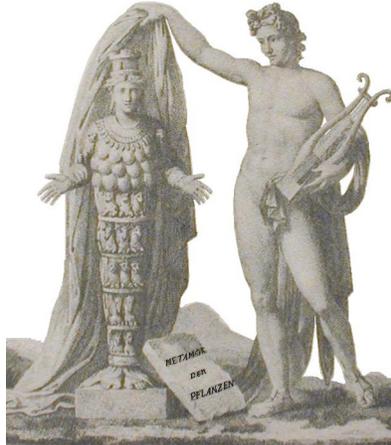
➡ New Jersey women were deprived of their right to vote, with this repeal being sponsored by a male politician who, a decade earlier, had been voted against by a female voting block.

FEMINISM

A most interesting illustration appeared in this year as the frontispiece of the 1st volume of [Alexander von Humboldt's](#) *AL. VON HUMBOLDT UND AIMÉ BONPLAND'S REISE*.⁵ According to Alexander Gode-von Aesch's 5. This 1st volume was [Humboldt's](#) *IDEEN ZU EINER GEOGRAPHIE DER PFLANZEN NEBST EINEM NATURGEMÄLDE DER TROPENLÄNDER...* (Tübingen, bey F.G. Cotta; Paris, bey F. Schöell, 1807), offered in homage to Göthe's 1790 *METAMORPHOSIS DER PFLANZEN* (which, as you can see, figures in the illustration — I have artificially heightened the contrast of the lettering so that you can make it out).

BOTANIZING

NATURAL SCIENCE IN GERMAN ROMANTICISM (NY: Columbia UP, 1941; reprint NY: AMS Press, 1966, pages 97-108), this naked male carrying a lyre is a period illustration of the spirit of poetry, and we notice that Mr. Naked Guy is raising a cloth covering which had been draped over a statue representing the feminine mystery of nature. The figure used in this period illustration in order to represent the spirit of poetry happens to be



Bertel Thorwaldsen's (1770-1844) "Genius of Poetry" statue. The figure used in this illustration for the goddess of nature is the famous statue of the cult of Diana of Ephesus, in which the female figure's upper torso is completely covered with lumps very suggestive of female breasts (actually, to the ancient Greek worshipers at this shrine, the lumps on the upper torso of the statue represented not the breasts of a human female but the testicles of sacrificed bulls, ostensibly hung around the goddess's neck as an offering, but this may well have been being misunderstood in the early 19th Century). A cloth drape is carefully positioned over Mr. Naked Guy's genitals so that we don't have to preoccupy ourselves with whether he is being adequately sexually aroused at that upon which he is gazing.

WALDEN: With a little more deliberation in the choice of their pursuits, all men would perhaps become students and observers, for certainly their nature and destiny are interesting to all alike. In accumulating property for ourselves or our posterity, in founding a family or a state, or acquiring fame even, we are mortal; but in dealing with truth we are immortal, and need fear no change nor accident. The oldest Egyptian or Hindoo philosopher raised a corner of the veil from the statue of the divinity; and still the trembling robe remains raised, and I gaze upon as fresh a glory as he did, since it was I in him that was then so bold, and it is he in me that now reviews the vision. No dust has settled on that robe; no time has elapsed since that divinity was revealed. That time which we really improve, or which is improvable, is neither past, present, nor future.

PEOPLE OF WALDEN

ISIS
EGYPT

THE SCIENCE OF 1807

 Dr. Franz Joseph Gall arrived in Paris.

PHRENOLOGY

 The [slave](#) trade to the British colonies was terminated and went on.

“EMANCIPATION IN THE BRITISH WEST INDIES”: In 1791, three hundred thousand persons in Britain pledged themselves to abstain from all articles of island produce. The planters were obliged to give way; and in 1807, on the 25th March, the bill passed, and the slave-trade was abolished. The assailants of slavery had early agreed to limit their political action on this subject to the abolition of the trade, but Granville Sharpe, as a matter of conscience; whilst he acted as chairman of the London Committee, felt constrained to record his protest against the limitation, declaring that slavery was as much a crime against the Divine law, as the slave-trade. The trade, under false flags, went on as before.

After the passing of this Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, [Granville Sharp](#) would join with Thomas Clarkson and Thomas Fowell Buxton to form a new Society for the Mitigation and Gradual Abolition of Slavery.



Date	Slave-trade Abolished by
1802	Denmark
1807	Great Britain; United States
1813	Sweden
1814	Netherlands
1815	Portugal (north of the equator)
1817	Spain (north of the equator)
1818	France
1820	Spain
1829	Brazil (?)
1830	Portugal

In a discussion list on the internet in 2007 there was a question raised as to the matter of motivation: why did the parliament of Great Britain attempt to abolish its international trade in slaves as of 1807? –Had this been an unselfish or a selfish act?

SELFISH: The “William Thesis II” as to the motivation for Great Britain’s abolition of the international slave trade is, that they came to suspect that continuing this trade would not be in their own best economic interest:

1807

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“British abolition of the slave trade was made simpler by the fact that it was no longer the best economic model, and/or there was conflict between the ‘West Indian lobby’ and other economic interests.”

UNSELFISH: The other interpretation, which seems to be the current trend both among international human rights law scholars and among feelgood filmmakers (such as in the new movie “Amazing Grace”), looks back to the British abolition of the slave trade as a model of nations coming together, against their own economic interests, to rid the world of a profound evil. In *ECONOCIDE*, Seymour Drescher argued that Britain was at the zenith of its economic boom from slave trading, and ended the trade because the abolitionist movement managed to get the government to think about “first principles” of decency. According to Drescher, Britain ended the trade as a purely moral act, and thus the end of the international slave trade was one of the few proud moments in our history, a moment at which the strong rose in protection of the victimizable.

An initial commentator pointed out how very ineffective the British Abolition Act of 1807 turned out to be. Parliament would repeatedly be informed of techniques of circumvention, and repeatedly conduct fresh investigations, and enact further legislative correctives — so many of these that they would need to be consolidated in 1824, and then again in 1842. The sad history of this long struggle with the negrero ships on the high seas is recounted in Marika Sherwood’s *AFTER ABOLITION* (IB Tauris, 2007).

Another initial commentator pointed out that Seymour Drescher in his later work *CAPITALISM AND ANTISLAVERY* complicated any suggestion that abolition had been “purely moral.” The works to look at in this respect are David Brion Davis’s *THE PROBLEM OF SLAVERY IN THE AGE OF REVOLUTION*, Robin Blackburn’s *THE OVERTHROW OF COLONIAL SLAVERY*, and Christopher Leslie Brown’s *MORAL CAPITAL: THE FOUNDATIONS OF BRITISH ABOLITIONISM*.

I got the impression that these scholars do not look upon the new movie “Amazing Grace” as a work illuminating genuine history, but instead as a made-to-order moral fable of heros triumphing over villainy, with an imposed just-so Hollywood happy ending.



1807

1807



The US stopped exports with an Embargo Act because its ships were being seized by England and France in the Napoleonic Wars. The Embargo Act of 1807 allowed no exports from the US to any country and restricted imports of certain British products. It forbade US ships from sailing from US ports for foreign destinations, and did not allow many foreign vessels to sail from US ports with US goods. Federalists tried to block this measure but it passed the Senate by a vote of 22 over 6 and it passed the House, due to support from the South and West, by a vote of 82 over 44. This action would make President Jefferson very unpopular in Federalist strongholds and in ports along the Atlantic coast. During the 18th Century, while every little town along the Piscataqua River was taking part in the lucrative West Indies trade (one of the three legs of the infamous “triangular trade” which was supplying the sugar plantations of the West Indies with ever-fresh cadres of African [slaves](#) to labor under the lash), these little towns were quite prosperous. Even the virtually barren Isles of Shoals were prospering in that they provided a locale for processing the vast quantities of salt fish bound for the West Indies as cheap slave protein:

Ship’s captains and wealthy merchants built large and elegant houses overlooking their wharves and warehouses. But almost as soon as the houses were built, the sources of the fortunes that had financed them began to dry up. Like most boom economies, this one was fragile. Economic disaster hit the region with the Embargo Act of 1807, and the [War of 1812](#) sealed its fate with the destruction of many ships and the complete disruption of trade patterns.

– Brown, Dona. INVENTING NEW ENGLAND: REGIONAL TOURISM IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1995, page 178

TRIANGULAR TRADE



In [London](#), the Grand Surrey Canal basin opened.



In [London](#), the Commercial Docks (later to be known as the Greenland Docks) opened.



In [London](#), the founding of the Geological Society.

The home of [Ben Jonson](#) burned down.



Here is an excerpt from THE BOOK OF TRADES, OR LIBRARY OF USEFUL ARTS, published by Tabart & Co. in this year:

The stones made use of for paving the coach-ways in the streets of [London](#) come chiefly from Scotland, or from the islands of Guernsey and Jersey. The former are a granite of a reddish colour; the latter are collected on the sea-beach, and are, perhaps’ the most durable kind of stone that is used.

Square Guernsey or granite stone paving, laid in the best skreened gravel, the stones to be nine inches deep, and the bottom of each stone to contain four-fifths of the superficies of the top, is charged at ten shillings a yard. The curb stone, to the foot-pavement, not less than twelve inches wide and seven inches thick, is charged at about two shillings and three-pence per foot run. Yorkshire paving, that is, the stones in the foot-path within the curb, is charged at about eleven-pence per square foot.

The journeyman paviour earns three shillings and ten-pence a

1807

1807

day, and his labourer two shillings and eight-pence. Gravel is purchased by the load, and the pebbles are bought by the ton-weight.

In no place is the convenience of foot-passengers more consulted than in London: there are but few of the streets which have not good foot-ways raised above the carriage road; whereas in Paris there is no path distinguished for people on foot; the consequence of which is the loss of many lives every year, by persons being beaten down, and run over by horses and carriages.



At the age of 20, Acting Lieutenant [Oliver Hazard Perry](#) became a Lieutenant. He had command of a 14-gun schooner, the *Revenge*.

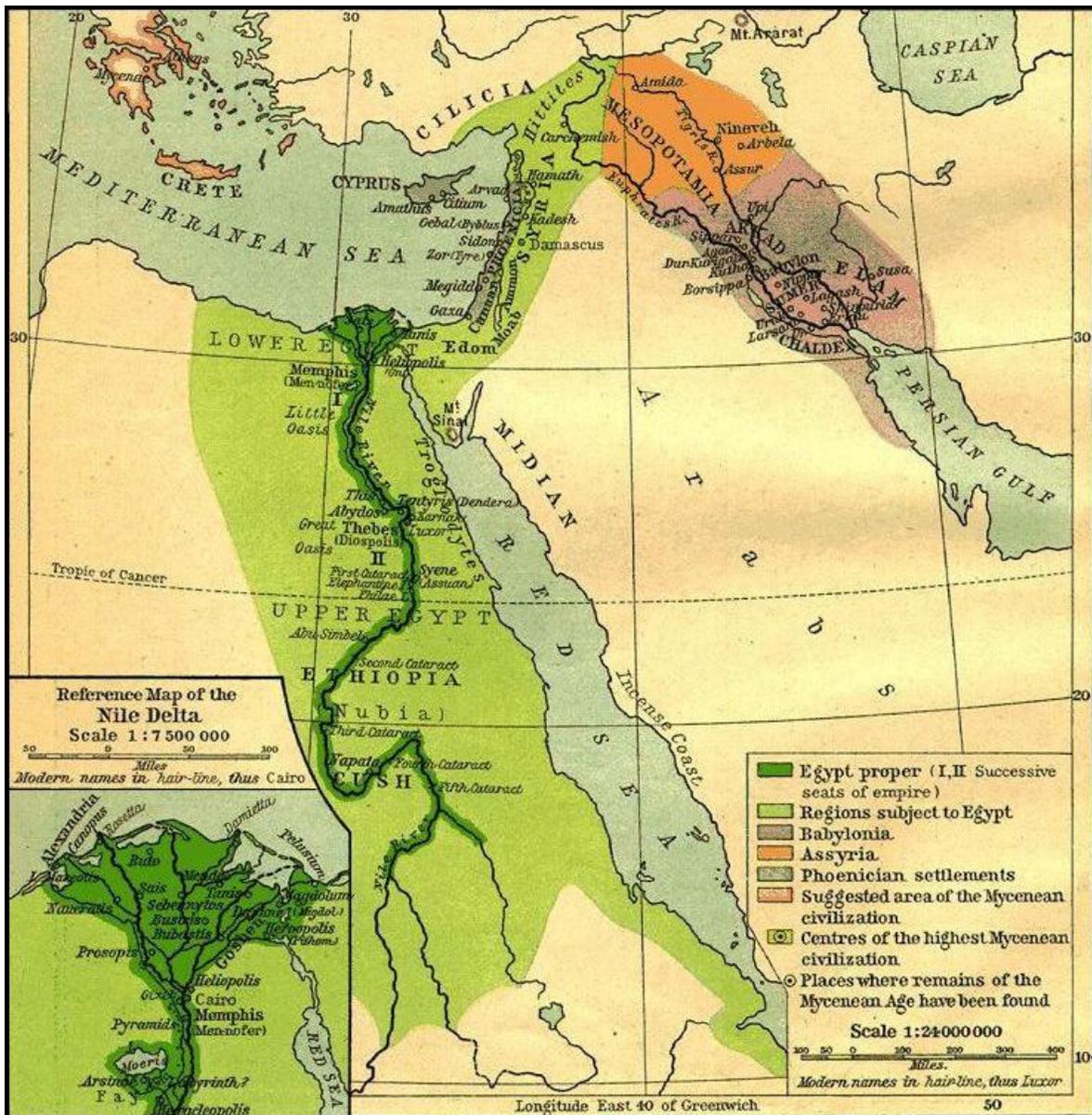


The spirit of revenge is one heck of a long way from his Quaker family's religious roots — but then, isn't there one heck of a difference between a Quaker and a "Fighting Quaker"?



[Jean-François Champollion](#), having acquired facility in six ancient Middle Eastern languages over and above of course the usual Latin and Greek, assured the academy of Grenoble that Coptic had been the ancient language of [Egypt](#). He was, of course, quite mistaken — but then, he was but sixteen years of age. Eventually [Waldo Emerson](#) would be commenting on such facility:

The priestcraft of the East and West, of the Magian, Brahmin, Druid, and Inca, is expounded in the individual's private life. The cramping influence of a hard formalist on a young child in repressing his spirits and courage, paralyzing the understanding, and that without producing indignation, but only fear and obedience, and even much sympathy with the tyranny, - is a familiar fact explained to the child when he becomes a man, only by seeing that the oppressor of his youth is himself a child tyrannized over by those names and words and forms, of whose influence he was merely the organ to the youth. The fact teaches him how Belus was worshipped, and how the Pyramids were built, better than the discovery by Champollion of the names of all the workmen and the cost of every tile. He finds Assyria and the Mounds of Cholula at his door, and himself has laid the courses.



1807

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➡ A flood washed away all the minor mills on the [Blackstone River](#). It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good: water rights on this river would be available for purchase, for more modern uses such as to drive factory machinery.

➡ Mr. Kendall's impression of the [Dighton Rock](#).⁶



(Not everybody who looks at a Rorschach inkblot sees an elephant and a bird flying down.)

6. Per Garrick Mallery's "Picture-Writing of the American Indians" in TENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUREAU OF ETHNOLOGY TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, 1888-1889.



"Dighton Rock is like the rocks you see along the highways, filled with graffiti," says Jim Whitall. "It's where everyone wanted to leave a message, and it's the first stone in America that anyone paid any attention to. It was a bulletin-board for ancients, Native Americans, and colonials alike." The rock with the mysterious hieroglyphs was moved to dry land a few years ago by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and a building was built around it to preserve the inscriptions. Winter ice and constant submergence at high tide under the Taunton River began obliterating some of the older markings. Also, in case one of the great scholars who deciphered the stone over the past 300 plus years is right, it's best to preserve what may be a most important piece of history. Even if the hodgepodge of scratches and scribbles can't ever be deciphered, Dighton Rock is a unique rock of ages. Sam Morison said, "if the history of the Dighton Rock is nothing else, it is a remarkable demonstration of human credulity." Right on, Sam!

-Campbell Grant, ROCK ART OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, 1967



During this year [John James Audubon](#) became disenchanted with life at Mill Grove, the family's Pennsylvania estate. He was spending more and more of his time in the drawing of birds, for instance teaching himself to wire the dead birds into lifelike positions to enable accurate sketching and drawing. He and his partner Ferdinand Rozier headed for Louisville intending to start up a commercial venture.

➔ From Long Island, the daughters of [Friend Elias Hicks](#), Elizabeth, age 16, and Sarah, age 14, went to Nine Partners school and there became friends with Friend Lucretia Coffin, age 15.

LUCRETIA MOTT

At this point in his spiritual journey, Hicks was being

led, in a clear manner, to show the ground from whence all darkness and unbelief proceeded; that it was from a want of due attention to, and right belief in, the **inward manifestation of divine light**, which reveals itself in the heart of man against sin and uncleanness; and at the same time shows what is right, and justifies for right doing. Therefore while men disregard this inward divine principle, of grace and truth, and do not believe in it, as **essential** and **sufficient** to **salvation**; they are in danger of becoming ... so blinded as not to believe in ... the very essential doctrines of perfection, as contained in the clear, rational, and positive injunction of our dear Lord; Be ye therefore perfect.... **It is by obedience to this inward light only**, that we are prepared for an admittance into the heavenly kingdom.

Friend Lucretia's take on these youthful years would be:

At fourteen years of age I was placed with a younger sister, at the Friends' Boarding-School, in Dutchess County, State of New York; and continued there for more than two years without returning home. At fifteen, one of the teachers was leaving the school, I was chosen as an assistant, in her place. Pleased with the promotion, I strove hard to give satisfaction, and was gratified, on leaving the school, to have an offer of a situation as teacher, if I was disposed to remain, and informed that my services should entitle another sister to her education without charge. My father was, at that time, in successful business in Boston; but with his views of the importance of training a woman to usefulness, he and my mother gave their consent to another year being devoted to that institution.

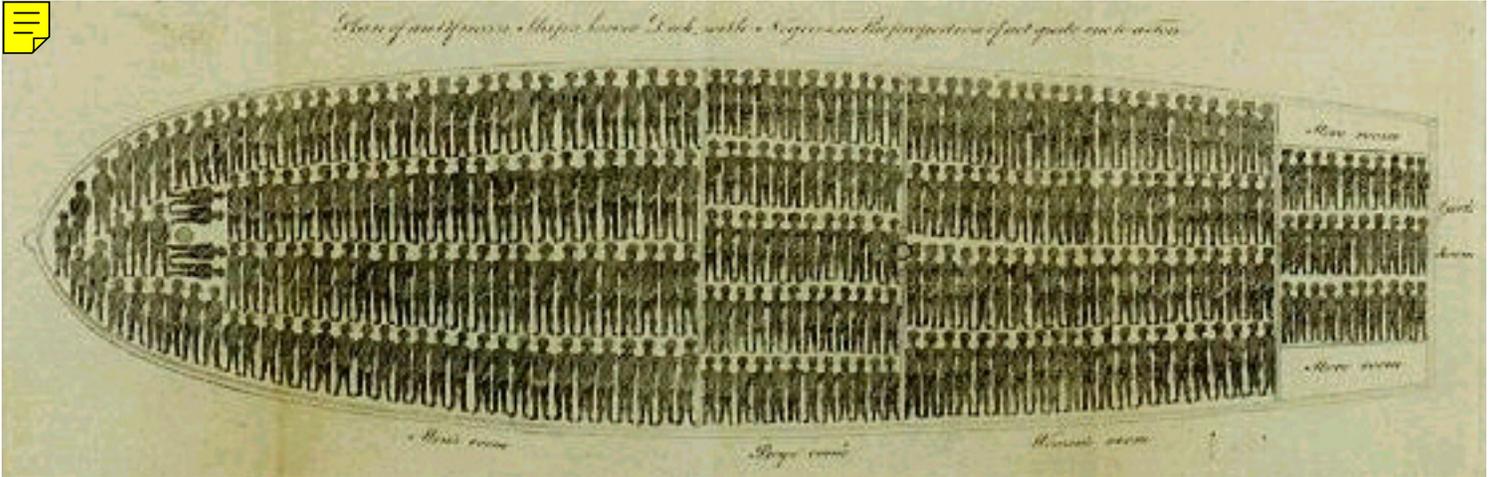


1807

1807



In this year the [Rhode Island](#) ship *Eagle* brought a cargo of 180 new African [slaves](#) to America, the brig *Nancy* a cargo of 94, the schooner *Nancy* a cargo of 73, the snow (it had been a brig) *Neptune* a cargo of 140, the brig *Factor* a cargo of 85, the ship *Lark* a cargo of 95, the schooner *Concord* a cargo of 48, the brig *Alfred* a cargo of 84, the schooner *Hiram* a cargo of 105, the schooner *Flora* a cargo of 80, the schooner *Ann & Harriet* a cargo of 145 (this vessel would be registered in Boston until after this voyage it was re-registered in Rhode Island), and the sloop *Baltimore* a cargo of 80.⁷



INTERNATIONAL SLAVE TRADE

These people were mere freight, for consumption elsewhere. In [Rhode Island](#) itself, most black Americans were becoming free, if unequal:

While most black Rhode Islanders were free after 1807, they remained victims of prejudice and oppression in every sphere of life. They were segregated in the churches, kept out of the public schools, denied employment in the textile mills, and, finally, in 1822, denied the right to vote.

– William McLoughlin, RHODE ISLAND: A HISTORY (NY: Norton, 1978)

W.E. Burghardt Du Bois: Of the twenty years from 1787 to 1807

7. Clearly, there's a terminology problem here. In an effort to resolve this terminology issue, at the Republican National Convention in New York City in August 2004 –at which the Republican Party would for four days make an effort to strip from its face its mask of hostility to the plight of the downtrodden and reveal its true countenance of benevolent conservatism and concern– these people would be sensitively referred to by a Hoosier Republican running for the US Senate as “involuntary immigrants.”

So, perhaps, this is a good point at which to insert a story about involuntary immigrants that has been passed on to us by Ram Varmha, a retired IBM engineer whose father had briefly served as Maharaja after the independence of Cochin. He relates the story as narrated to him by his paternal grandmother who lived in Thripoonithura, Cochin: “When my grandmother (born 1882) was a young girl she would go with the elder ladies of the family to the Pazhayannur Devi Temple in Fort Cochin, next to the Cochin Lantha Palace built by the Dutch (Landers = Lantha), which was an early establishment of the Cochin royal family before the administration moved to Thripoonithura. My grandmother often told us that in the basement of the Lantha Palace, in a confined area, a family of Africans had been kept locked up, as in a zoo! By my Grandmother's time all the Africans had died. But, some of the elder ladies had narrated the story to her of 'Kappiries' (Africans) kept in captivity there. It seems visitors would give them fruits and bananas. They were well cared for but always kept in confinement. My grandmother did not know all the details but according to her, 'many' years earlier, a ship having broken its mast drifted into the old Cochin harbor. When the locals climbed aboard, they found a crewless ship, but in the hold there were some chained 'Kappiries' still alive; others having perished. The locals did not know what to do with them. Not understanding their language and finding the Africans in chains, the locals thought that these were dangerous to set free. So they herded the poor Africans into the basement of the Cochin Fort, and held them in captivity, for many, many years! I have no idea when the initial incident happened, but I presume it took place in the late 1700s or early 1800s. This points to the possibility that it was, in fact, a slave ship carrying human cargo from East Africa to either the USA or the West Indies. An amazing and rather bizarre story. Incidentally, this is not an 'old woman's tale'! Its quite reliable. My grandmother would identify some of the older ladies who had actually seen the surviving Kappiries.”

it can only be said that they were, on the whole, a period of disappointment so far as the suppression of the slave-trade was concerned. Fear, interest, and philanthropy united for a time in an effort which bade fair to suppress the trade; then the real weakness of the constitutional compromise appeared, and the interests of the few overcame the fears and the humanity of the many.

 In accordance with [Quaker](#) practice, the Hopkins family in Anne Arundel County, [Maryland](#) [manumitted](#) the [slaves](#) on its tobacco plantation "Whitehall." This meant considerable sacrifice — such as no funds for the higher education of their son [Johns Hopkins](#).



Following [Oney Judge](#)'s escape, her younger sister [Delphy](#) had been substituted as the wedding present to [Martha Washington](#)'s granddaughter Eliza Custis. In this year Eliza Custis Law and her husband manumitted Delphy and her children.

 Jim Pembroke was born in a [slave](#) family in [Maryland](#).



"It is simply crazy that there should ever have come into being a world with such a sin in it, in which a man is set apart because of his color — the superficial fact about a human being. Who could **want** such a world? For an American fighting for his love of country, that the last hope of earth should from its beginning have swallowed [slavery](#), is an irony so withering, a justice so intimate in its rebuke of pride, as to measure only with God."



— Stanley Cavell, MUST WE MEAN WHAT WE SAY?
1976, page 141

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Herr Professor [G.W.F. Hegel](#)'s *PHÄNOMENOLOGIE DES GEISTES* (PHENOMENOLOGY OF SPIRIT), [NOT 1797] created strictures which echoed those of Hume and Kant in presuming a crucial role for the faculty of memory, or collective, cultural memory. He thus was able to claim, surprise surprise, that because the Afriks had failed to master the art of writing in European languages, and had failed to developed a system of writing of their own, they could have nothing which could stand for a history of progressive development.





The Cayuga nation of the Iroquois ceded the last of its land in upstate New York, some three square miles, and moved to Ohio to join their Mingo relatives, the Seneca of Sandusky.⁸

The headmen of the Five Nations of the Iroquois sent a wampum belt to Dr. Edward Jenner as a token of their appreciation.



On special occasions such as when attending the medical needs of King George IV as his

8. The bulk of the tribe's reservation, nearly 64,000 acres, had already been unlawfully obtained by the state of New York in 1795 in return for the promise of a \$1,800 annual payment in perpetuity. The states were of course prohibited from such activities by the Constitution of the United States of America, but in this case the federal government filed no objection. (On February 17, 2000, a federal jury in Syracuse NY would award the surviving Cayuga the sum of \$36,900,000 as the original value of the land taken in these illegal centuries-old transactions, and then in October 2001 the federal court would mandate a supplementary payment of the accrued interest on this delinquent payment, amounting to an additional \$247,900,000.)

HDT

WHAT?

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Physician Extraordinary, Dr. Jenner would wear this belt with pride.

1807

VARIOLA



1807

1807



[Concord](#) resident [Ammi White](#), at this point in his 50s, confided to Charles Handley that when, as a militiaman at the age of about 21, he had chopped the head of a badly wounded soldier who was trying to stand, with his hatchet after the bridge fight in 1775 — he had supposed himself to be doing what as a militiaman he was supposed to do — and had been very surprised at the bad reaction that he later encountered.

On the Return of the Troops from Concord, they were very much annoyed, and had several Men killed and wounded, by the Rebels firing from behind Walls, Ditches, Trees, and other Ambushes; but the Brigade under the Command of Lord Percy having joined them at Lexington, with two Pieces of Cannon, the Rebels were for a while dispersed; but, as soon as the Troops resumed their March, they began again to fire upon them from behind Stone Walls and Houses, and kept up in that Manner a scattering Fire during the Whole of their March of Fifteen Miles, by which Means several were killed and wounded; and such was the Cruelty and Barbarity of the Rebels, that they scalped and cut off the Ears of some of the wounded Men, who fell into their Hands.



Thomas Dugan remarried to a Jennie Faulkner who was working in [Concord](#) as a housekeeper for \$5.⁰⁰ per month, and in this year the bride Jenny Dugan bore a child they named Elisha. (These would be “neighbors” of [Henry Thoreau](#) in the direction away from Concord, while he was living at Walden Pond. He would take a peek into Elisha and his brother Elijah’s springhouse and see a leopard frog swimming in the milk.)

1807

1807

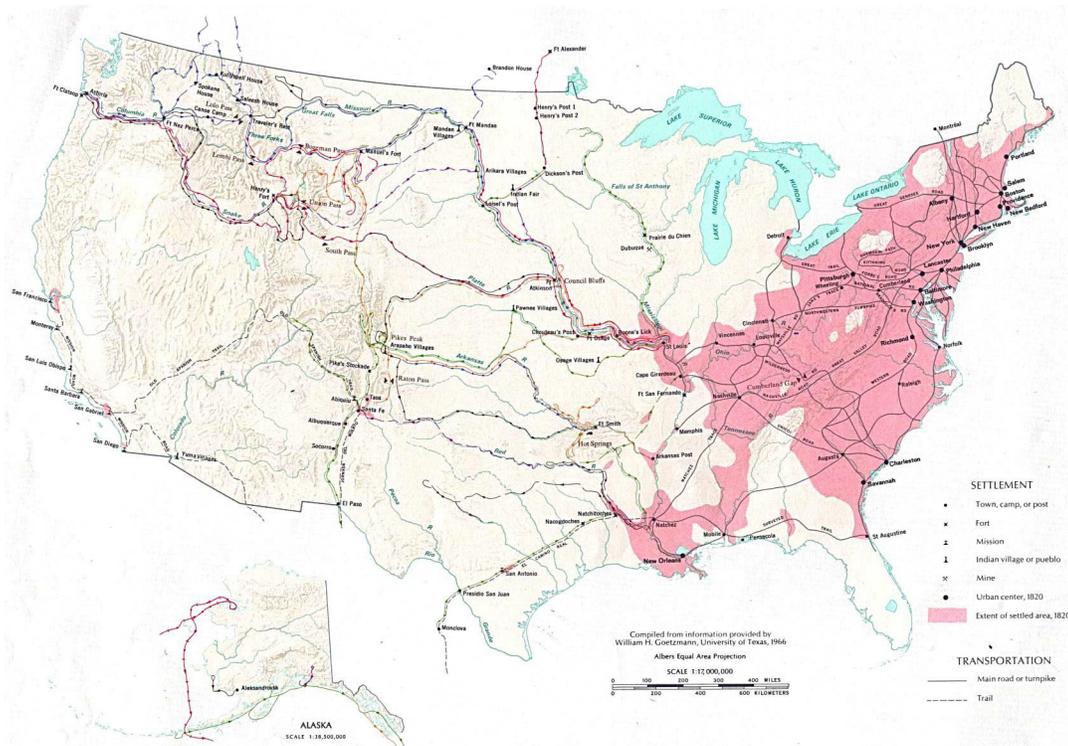
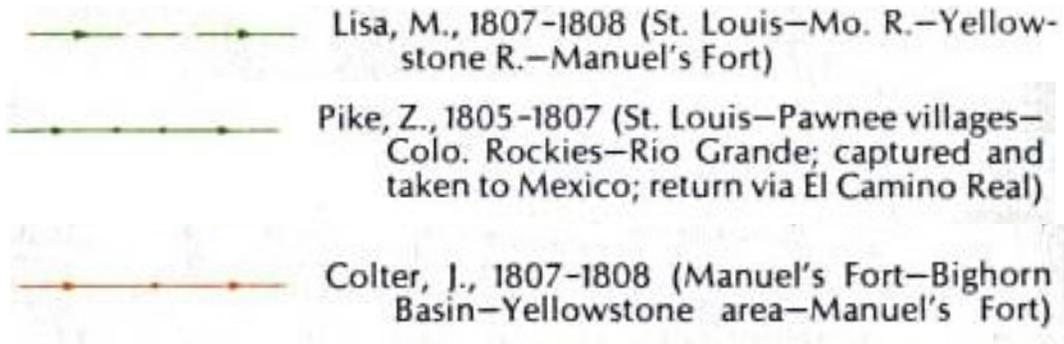


After learning that a hussar who had been supposed to be Polish, and male, and named Aleksandr Sokolov was actually a Russian, and female, and named Nadezhda Andreyevna Durova (Надежда Андреевна Дурова), [Tsar Alexander I](#) awarded a medal for bravery on the battlefield, provided a new pseudonym “Alexandrov” to assist in the ongoing gender deception, and commissioned “him” to serve as a lieutenant in the Mariupol Hussar Regiment. This hussar “You got a problem with that?” officer would serve with the [Russian](#) Army throughout the Napoleonic Wars until, in 1816, after being wounded by a cannonball, retiring as a stabs-rotmistr (the equivalent of a captain). Male attire would be continued throughout life — even after becoming a married woman, even after giving birth to children, and even after going public in 1836 in a memoir entitled THE CAVALRY MAIDEN. The burial in 1866 would be with full military honors.



In this year the Emperor [Napoléon](#) wrote to Josephine that “I am satisfied with [Alexander](#) and he ought to be satisfied with me,” adding “If he were a woman, I think I would make him my mistress.”

Ongoing White Exploration and Expropriation of the American “Wilderness”:



In the state of [New York](#), some 300 people were in this year imprisoned for debt.



In the state of [New York](#), Marinus Willett was appointed to a one-year term to replace De Witt Clinton.



The city of New-York was granted a northward extension of its underwater land rights along the Hudson and East rivers, 400 feet out from shore.



In upstate [New York](#), Elias Williams started The Intelligencer, the 1st newspaper of Genesee County.



Jesse Hawley, while imprisoned for debt at Canandaigua, wrote thirteen essays under the name Hercules, proposing a [canal](#) across [New York State](#).

➡ The Dismal Swamp Canal was enlarged to permit the passage of flatboats.

The US Senate asked Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin to study demands for internal improvements.

➡ The keel of the Lake Champlain steamboat Vermont was laid.



➡ Charles Harford built a grist mill at the high falls of the Genesee at Frankfort (later Rochester, New York).

➡ Daniel D. Tompkins was elected governor of New York (he would hold the office until 1817).

➡ 67 turnpike companies had by this point been chartered to build 3,000 miles of road through the state of New York.

➡ Lansingburgh's Farmer's Register moved to Troy, New York.

➡ Holt and Robbins's Herkimer Farmer's Monitor ceased publication.

NEW YORK

➡ The approximate date Benjamin Corey began publishing the Herkimer Pelican.

NEW YORK

➡ Christian Schultz traveled up the Mohawk River (he would later write about this).

NEW YORK

➡ Schenectady County, New York's The Western Spectator ceased publication.

➡ At Albany, New York, the State House was completed, at a cost exceeding the original \$120,000 estimate. (Edifice has its complexes.)

1807

1807

→ When a ferry sank in New-York harbor, 30 passengers drowned.

TIMELINE OF ACCIDENTS



"The only lesson of history is that there are no lessons of history."

– A.J.P. Taylor



→ In this year in upstate [New York](#), Isabella ([Sojourner Truth](#)) would have been approximately ten years old.

She wouldn't have been able to consider emigration to Ohio, where blacks like her were free, even if her owner had set her free to go, as in this year it was being established that any black American seeking to settle in Ohio would need to first post \$500 bond as demonstration of solvency. That'd be like the price of a new Lexis automobile today.

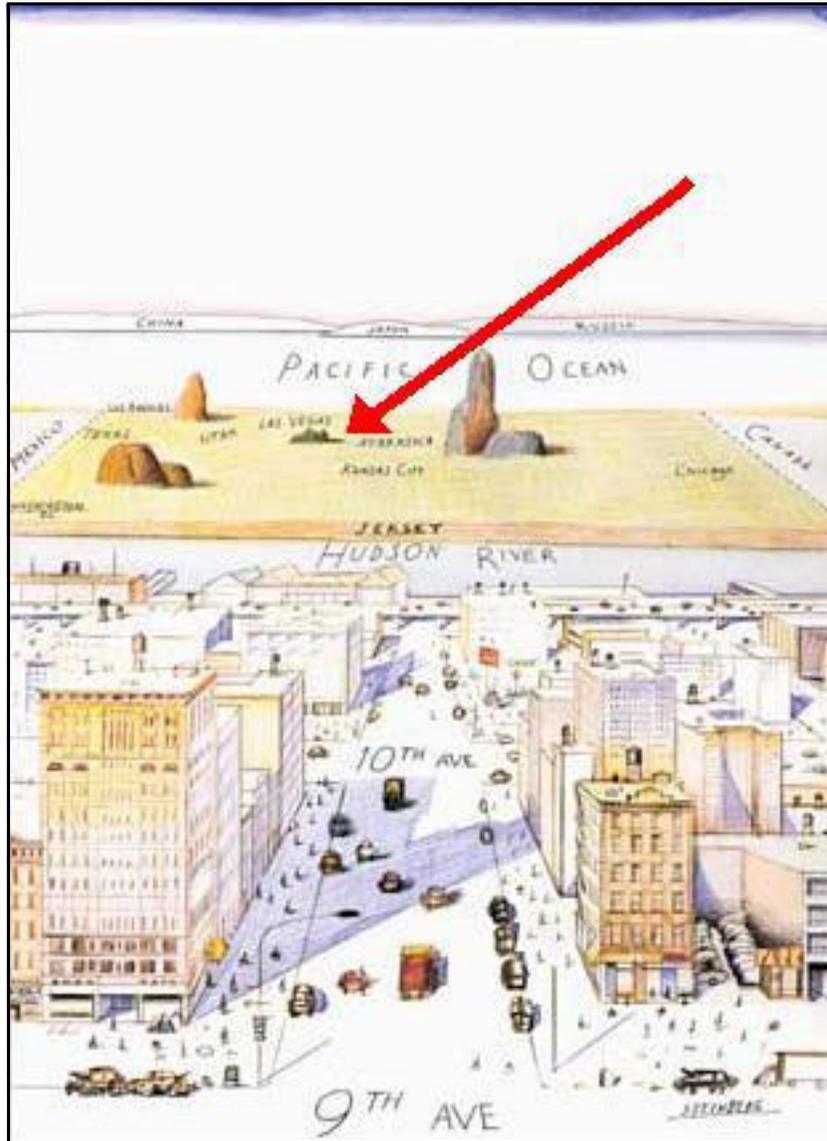
John Lambert reported that in Charleston SC "*Othello* and other plays where a black man is the hero of the piece are not allowed to be performed."

(Would Sojourner ever be free? Well, yes and no.)

→ Thomas Smith Grimké, one of [Sarah Moore Grimké](#) and [Angelina Emily Grimké](#)'s brothers, returned from [Yale College](#) as a convert to the Reverend [Timothy Dwight's](#) brand of revivalism. His father Judge John Fauchereau Grimké insisted, however, that instead of studying for the ministry and making of himself an evangelist, his son needed to read for the law.

[James Ellsworth De Kay](#) matriculated at [Yale](#) (he would repeat his junior year but then fail to graduate).

 Drought in *Alta California*.⁹



 The Charitable Religious Library was founded in Woburn MA.

 **Napoléon Bonaparte** signed the Treaty of Tilset with **Tsar Alexander I** of **Russia**, and the king of Prussia, outlawing all Russian trade with Britain. (Britain would blackmail and press-gang American sailors into pirate transportation of Russian **hemp**.)

 In Philadelphia, Townsend Speakman began making and selling fruit-flavored carbonated drinks.

9. According to Mike Davis (a bestselling truckdriver as famous in LA as is that bestselling taxi-driver in Boston whose book is on all the newstands), the urbanization of the Greater Los Angeles Metropolitan Area seems to have taken place during one of the most unusual episodes of climatic and seismic benignity of our Holocene era. There have been two megadroughts in Los Angeles's prehistory dwarfing anything within our experience. During the past couple of centuries, the longest drought in Southern California has lasted a mere six years, but these megadroughts, which occurred during the "Middle Ages" of Europe, held sway respectively for 140 years and for 220 years. (Generally, abundant rainfall in the Los Angeles region correlates with the El Niño ENSO phenomenon, extended drought with the La Niña ENSO phenomenon.)

 The Reverend Alexander Forsyth patented a ticklish percussion powder for the ignition of safer-to-handle gunpowder (but the percussion cap as a ready repository for this ticklish powder would not come along until 1822).

 A 40-ton teamboat was carrying freight up and down the Ohio River. That's "teamboat" as in team of horses, not "steamboat" as in steam engine — for the power needed to propel this contrivance was being generated by a team of six blind, or blinded, or blindered horses harnessed to an arm attached to a capstan geared to the boat's paddlewheels, trudging endlessly in a circle on its main deck.



"The only lesson of history is that there are no lessons of history."

— A.J.P. Taylor



 Publication of [Madame de Staël](#)'s novel of the clash between Nordic and Southern-European mentalities, *CORRINE, OU L'ITALIE* — a writing which notoriously featured a title character who was not only female but also intelligent:

Jo went prepared to bow down and adore the mighty ones whom she had worshiped with youthful enthusiasm afar off. But her reverence for genius received a severe shock that night, and it took her some time to recover from the discovery that the great creatures were only men and women after all. Imagine her dismay, on stealing a glance of timid admiration at the poet whose lines suggested an ethereal being fed on 'spirit, fire, and dew,' to behold him devouring his supper with an ardor which flushed his intellectual countenance. Turning as from a fallen idol, she made other discoveries which rapidly dispelled her romantic illusions. The great novelist vibrated between two decanters with the regularity of a pendulum; the famous divine flirted openly with one of the Madame de Staëls of the age, who looked daggers at another Corinne, who was amiably satirizing her, after outmaneuvering her in efforts to absorb the profound philosopher, who imbibed tea Johnsonianly and appeared to slumber, the loquacity of the lady rendering speech impossible. The scientific celebrities, forgetting their mollusks and glacial periods, gossiped about art, while devoting themselves to oysters and ices with characteristic energy; the young musician, who was charming the city like a second Orpheus, talked horses; and the specimen of the British nobility present happened to be the most ordinary man of the party.

Translated anonymously into English, this novel would be an immediate international success.

1807

1807

 When Amelia Opie's husband died, she went back to Norwich.



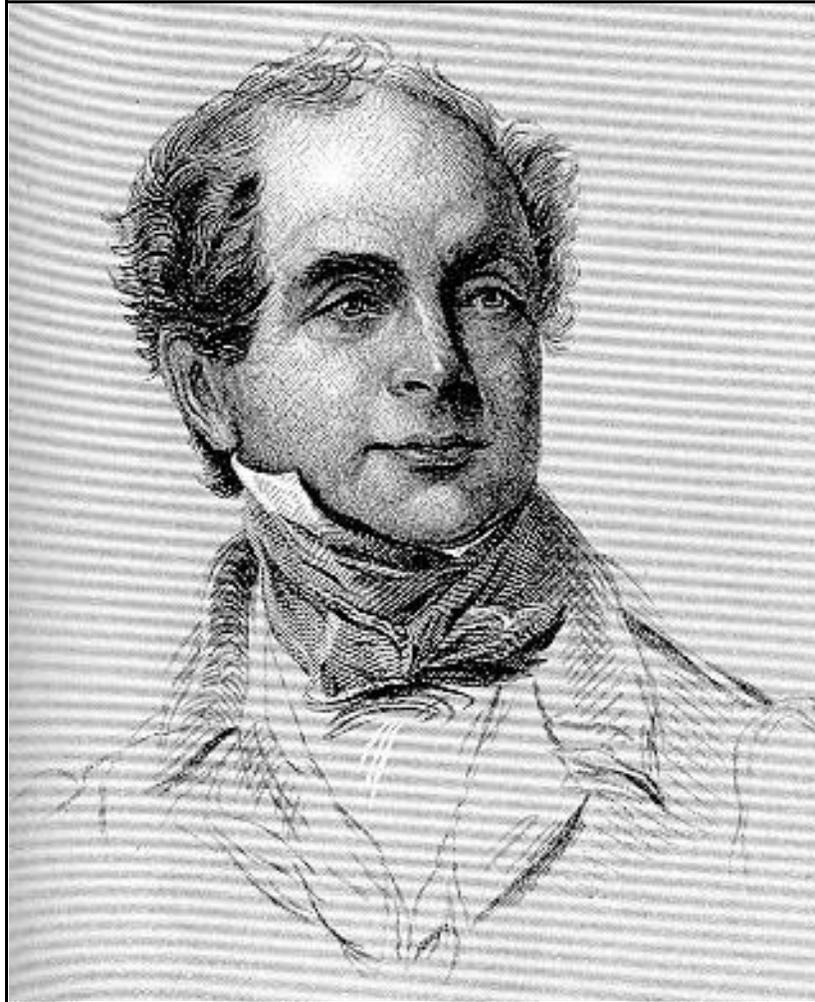
 As a Jeffersonian Republican and as a national chauvinist, John Caldwell Calhoun was demanding that we declare war on Britain.



1807

1807

 Thomas Moore's IRISH MELODIES.

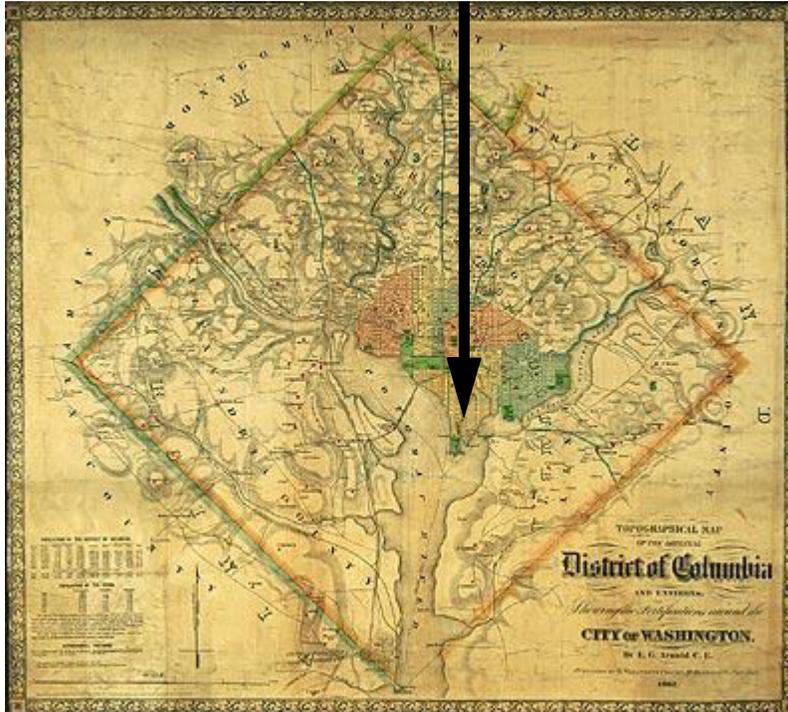


 Founding of Andover Theological Seminary, the oldest graduate school in theology in the country, as a separate department of divinity of Phillips Andover Academy.

1807

1807

➡ At about this point in time the 1st school for children of color in [Washington DC](#) was being erected, in the block bounded by 2nd, 3rd, D, and E Streets SE.



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

➡ [Richard Henry Dana](#) and [Walter Channing](#) were expelled from [Harvard College](#) for participating in the Rotten Cabbage Rebellion, a student revolt triggered by a maggoty lunch. Also, Dana’s mother died during this year. Channing would, under the tutelage of Dr. James Jackson, continue the study of medicine.

[Harvard](#) tutor [John Farrar](#) was appointed as the Hollis Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. He would begin to maintain weather records in Cambridge, seeking to understand the mathematical complexities of this bulk atmospheric natural process.

At the age of 18, [William Elliott](#) graduated from Beaufort College in South Carolina and matriculated at [Harvard](#).

NEW “HARVARD MEN”

➡ In [Rhode Island](#), James Fenner was in charge.

During this year or the following one, Edward Augustus Kendall passed through [Rhode Island](#).

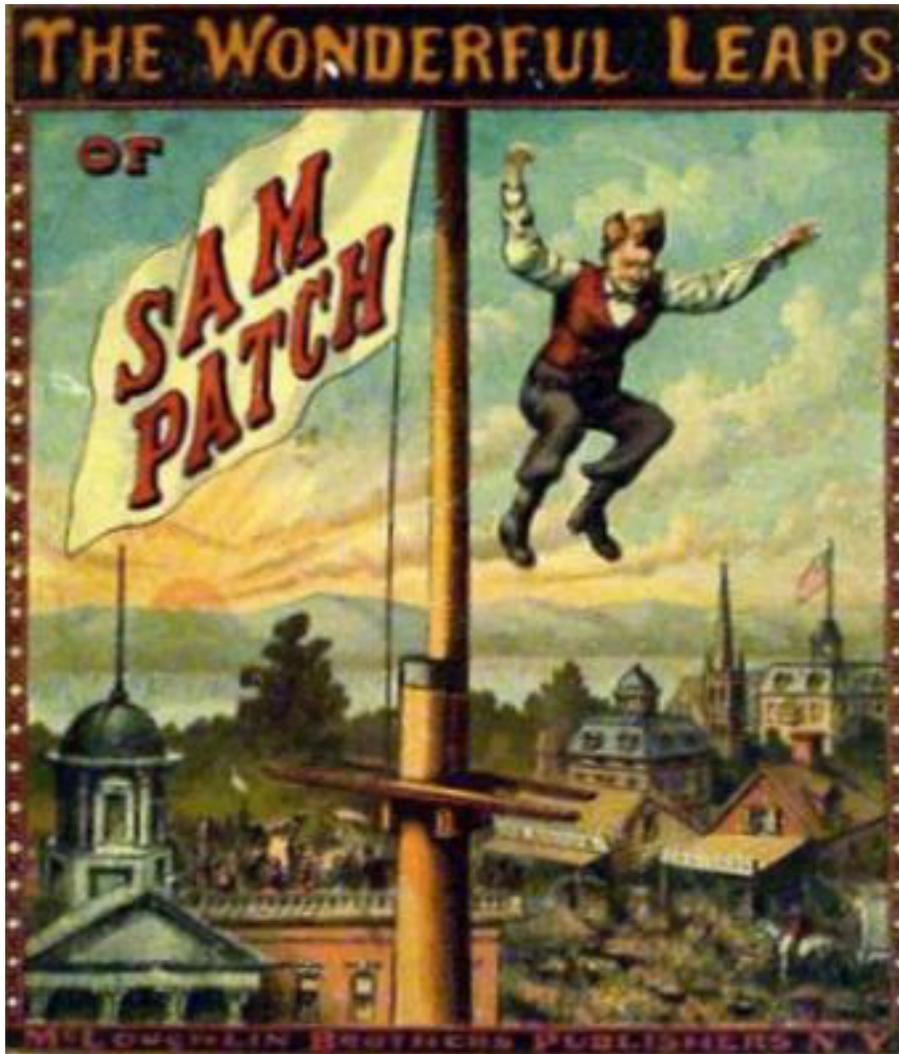
EDWARD AUGUSTUS KENDALL

1807

1807



The Patch family (Mayo Greenleaf Patch and Abigail McIntire Patch, with their children Polly, Greenleaf, Nabby, Samuel, and Isaac) moved on, from Marblehead MA to [Pawtucket, Rhode Island](#). It would have been at this point that at age 7 or 8, [Sam Patch](#), instead of being sent to school, would be sent into the monotonous and dangerous cotton mill perched on the edge of the falls of the Blackstone River. Eventually he would become a boss spinner, working the spinning mule. After hours, in his late teens, he and others would enjoy jumping off a bridge and a high rooftop into a pool of aerated or “soft” water at the base of Pawtucket Falls. He would become known by a renown catchphrase, “Some things can be done as well as others.”



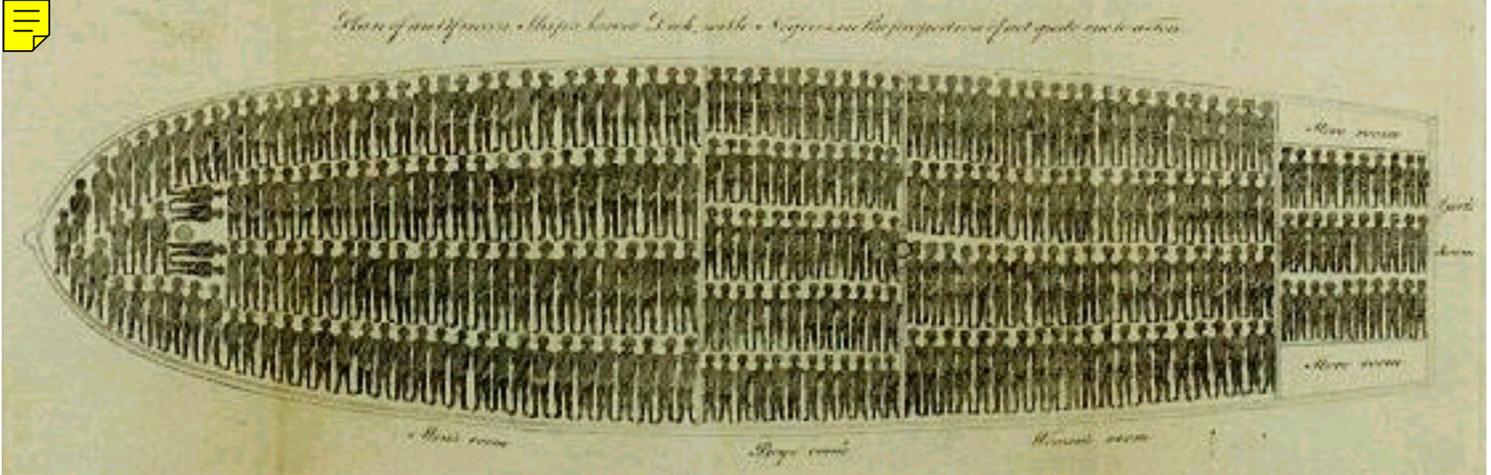
(Life is, after all, the art of the possible. Life wasn't being especially kind to Sam but he would be making the best of it that he could.)

1807

1807



In this year the [Rhode Island](#) ship *Eagle* brought a cargo of 180 new African [slaves](#) to America, the brig *Nancy* a cargo of 94, the schooner *Nancy* a cargo of 73, the snow (it had been a brig) *Neptune* a cargo of 140, the brig *Factor* a cargo of 85, the ship *Lark* a cargo of 95, the schooner *Concord* a cargo of 48, the brig *Alfred* a cargo of 84, the schooner *Hiram* a cargo of 105, the schooner *Flora* a cargo of 80, the schooner *Ann & Harriet* a cargo of 145 (this vessel would be registered in Boston until after this voyage it was re-registered in Rhode Island), and the sloop *Baltimore* a cargo of 80.¹⁰



INTERNATIONAL SLAVE TRADE

These people were mere freight, for consumption elsewhere. In [Rhode Island](#) itself, most black Americans were becoming free, if unequal:

While most black Rhode Islanders were free after 1807, they remained victims of prejudice and oppression in every sphere of life. They were segregated in the churches, kept out of the public schools, denied employment in the textile mills, and, finally, in 1822, denied the right to vote.

– William McLoughlin, RHODE ISLAND: A HISTORY (NY: Norton, 1978)

W.E. Burghardt Du Bois: Of the twenty years from 1787 to 1807

10. Clearly, there's a terminology problem here. In an effort to resolve this terminology issue, at the Republican National Convention in New York City in August 2004 –at which the Republican Party would for four days make an effort to strip from its face its mask of hostility to the plight of the downtrodden and reveal its true countenance of benevolent conservatism and concern– these people would be sensitively referred to by a Hoosier Republican running for the US Senate as “involuntary immigrants.”

So, perhaps, this is a good point at which to insert a story about involuntary immigrants that has been passed on to us by Ram Varmha, a retired IBM engineer whose father had briefly served as Maharaja after the independence of Cochin. He relates the story as narrated to him by his paternal grandmother who lived in Thripoonithura, Cochin: “When my grandmother (born 1882) was a young girl she would go with the elder ladies of the family to the Pazhayannur Devi Temple in Fort Cochin, next to the Cochin Lantha Palace built by the Dutch (Landers = Lantha), which was an early establishment of the Cochin royal family before the administration moved to Thripoonithura. My grandmother often told us that in the basement of the Lantha Palace, in a confined area, a family of Africans had been kept locked up, as in a zoo! By my Grandmother’s time all the Africans had died. But, some of the elder ladies had narrated the story to her of ‘Kappiries’ (Africans) kept in captivity there. It seems visitors would give them fruits and bananas. They were well cared for but always kept in confinement. My grandmother did not know all the details but according to her, ‘many’ years earlier, a ship having broken its mast drifted into the old Cochin harbor. When the locals climbed aboard, they found a crewless ship, but in the hold there were some chained ‘Kappiries’ still alive; others having perished. The locals did not know what to do with them. Not understanding their language and finding the Africans in chains, the locals thought that these were dangerous to set free. So they herded the poor Africans into the basement of the Cochin Fort, and held them in captivity, for many, many years! I have no idea when the initial incident happened, but I presume it took place in the late 1700s or early 1800s. This points to the possibility that it was, in fact, a slave ship carrying human cargo from East Africa to either the USA or the West Indies. An amazing and rather bizarre story. Incidentally, this is not an ‘old woman’s tale’! Its quite reliable. My grandmother would identify some of the older ladies who had actually seen the surviving Kappiries.”



1807

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it can only be said that they were, on the whole, a period of disappointment so far as the suppression of the slave-trade was concerned. Fear, interest, and philanthropy united for a time in an effort which bade fair to suppress the trade; then the real weakness of the constitutional compromise appeared, and the interests of the few overcame the fears and the humanity of the many.

 [Rutilius Taurus Æmilianus Palladius](#). THE FOURTEEN BOOKS OF PALLADIUS, RUTILIUS TAURUS ÆMILIANUS, ON AGRICULTURE. TRANSLATED BY THOMAS OWEN (London: Printed for J. White).

[[Palladius](#), floruit 4th Century CE, Roman, a specialist in agriculture who had estates in Italy and on the island of Sardinia. His 14-volume treatise on farming was in the Middle Ages well known. It gives detailed instructions for a typical year on an average farm. His 14th book, on growing trees, is written in elegiac verse. (The authorship of a 15th book, also in verse, is uncertain.)]

JANUARY

 January: [George Gordon, Lord Byron](#)'s POEMS ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS was privately printed.

[Samuel Taylor Coleridge](#) listened as William Wordsworth read his "Prelude," and then wrote "Lines to William Wordsworth."

 January 1, Thursday: After Joseph Bonaparte gathered all Neapolitan music students into the Santa Maria della Pieta dei Turchini, he turned it into a school exclusively for the study of music and renamed it the Collegio Reale di Musica.

The lease of the Burgtheater and the Kärntnertheater, held by Baron Peter von Braun, was turned over to a group of noblemen including the Princes Esterházy, Schwarzenberg, and Lobkowitz and the Counts Palffy, Zichy, Lodron, and Franz, and Franz Nicholas Esterházy.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 Day 1 of 1 M 1807 / Our mettings was rather small & to me but a dull time tho' I was not quite as destitute as at some others -D Buffum was concern'd in a short & feeling testimony, he said "Many were the afflictions of the righteous, but they all tended to our refinement, if they were rightly abode under,["] & said his feelings were such that he apprehended himself authorised to revive the passage to an afflicted tribulated number present "Fear not little flock, it is your fathers good pleasure to give you the kingdom" O Williams also spoke as few words testifying that tho' we were or might be accounted simple in the eyes of the world for thus assembling in the middle of the week, yet

they were often to us seasons of favor & renewal of strength.¹¹



RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

➡ January 2, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 2 of 1 M 1807 / The longer I live the more I see the cunning craft of the wicked deceiver of Men & find he has latly [sic] been very buisy in the minds of some repectin me in stiring them up to fabricate & circulate a false report in order [sic] to take away my reputation in the world. The thing in itself is of such a nature that none who have been acquainted with me from my childhood would suppose me guilty of, therefore shall make no enquirey after it, but treat it with its merited reserve but I can but observe the workings of Satan in it, & hope it will prove teaching & learn me wisdom, & to be humble Oh my God be with me for thou knows the care I have long & often felt not to dishonor or reproach thy name, help me Oh father for without thy holy aid we are ever liable to subk into ruin.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

➡ January 4, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 4 of 1 M 1807 / Our friends Peter Hoxie & D Buffum were concern'd in livly testimony in our morning meeting, which I hope may be of use to but my poor mind was not in a state to be benefited being under a painful state of leaness Having for sometime found it necessary for me to go to Middletown to visit my Cousin Alice Gould & family, left the Afternoon Meeting & went there where from some circumstances I was much instructed, & was favor'd to keep my place in Conversation, not to say too much or too little. I was also favor'd with a refreshing current of the precious life to flow into my mind, which I am truly thankful for

11. Stephen Wanton Gould Diary, 1807-1809: The Gould family papers are stored under control number 2033 at the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections of Cornell University Library, Box 6 Folder 8 for January 1, 1807-July 23, 1807 and Folder 9 for July 24, 1807-April 30, 1809; also on microfilm, see Series 7

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

➡ January 5, Monday: In the federal House of Representatives, Representative Sloan again urged, in a proposal the full text of which has been lost, that illegally imported Africans should either be freed, or apprenticed, or returned to Africa.

INTERNATIONAL SLAVE TRADE

SLAVERY

➡ January 7, Wednesday: Great Britain declared a counter-blockade against France and its allies.

In the federal House of Representatives, Representative Bidwell sought to add a proviso to Section 3 of the bill outlawing the importation of [slaves](#), similar to one which had been defeated on December 23, 1806:

Provided, that no person shall be sold as a slave by virtue of this act.

The House tied 60 against 60 on this proposed addition, and the Speaker of the House cast the deciding vote again defeating it.

HOUSE JOURNAL (reprint of 1826), 9th Congress, 2d session, V. 513-6. Cf. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress, 2d session, pages 199-203, 265-7.

INTERNATIONAL SLAVE TRADE

➡ January 11, Sunday: Ezra Cornell, who would found Western Union Telegraph and who would help endow Cornell University,¹² was born.

[Samuel Lord Dexter](#) remarried, with Esther Dexter in (?) Newburyport, Massachusetts.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 11 of 1 M 1807 / Silent meetings & to my mind tolerably composed seasons. Spent the evening at C Rodmans in company with divers young friends, & towards the close had an interview with my precious H. on the account of matrimony which I had intimated to her before & obtained our parents consent. It is a subject which hath long engaged my attention & trust have duly weighed it on all sides under a propper & weighty sense of its importance, & whatever my be the Issue it is sealed on my mind that the thing (thus far) is tight & that I have moved it nearly in the right time & manner. My mind is often bowed in much humility when I consider the littleness of my abilities in performing the duties relative to a married State, but when I am led to view the great Goodness love & condensation of our God to the children of men, that he cloths the lillies & feeds the sparrows & the many blessings which he bestows on those that are unworthy my mind if strengthended with an hope that as I am faithfully dedicated in my heart to do & suffer what ever he pleases to require at my hands he will not leave nor forsake me, but cast up a way where no way may appear, & not only give me South land but also Springs of water. I am not looking for miricles [sic] but expect to use my own endeavors, & as they are exerted within the limits of truth, my present faith is that

12. In conjunction with others such as the son of Friend Stephen Wanton Gould (1781-1838), John Stanton Gould (1810-1874).

I shall get forward in peace to my own mind, & the honor of the good cause, to which the older I grow the more I feel bound with fervant desires to promote. Oh that nothing may work in either from the love of gain or Self exaltation to retard the groth of that precious tender plant which I sometimes feel to be growing in my mind, but that a constant watchful care may be faithfully maintained to guard my heart as at every avenue from the subtil stratigems of the old deceiver, for I have often found him to be a very buisy medling creature striving by the most artful means to overthrow all good to establish his own kingdom. Therefore Oh my soul be on thy constant watch.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 January 13, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 13 of 7 M / Attended the funeral of Henry Potter, it was a quiet favored time. Our friend Holder Almy was there & favor'd to declare & explain the truth, particularly divine revelations & the consistency of our mode of worship to satisfaction & with a good degree of Power, was also lively in Supplication

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 January 14, Wednesday: [Tsar Alyeksandr I](#) of [Russia](#) formed a committee for internal security to keep watch on suspicious persons and societies.

The Emperor [Napoléon Bonaparte](#) created a directorate of five Poles to administer the area of Poland under French control.

 January 16, Friday: [Charles Henry Davis](#) was born in [Boston](#).

 January 18, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 18 1 M / Last night watched with a sick friend which prevented my going to meeting in the morning. In the Afternoon I went, but being much unwell came out soon after we were gathered went home & went to bed early in the evening.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 January 22, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 22 of 1 M / To me a barran meeting, & in the preparatory meeting the answering of the queries was very laborious. My mind was so vacant or void of life that I dared not to put forth my hand to stedly the tottering Ark.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 January 25, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 25 of 1 M / Silent meetings in the forenoon I was rather unsettled, in the afternoon more composed

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 January 26, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 26 of 1 M / Had a sweet visit from my dear friend Holder Almy his conversation was truly encouraging & stengthening to hold on the way.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 January 27, Tuesday: The First Presbyterian Church of Marcellus, [New York](#) was organized.

The Duchy of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld was occupied by French troops.

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January 28, Wednesday: Publication of the Piano Sonata op.20, the Piano Trio op.22, Twelve Dances for piano op.24 and the Twelve Dances for piano op.25 by [Johann Nepomuk Hummel](#) was announced in the *Wiener Zeitung*.

An experimental installation of some gas street lighting, on Pall Mall in [London](#). The usefulness of carbureted [hydrogen gas](#) as a fuel for street lighting would be amply demonstrated.



(The resultant of this 1807 improvement, after almost a couple or centuries, can be viewed below.)



January 29, Thursday: The Ottoman Empire extended its declaration of war on [Russia](#) to include Great Britain.

The infant Henry Bradford Greenleaf Webster, 7th child of Rebecca Greenleaf Webster with [Noah Webster, Jr.](#), died after two months of existence.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 29 of 1 M / Our Moy [Monthly] Meeting was held in town & was a pretty good time in the first H Almy appear'd much engaged in testimony for the welfare of society expressing a desire that Zion might arise & shake herself from the dust of the earth & put on her beautiful garments. And Abigail Robinson Arose with these words "Put thy shoes from off thy feet for the ground whereon thou standeth is holy" pointing out the necessity of our having clean hearts & hands in the administration of Church discipline, for if we attempt it in our own wills the mind of the individual will not only become more darkened but will bring pain & death over the meeting. Some exercising cases were before us in the last meeting but I apprehended things terminated well in the end. It seems to be a time of labor & exercise among the homest hearted, a time that calls for dilligence & watchfulness. May every part of my

*conduct be so, & may my neck not be spared from the Yoak or
shoulders from the burden*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

FEBRUARY

February: Of all the things that happened during this month of this year in [Providence, Rhode Island](#), here's as much as would be memorialized in the gazette of 1844:

1807. In February of this year, a very destructive freshet took place, by which both the bridges across Seekonk river were carried away, the bridges at the north part of town much damaged, many mills and dams swept away near this town, and losses sustained to a very large amount.

February 1, Sunday (or August 20, Thursday depending on which source we believe): [William James Hubbard](#) was born in Whitchurch Shropshire or Warwick, England, to William Hubbard and Catharine Hall Hubbard.

Henry Clay warned that "death alone can check the career of this modern conquerer" [Napoléon](#) who had come to control so many of the governments of Europe, such as now even the Prussian.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 1 of 2 M 1807 / Out Meeting this Morning was but a dull time to me. O Williams was concerned in a few words, "Expressing the great fear of our loosing [losing] divine favor by dallying with mercy, & the necessity of continual watchfulness". In the Afternoon I was favor'd to be more settled but not so much as I could wish. Between meetings while setting by my dear father who is much unwell & often in much pain, my mind was brought into deep seriousness & I was led to crave in secret that he might be favor'd with patience to endure his weakness & when the thread of life may be cut he may enter into the blissful regions of happiness, all that was alive within me was quickened.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

February 2, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 2 of 2 M 1807 / Much takne up this morning with buisness which took me out of the shop. Called with O W & J C at Elisha Anthonys who deceased last night to answer our appointment in the case of funerals.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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 February 3, Tuesday: The French army attempted to trap the Russian army at Ionkovo. They defeated the Russians but, during the night, the Tsar's forces escaped.

British forces occupied Montevideo.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 3 of 2 M / Attended the funeral of E Anthony which appeared to be a pretty favor'd time, the people sat quietly.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 February 5, Thursday: French forces caught up to the Russian rear guard at Hoff (near Górowo Ilaweckie) south of Königsberg (Kaliningrad) causing 4,200 total casualties. The Russians retreated to Eylau (Bagrationovsk) to the northeast.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5 day 5 of 2 M / Our meeting today was to me a pretty favor'd time, being able to get nearer the root of the matter than common of late, for which I desire to be thankful, as I am alomst continually in a dry unfeeling state, so that when I am favored with an income of the pure tendering spirit, it feels the more precious
Our friends who are absent at [Providence](#) have a pleasant day for the Quarterly Meeting, & my desires are that they may be proffited by the journey.*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 February 7, Saturday: A skirmish between French and Russian outposts escalated into a major engagement at Eylau (Bagrationovsk) south of Königsberg (Kaliningrad). After eight hours of heavy fighting and 8,000 casualties, the forces called it a night.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 7 of 2 M 1807 / Most of the time of late I have been so very barran of good that I have felt burdensome to myself & scarcely able to think a good thought or raise a sigh for help. But when I awoke this Morning my mind was feelingly struck with this query & Answer "Oh where is peace for those its path have trod? In poverty retirement & with God" which made such an impression that before I arose my mind became sweetly retired & enabled to pray for help from the Almighty, & I may thankfully add that I have been helped & enabled to keep near the sorce of life thro' the day. Oh dearest father my heart is engaged in



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*prayer before thee at this time, that thou in thy infinite goodness may be pleased to draw me by the sheperds crooke of thy power into thy heavenly fold & enable me there to dwell secure from all bussel of the world that tho' my boody be surrounded therewith my mind & spirit be retired & enabled to enjoy sweet union & communion with thee to whom belongs & be ascribed glory honner & praise forevermore
Our friends have returned from [Providence](#) & express much satisfactiion from the meeting & visit Elisha Thornton & Ann Smith were favor'd in testimony & Elisha T in supplication.*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



February 8, Sunday: Dawn on the 2d day at Eylau (Bagrationovsk) found bitter cold and constant snow. Russian advances were countered by French cavalry which in turn were countered by the arrival of the last Prussian troops which were in turn stalemated by French reinforcements. After two days of fighting no strategic result would be produced. Casualties figures are not known, but could have been as high as 40,000. Russia quit the field.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 8 of 2 M / Favor'd to be pretty quiet at meetings, in the forenoon OW spoke a few words & Hannah Dennis took up the subject & enlarged very acceptably.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



February 9, Monday: At the recommendation of the committee on the [slave](#) trade, the US House of Representatives considered the incorporation of a Section 7 in their bill prohibiting any further importation of slaves, providing that any Negroes who were imported should be conveyed whither the President might direct and there be indentured as apprentices, or employed in whatever way the President might deem best for them and the country; provided that no such Negroes should be indentured or employed except in some State in which provision is now made for the gradual abolition of slavery. In this proposed wording blank spaces were left for limiting the term of this indenture, but the legislature would never fill in these blanks and this section of the bill would never be put to a vote (ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress, 2d session, pages 477-8).

INTERNATIONAL SLAVE TRADE



1807

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February 10, Tuesday: The US Congress authorized a survey of the nation's coasts and harbors: "An Act to Provide for Surveying the Coasts of the United States."

[READ THE FULL TEXT](#)

[Theodore Sedgwick Fay](#) was born in New-York, a son of the attorney Joseph Dewey Fay (1779-1825). Like his father, who had studied law in the office of Alexander Hamilton, would study for the law, although he would never practice, going instead into the field of diplomacy.



Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*3 day 10 of 2 M / Our friend Asa Russel of [New Bedford](#) called at the shop this afternoon, with whom I had much conversation on a subject which has deeply affected the minds of many & caused the Land to mourn for the wound which Zion has felt from the fall of a late dignified Servant
Asa spoke feelingly on the subject & hoped it might be a warning to those who think they stand to take heed lest they fall.*

[RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS](#)



February 12, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 12 of 2 M 1807 / I feel very thankful at being able to insert that to me it was a precious meeting my mind was sweetly overshadowed with divine favor, if my mind got a little from the center I could easily return. This state is so different from the very barran situation in which I often am, that it has caused me to bow in spirit in humble reverent thankfulness for the present favor & pray for strength to hold on my way in the line of religious perseverance. OW & S Barker had living testimonys to bear among us.

[RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS](#)



February 13, Friday: An initial donation of 3,000 volumes by the Reverend Joseph Buchminster, along with the existing library of The Anthology Club which had been founded in 1804 by the Reverend William Emerson, became the foundation for the library of the Boston Athenæum. From this year into 1810, John Lowell would be treasurer.

Former US Vice President Aaron Burr was captured near New Orleans and charged with treason. He would be transported to Richmond, Virginia to stand trial.

Organized in Scollay's Buildings, during this year the library was relocating to the Amory House on Tremont Street in [Boston](#), adjoining the [King's Chapel](#) Burying Ground.



February 15, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 15 of 2 M / Our meetings were silent & I thought the seed appear'd to be under suffering, but the life flowed in a sweet

current thro' my mind. Yet had to combat satan as he presented doubts of various kinds to my mind but did not succeed in his attempt to implant distrust.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 February 17, Tuesday: Joseph, a drame mêlé de chants by Etienne Nicolas Méhul to words of Duval after the BIBLE, was performed for the initial time, at the Théâtre Feydeau, Paris (this would be performed 50 times during the composer's life and then revived for the following century).

 February 19, Thursday: Attempting to bring Turkey into the alliance against France, a British fleet forced the Dardanelles and sank five 5 ships.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 19 of 2 M / Our meetings passed in silence & to my mind I consider'd it a favor'd time, being free from that hard unaccountable state of barraness with which I am so frequently tried. I had feelingly to lament the very low State of our poor drooping society, it seems as if we are just upon the brink of sinking. The many stumbling blocks which appear among us & the few that are skiled in removing them is cause of fear & Mourning.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 February 21, Saturday: Publication of the Piano Sonata "Appassionata" op.57 by [Ludwig von Beethoven](#) was announced.

 February 22, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 22 of 2 M 1807 / Meetings today were pretty good, being enabled to strive for a little help. O williams & D Buffum were livly in testimony

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



February 23, Monday: Carl Maria von Weber left Carlsruhe for an extended tour to the west.

At the [hanging](#) in London of Elizabeth Godfrey, Owen Haggerty, and John Holloway a pie-seller fell over, spilling his wares and causing a riot in which a number of people in the crowd got trampled to death.

OTHER WOMEN HANGED IN ENGLAND DURING 1807

Date	Name	Age	Place of execution	Crime
January 7	Margaret Cunningham		Edinburgh	Murder of husband
July 31	Martha Aldin	32	Norwich	Murder of husband

At some point during this year, a week after her wedding to the Reverend Henry Ware, Sr., Hollis Professor of Divinity at [Harvard College](#), Mary Otis Lincoln hanged — the reverend professor must have found this exquisitely embarrassing.¹³ Also:

Date	Sex	Method
March 5, 1786	Male	hanged self
July 5, 1790	Male	hanged self
July 5, 1790	Male	shot self
March 29, 1791	Female	not known
October 11, 1796	Male	cut throat
March 15, 1807	Male	cut throat
April 16, 1807	Male	hanged self



February 26, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5 day 26 of 2 M / Rode an horse back from [Portsmouth](#) to attend our Moy [Monthly] Meeting wherein my mind was favor'd to experience a good degree of life. Holder Almy & D Buffum livly in testimony encoraging the tribulated ones to hold on their way, & describing the path for such to walk in. Also warning those who are at ease to be up & doing while the day lasts, for if the righteous are scarcely saved where shall the sinner & ungodly appear
In the last meeting I sat mostly as a silent mourner, for my mind was much affected from various circumstances.
Dined at cousin Z Chases & stopp'd on the way home at cousin Alice Goulds.*

13. For contemporary reactions see Theophilus Parsons (fils), MEMOIR OF THEOPHILUS PARSONS (Boston, 1859, pages 316-18) and a letter from Abigail Adams to Mercy Otis Warren of March 9, 1807 (WARREN-ADAMS LETTERS, Volume 2, page 354).

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February 27, Friday: [Henry Wadsworth Longfellow](#) was born in Portland, Maine¹⁴ to a mother who was able to trace her ancestry to the John Alden who had been first off the *Mayflower* at Plymouth. His father was descended from the William Longfellow who had been born in Hampshire, England in 1651 –emigrating to Newbury MA where in 1676 he had married Anne Sewall– who had in 1690 drowned at Anticosti, an island in the estuary of the St. Lawrence River.

All his life he would be embarrassed at his family name, since it blatantly emphasized that in fact he was quite a shortfellow. (You’d suppose that, for a guy with the attitude he had about an altitude problem, for appearances they would have buried him in a casket with a few feet of headroom — rather than in a casket that, for a person of normal height, they’d obviously have needed a shoehorn and a chainsaw to fit him into!)



The federal Congress was, on this day, considering the possibility of their issuing a clarification of Section 8 of their “Act to prohibit the importation of [Slaves](#) into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, from and after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight.” This section gave permission for the continued buying and selling of slaves inside the borders of this nation. Nothing would come of their attempt at a clarification of this section.

STATUTES AT LARGE, II. 426. For proceedings in Senate, see SENATE JOURNAL (reprint of 1821), 9th Congress, 1-2d session, IV. 11, 112, 123, 124, 132, 133, 150, 158, 164, 165, 167, 168; ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress, 2d session, pages 16, 19, 23, 33, 36, 45, 47, 68, 69, 70, 71, 79, 87, 93. For proceedings in House, see HOUSE JOURNAL (reprint of 1826), 9th Congress, 2d session, V. 470, 482, 488, 490, 491, 496, 500, 504, 510, 513-6, 517, 540, 557, 575, 579, 581, 583-4, 585, 592, 594, 610, 613-4, 616, 623, 638, 640; 10th Congress, 1st session, VI. 27, 50; ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress, 2d session, pages 167, 180, 200, 220, 231, 254,

14. Yes, that’s Portland MA not Portland ME — for in 1807 the city of Portland was still a part of Massachusetts.

264, 270.

Table of Altitudes



Yoda	2' 0"
Lavinia Warren	2' 8"
Tom Thumb, Jr.	3' 4"
Lucy (Australopithecus Afarensis)	3' 8"
Hervé Villechaize ("Fantasy Island")	3' 11"
Charles Proteus Steinmetz	4' 0"
Mary Moody Emerson per FBS (1)	4' 3"
Alexander Pope	4' 6"
Benjamin Lay	4' 7"
Dr. Ruth Westheimer	4' 7"
Gary Coleman ("Arnold Jackson")	4' 8"
Edith Piaf	4' 8"
Queen Victoria with osteoporosis	4' 8"
Linda Hunt	4' 9"
Queen Victoria as adult	4' 10"
Mother Teresa	4' 10"
Margaret Mitchell	4' 10"
length of newer military musket	4' 10"
Charlotte Brontë	4' 10-11"
Tammy Faye Bakker	4' 11"
Soviet gymnast Olga Korbut	4' 11"
jockey Willie Shoemaker	4' 11"
Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec	4' 11"
Joan of Arc	4' 11"
Bonnie Parker of "Bonnie & Clyde"	4' 11"
Harriet Beecher Stowe	4' 11"
Laura Ingalls Wilder	4' 11"
a rather tall adult Pygmy male	4' 11"
Gloria Swanson	4' 11"1/2
Clara Barton	5' 0"
Isambard Kingdom Brunel	5' 0"
Andrew Carnegie	5' 0"
Thomas de Quincey	5' 0"
Stephen A. Douglas	5' 0"
Danny DeVito	5' 0"
Immanuel Kant	5' 0"
William Wilberforce	5' 0"
Dollie Parton	5' 0"
Mae West	5' 0"
Pia Zadora	5' 0"

Deng Xiaoping	5' 0 "
Dred Scott	5' 0 " (±)
Captain William Bligh of HMS <i>Bounty</i>	5' 0 " (±)
Harriet Tubman	5' 0 " (±)
Mary Moody Emerson per FBS (2)	5' 0 " (±)
John Brown of Providence, Rhode Island	5' 0 " (+)
John Keats	5' 3/4 "
Debbie Reynolds (Carrie Fisher's mother)	5' 1 "
Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher)	5' 1 "
Bette Midler	5' 1 "
Dudley Moore	5' 2 "
Paul Simon (of Simon & Garfunkel)	5' 2 "
Honore de Balzac	5' 2 "
Sally Field	5' 2 "
Jemmy Button	5' 2 "
Margaret Mead	5' 2 "
R. Buckminster "Bucky" Fuller	5' 2 "
Yuri Gagarin the astronaut	5' 2 "
William Walker	5' 2 "
Horatio Alger, Jr.	5' 2 "
length of older military musket	5' 2 "
the artist formerly known as Prince	5' 2 1/2 "
typical female of Thoreau's period	5' 2 1/2 "
Francis of Assisi	5' 3 "
Voltaire	5' 3 "
Mohandas Gandhi	5' 3 "
Sammy Davis, Jr.	5' 3 "
Kahlil Gibran	5' 3 "
Friend Daniel Ricketson	5' 3 "
The Reverend Gilbert White	5' 3 "
Nikita Khrushchev	5' 3 "
Sammy Davis, Jr.	5' 3 "
Truman Capote	5' 3 "
Kim Jong Il (North Korea)	5' 3 "
Stephen A. "Little Giant" Douglas	5' 4 "
Francisco Franco	5' 4 "
President James Madison	5' 4 "
Iosef Vissarionovich Dzugashvili "Stalin"	5' 4 "
Alan Ladd	5' 4 "
Pablo Picasso	5' 4 "
Truman Capote	5' 4 "
Queen Elizabeth	5' 4 "



Ludwig van Beethoven	5' 4 "
Typical Homo Erectus	5' 4 "
typical Neanderthal adult male	5' 4 ¹ / ₂ "
Alan Ladd	5' 4 ¹ / ₂ "
comte de Buffon	5' 5 " (-)
Captain Nathaniel Gordon	5' 5 "
Charles Manson	5' 5 "
Audie Murphy	5' 5 "
Harry Houdini	5' 5 "
Hung Hsiu-ch'üan 洪秀全	5' 5 "
Marilyn Monroe	5' 5 ¹ / ₂ "
T.E. Lawrence "of Arabia"	5' 5 ¹ / ₂ "
average runaway male American slave	5' 5-6 "
Charles Dickens	5' 6? "
President Benjamin Harrison	5' 6 "
President Martin Van Buren	5' 6 "
James Smithson	5' 6 "
Louisa May Alcott	5' 6 "
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe	5' 6 ¹ / ₂ "
Napoleon Bonaparte	5' 6 ¹ / ₂ "
Emily Brontë	5' 6-7 "
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow	5' ? "
average height, seaman of 1812	5' 6.85 "
Oliver Reed Smoot, Jr.	5' 7 "
minimum height, British soldier	5' 7 "
President John Adams	5' 7 "
President John Quincy Adams	5' 7 "
President William McKinley	5' 7 "
"Charley" Parkhurst (a female)	5' 7 "
Ulysses S. Grant	5' 7 "
Henry Thoreau	5' 7 "
the average male of Thoreau's period	5' 7 ¹ / ₂ "
Edgar Allan Poe	5' 8 "
President Ulysses S. Grant	5' 8 "
President William H. Harrison	5' 8 "
President James Polk	5' 8 "
President Zachary Taylor	5' 8 "
average height, soldier of 1812	5' 8.35 "
President Rutherford B. Hayes	5' 8 ¹ / ₂ "
President Millard Fillmore	5' 9 "
President Harry S Truman	5' 9 "
President Jimmy Carter	5' 9 ¹ / ₂ "





Herman Melville	5' 9 ³ / ₄ "
Calvin Coolidge	5' 10"
Andrew Johnson	5' 10"
Theodore Roosevelt	5' 10"
Thomas Paine	5' 10"
Franklin Pierce	5' 10"
Abby May Alcott	5' 10"
Reverend Henry C. Wright	5' 10"
Nathaniel Hawthorne	5' 10 ¹ / ₂ "
Louis "Deerfoot" Bennett	5' 10 ¹ / ₂ "
Friend John Greenleaf Whittier	5' 10 ¹ / ₂ "
President Dwight D. Eisenhower	5' 10 ¹ / ₂ "
Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots	5' 11"
Sojourner Truth	5' 11"
President Grover Cleveland	5' 11"
President Herbert Hoover	5' 11"
President Woodrow Wilson	5' 11"
President Jefferson Davis	5' 11"
President Richard Milhous Nixon	5' 11 ¹ / ₂ "
Robert Voorhis the hermit of Rhode Island	< 6'
Frederick Douglass	6' (-)
Anthony Burns	6' 0"
Waldo Emerson	6' 0"
Joseph Smith, Jr.	6' 0"
David Walker	6' 0"
Sarah F. Wakefield	6' 0"
Thomas Wentworth Higginson	6' 0"
President James Buchanan	6' 0"
President Gerald R. Ford	6' 0"
President James Garfield	6' 0"
President Warren Harding	6' 0"
President John F. Kennedy	6' 0"
President James Monroe	6' 0"
President William H. Taft	6' 0"
President John Tyler	6' 0"
John Brown	6' 0 (+)"
President Andrew Jackson	6' 1"
Alfred Russel Wallace	6' 1"
President Ronald Reagan	6' 1"
Venture Smith	6' 1 ¹ / ₂ "
John Camel Heenan	6' 2"
Crispus Attucks	6' 2"

President Chester A. Arthur	6' 2 "
President George Bush, Senior	6' 2 "
President Franklin D. Roosevelt	6' 2 "
President George Washington	6' 2 "
Gabriel Prosser	6' 2 "
Dangerfield Newby	6' 2 "
Charles Augustus Lindbergh	6' 2 "
President Bill Clinton	6' 2 1/2"
President Thomas Jefferson	6' 2 1/2"
President Lyndon B. Johnson	6' 3 "
Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.	6' 3 "
Richard "King Dick" Seaver	6' 3 1/4"
President Abraham Lincoln	6' 4 "
Marion Morrison (AKA John Wayne)	6' 4 "
Elisha Reynolds Potter, Senior	6' 4 "
Thomas Cholmondeley	6' 4 " (?)
William Buckley	6' 4-7"
Franklin Benjamin Sanborn	6' 5 "
Peter the Great of Russia	6' 7 "
William "Dwarf Billy" Burley	6' 7 "
Giovanni Battista Belzoni	6' 7 "
Thomas Jefferson (the statue)	7' 6"
Jefferson Davis (the statue)	7' 7"
Martin Van Buren Bates	7' 11 1/2"
M. Bihin, a Belgian exhibited in Boston in 1840	8'
Anna Haining Swan	8' 1"



February 28, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 28 of 2 M 1807 / Desires are raised at this time in my mind that I may be preserved from the many snares of satan either in getting too high or too low for there is danger in both sides particularly in getting too high. I trust I have felt a solemn warning in my mind on this head, & oh that it may have a desirable effect, for the higher we stand the lower we have to fall (if we do fall) I feel my mind invested with a care to walk humbly & not attribute my good standing to any thing that I have done or can do for myself, for if this kind of boasting or reasoning is given way too it is almost a shure means of falling, for pride will have a fall. May the many sorrowful heart pearing circumstances which have happened within my knowledge, teach more wisdom Oh Lord keep me little, keep me low suffering no exaltation of self to arise.

MARCH

March: The Duke of Portland's coalition administration began.

March: Samuel Brooks died at the age of 78.

Samuel Brooks [of Concord], son of John Brooks, was born March 16, 1729, and graduated [at Harvard College] in 1749. He lived in Exeter, New Hampshire, was Register of deeds, justice of the peace, and a worthy man. He died in March, 1807, aged 78.¹⁵

March: Captain Paul Cuffe sailed his Alpha from Savannah for Russia, via Sweden and Denmark. He would be forced to turn back to Denmark due to war conditions at sea. On his return to America, his vessel would nearly founder off Greenland.

Measles, brought by a fleet of ships from the Cape of Good Hope, was impacting every family on St. Helena.

March 1, Sunday: Friend Stephen Wanton Gould wrote in his journal:

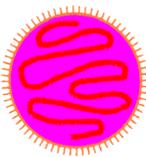
1 day 1 of 3 M 1807 / Our meetings were silent. in the morning it was a pretty composed favor'd time to me, but more unsettled in the afternoon. I looked over the meeting and thought there were more Idle countenances than mine, which is no excuse for my being so, but ought rather to be Stimulous to be digging deeper

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

March 2, Monday: The United States House and Senate approved An Act to Prohibit the Importation of Slaves into any Port or Place Within the Jurisdiction of the United States, From and After the First Day of January, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eight (some quarter of a million new slaves would be imported between this point and 1860 but such activities would be "illegal").

W.E. Burghardt Du Bois: The rôle which the great Negro Toussaint, called L'Ouverture, played in the history of the United States has seldom been fully appreciated. Representing the age of revolution in America, he rose to leadership through a bloody terror, which contrived a Negro "problem" for the Western Hemisphere, intensified and defined the anti-slavery movement, became one of the causes, and probably the prime one, which led Napoleon to sell Louisiana for a song, and finally, through the interworking of all these effects, rendered more certain the final prohibition of the slave-trade by the United States in 1807. From the time of the reorganization of the Pennsylvania

15. Lemuel Shattuck's 1835 A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF CONCORD:.... Boston: Russell, Odiorne, and Company; Concord MA: John Stacy (On or about November 11, 1837 Henry Thoreau would indicate a familiarity with the contents of at least pages 2-3 and 6-9 of this historical study. On July 16, 1859 he would correct a date mistake buried in the body of the text.)





1807

1807

Abolition Society, in 1787, anti-slavery sentiment became active. New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia had strong organizations, and a national convention was held in 1794. The terrible upheaval in the West Indies, beginning in 1791, furnished this rising movement with an irresistible argument. A wave of horror and fear swept over the South, which even the powerful slave-traders of Georgia did not dare withstand; the Middle States saw their worst dreams realized, and the mercenary trade interests of the East lost control of the New England conscience.

Although the US Congress indeed banned the further importation of colored [slaves](#) from Africa into the territory of the United States of America, with said ban on the [international slave trade](#) to take effect on January 1, 1808, we instantly notice not only that the act had no real teeth but also that the act did not extent to a banning of any and all further importation of slaves regardless of race or color. It only banned the import of a slave if said person were supposed in some degree to be descended from the Negro race — therefore, it is very erroneous to suppose that this act was an act toward the objective of the abolition of human slavery, rather than an act toward an unspecified objective of racial purity or apartheid or ethnic cleansing. This act was racist in the sense that it was on its face intended not for the betterment of the black race but for the betterment of the white race:

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE IMPORTATION OF SLAVES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, it shall not be lawful to import or bring into the United States or the territories thereof from any foreign kingdom, place, or country, any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, with intent to hold, sell, or dispose of such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, as a slave, or to be held to service or labour. SEC 2. And be it further enacted, That no citizen or citizens of the United States, or any other person, shall, from and after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight, for himself, or themselves, or any other person whatsoever, either as master, factor, or owner, build, fit, equip, load or otherwise prepare any ship or vessel, in any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, nor shall cause any ship or vessel to sail from any port or place within the same, for the purpose of procuring any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, from any foreign kingdom, place, or country, to be transported to any port or place whatsoever, within the jurisdiction of the United States, to be held, sold, or disposed of as slaves, or to be held to service or labour: and if any ship or vessel shall be so fitted out for the purpose aforesaid, or shall be caused to sail so as aforesaid, every such ship or vessel, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, shall be forfeited to the United States, and shall be liable to be seized, prosecuted, and condemned in any of the circuit courts or district courts, for the district where the said ship or vessel may be found or seized.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That all and every person so building, fitting out, equipping, loading, or otherwise preparing or sending away, any ship or vessel, knowing or intending that the same shall be employed in such trade or business, from and after the first day of January, one thousand



eight hundred and eight, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, or any ways aiding or abetting therein, shall severally forfeit and pay twenty thousand dollars, one moiety thereof to the use of the United States, and the other moiety to the use of any person or persons who shall sue for and prosecute the same to effect.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, If any citizen or citizens of the United States, or any person resident within the jurisdiction of the same, shall, from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, take on board, receive or transport from any of the coasts or kingdoms of Africa, or from any other foreign kingdom, place, or country, any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, in any ship or vessel, for the purpose of selling them in any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States as slaves, or to be held to service or labour, or shall be in any ways aiding or abetting therein, such citizen or citizens, or person, shall severally forfeit and pay five thousand dollars, one moiety thereof to the use of any person or persons who shall sue for and prosecute the same to effect; and every such ship or vessel in which such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, shall have been taken on board, received, or transported as aforesaid, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the goods and effects which shall be found on board the same, shall be forfeited to the United States, and shall be liable to be seized, prosecuted, and condemned in any of the circuit courts or district courts in the district where the said ship or vessel may be found or seized. And neither the importer, nor any person or persons claiming from or under him, shall hold any right or title whatsoever to any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, nor to the service or labour thereof, who may be imported or brought within the United States, or territories thereof, in violation of this law, but the same shall remain subject to any regulations not contravening the provisions of this act, which the legislatures of the several states or territories at any time hereafter may make, for disposing of any such negro, mulatto, or person of colour.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That if any citizen or citizens of the United States, or any other person resident within the jurisdiction of the same, shall, from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, take on board any ship or vessel from any of the coasts or kingdoms of Africa, or from any other foreign kingdom, place, or country, any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, with intent to sell him, her, or them, for a slave, or slaves, or to be held to service or labour, and shall transport the same to any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, and there sell such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, so transported as aforesaid, for a slave, or to be held to service or labour, every such offender shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and being thereof convicted before any court having competent jurisdiction, shall suffer imprisonment for not more than ten years nor less than five years, and be fined not exceeding ten thousand dollars, nor less than one thousand dollars.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons whatsoever, shall, from and after the first day of January, one



thousand eight hundred and eight, purchase or sell any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, for a slave, or to be held to service or labour, who shall have been imported, or brought from any foreign kingdom, place, or country, or from the dominions of any foreign state, immediately adjoining to the United States, into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, after the last day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seven, knowing at the time of such purchase or sale, such negro, mulatto or person of colour, was so brought within the jurisdiction of the Unified States, as aforesaid, such purchaser and seller shall severally forfeit and pay for every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, so purchased or sold as aforesaid, eight hundred dollars; one moiety thereof to the United States, and the other moiety to the use of any person or persons who shall sue for and prosecute the same to effect: Provided, that the aforesaid forfeiture shall not extend to the seller or purchaser of any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, who may be sold or disposed of in virtue of any regulation which may hereafter be made by any of the legislatures of the several states in that respect, in pursuance of this act, and the constitution of the United States.

SEC. 7. And be it further enacted, That if any ship or vessel shall be found, from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, in any river, port, bay, or harbor, or on the high seas, within the jurisdictional limits of the United States, or hovering on the coast thereof, having on board any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, for the purpose of selling them as slaves, or with intent to land the same, in any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, contrary to the prohibition of this act, every such ship or vessel, together with her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the goods or effects which shall be found on board the same, shall be forfeited to the use of the United States, and may be seized, prosecuted, and condemned, in any court of the United States, having jurisdiction thereof. And it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, and he is hereby authorized, should he deem it expedient, to cause any of the armed vessels of the United States to be manned and employed to cruise on any part of the coast of the United States, or territories thereof, where he may judge attempts will be made to violate the provisions of this act, and to instruct and direct the commanders of armed vessels of the United States, to seize, take, and bring into any port of the United States all such ships or vessels, and moreover to seize, take, and bring into any port of the United States all ships or vessels of the United States, wheresoever found on the high seas, contravening the provisions of this act, to be proceeded against according to law, and the captain, master, or commander of every such ship or vessel, so found and seized as aforesaid, shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall be liable to be prosecuted before any court of the United States, having jurisdiction thereof; and being thereof convicted, shall be fined not exceeding ten thousand dollars, and be imprisoned not less than two years, and not exceeding four years. And the proceeds of all ships and vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the goods and effects on board of them, which shall be so seized, prosecuted and condemned, shall be divided equally between the United States and the officers and men who shall make such seizure,



take, or bring the same into port for condemnation, whether such seizure be made by an armed vessel of the United States, or revenue cutters thereof, and the same shall be distributed in like manner, as is provided by law, for the distribution of prizes taken from an enemy: Provided, that the officers and men, to be entitled to one half of the proceeds aforesaid, shall safe keep every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, found on board of any ship or vessel so by them seized, taken, or brought into port for condemnation, and shall deliver every such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, to such person or persons as shall be appointed by the respective states, to receive the same, and if no such person or persons shall be appointed by the respective states, they shall deliver every such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, to the overseers of the poor of the port or place where such ship or vessel may be brought or found, and shall immediately transmit to the governor or chief magistrate of the state, an account of their proceedings, together with the number of such Negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour, and a descriptive list of the same, that he may give directions respecting such Negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour.

SEC. 8. And be it further enacted, That no captain, master or commander of any ship or vessel, of less burthen than forty tons, shall, from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, take on board and transport any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, to any port or place whatsoever, for the purpose of selling or disposing of the same as a slave, or with intent that the same may be sold or disposed of to be held to service or labour, on penalty of forfeiting for every such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, so taken on board and transported, as aforesaid, the sum of eight hundred dollars; one moiety thereof to the use of the United States, and the other moiety to any person or persons who shall sue for, and prosecute the same to effect: Provided however, That nothing in this section shall extend to prohibit the taking on board or transporting on any river, or inland bay of the sea, within the jurisdiction of the United States, any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, (not imported contrary to the provisions of this act) in any vessel or species of craft whatever.

SEC. 9. And be it further enacted, That the captain, master, or commander of any ship or vessel of the burthen of forty tons or more, from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, sailing coastwise, from any port in the United States, to any port or place within the jurisdiction of the same, having on board any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, for the purpose of transporting them to be sold or disposed of as slaves, or to be held to service or labour, shall, previous to the departure of such ship or vessel, make out and subscribe duplicate manifests of every such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, on board such ship or vessel, therein specifying the name and sex of each person, their age and stature, as near as may be, and the class to which they respectively belong, whether negro, mulatto, or person of colour, with the name and place of residence of every owner or shipper of the same, and shall deliver such manifests to the collector of the port, if there be one, otherwise to the surveyor, before whom the captain, master, or commander, together with the owner or shipper, shall severally swear or affirm to the best of their knowledge and belief, that the



persons therein specified were not imported or brought into the United States, from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, and that under the laws of the state, they are held to service or labour; whereupon the said collector or surveyor shall certify the same on the said manifests, one of which he shall return to the said captain, master, or commander, with a permit, specifying thereon the number, names, and general description of such persons, and authorizing him to proceed to the port of his destination. And if any ship or vessel, being laden and destined as aforesaid, shall depart from the port where she may then be, without the captain, master, or commander having first made out and subscribed duplicate manifests, of every negro, mulatto, and person of colour, on board such ship or vessel, as aforesaid, and without having previously delivered the same to the said collector or surveyor, and obtained a permit, in manner as herein required, or shall, previous to her arrival at the port of her destination, take on board any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, other than those specified in the manifests, as aforesaid, every such ship or vessel, together with her tackle, apparel and furniture, shall be forfeited to the use of the United States, and may be seized, prosecuted and condemned in any court of the United States having jurisdiction thereof; and the captain, master, or commander of every such ship or vessel, shall moreover forfeit, for every such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, so transported, or taken on board, contrary to the provisions of this act, the sum of one thousand dollars, one moiety thereof to the United States, and the other moiety to the use of any person or persons who shall sue for and prosecute the same to effect.

SEC. 10. And be it further enacted, That the captain, master, or commander of every ship or vessel, of the burthen of forty tons or more, from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, sailing coastwise, and having on board any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, to sell or dispose of as slaves, or to be held to service or labour, and arriving in any port within the jurisdiction of the United States, from any other port within the same, shall, previous to the unlading or putting on shore any of the persons aforesaid, or suffering them to go on shore, deliver to the collector, if there be one, or if not, to the surveyor residing at the port of her arrival, the manifest certified by the collector or surveyor of the port from whence she sailed, as is herein before directed, to the truth of which, before such officer, he shall swear or affirm, and if the collector or surveyor shall be satisfied therewith, he shall thereupon grant a permit for unlading or suffering such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, to be put on shore, and if the captain, master, or commander of any such ship or vessel being laden as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to deliver the manifest at the time and in the manner herein directed, or shall land or put on shore any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, for the purpose aforesaid, before he shall have delivered his manifest as aforesaid, and obtained a permit for that purpose, every such captain, master, or commander, shall forfeit and pay ten thousand dollars, one moiety thereof to the United States, the other moiety to the use of any person or persons who shall sue for and prosecute the same to effect.



W.E. Burghardt Du Bois: The first great goal of anti-slavery effort in the United States had been, since the Revolution, the suppression of the slave-trade by national law. It would hardly be too much to say that the Haytian revolution, in addition to its influence in the years from 1791 to 1806, was one of the main causes that rendered the accomplishment of this aim possible at the earliest constitutional moment. To the great influence of the fears of the South was added the failure of the French designs on Louisiana, of which Toussaint L'Ouverture was the most probable cause. The cession of Louisiana in 1803 challenged and aroused the North on the slavery question again; put the Carolina and Georgia slave-traders in the saddle, to the dismay of the Border States; and brought the whole slave-trade question vividly before the public conscience. Another scarcely less potent influence was, naturally, the great anti-slavery movement in England, which after a mighty struggle of eighteen years was about to gain its first victory in the British Act of 1807.

President Jefferson, in his pacificatory message of December 2, 1806, said:

"I congratulate you, fellow-citizens, on the approach of the period at which you may interpose your authority constitutionally, to withdraw the citizens of the United States from all further participation in those violations of human rights which have been so long continued on the unoffending inhabitants of Africa, and which the morality, the reputation, and the best interests of our country, have long been eager to proscribe. Although no law you may pass can take prohibitory effect till the first day of the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, yet the intervening period is not too long to prevent, by timely notice, expeditions which cannot be completed before that day."¹⁶

In pursuance of this recommendation, the very next day Senator Bradley of Vermont introduced into the Senate a bill which, after a complicated legislative history, became the Act of March 2, 1807, prohibiting the African slave-trade.¹⁷

Three main questions were to be settled by this bill: first, and most prominent, that of the disposal of illegally imported Africans; second, that of the punishment of those concerned in the importation; third, that of the proper limitation of the interstate traffic by water.

The character of the debate on these three questions, as well as the state of public opinion, is illustrated by the fact that forty of the sixty pages of officially reported debates are devoted to the first question, less than twenty to the second, and only two to the third. A sad commentary on the previous enforcement of State and national laws is the readiness with which it was admitted that wholesale violations of the law would take place; indeed, Southern men declared that no strict law against the slave-trade could be executed in the South, and that it was only by playing on the motives of personal interest that the trade could be checked. The question of punishment indicated

16. HOUSE JOURNAL (reprinted 1826), 9th Congress 2d session, V. 468.

17. Cf. below, § 59.



the slowly changing moral attitude of the South toward the slave system. Early boldly said, "A large majority of people in the Southern States do not consider slavery as even an evil."¹⁸ The South, in fact, insisted on regarding man-stealing as a minor offence, a "misdemeanor" rather than a "crime." Finally, in the short and sharp debate on the interstate coastwise trade, the growing economic side of the slavery question came to the front, the vested interests' argument was squarely put, and the future interstate trade almost consciously provided for.

From these considerations, it is doubtful as to how far it was expected that the Act of 1807 would check the slave traffic; at any rate, so far as the South was concerned, there seemed to be an evident desire to limit the trade, but little thought that this statute would definitively suppress it.

W.E. Burghardt Du Bois: The next point in importance was that of the punishment of offenders. The half-dozen specific propositions reduce themselves to two: 1. A violation should be considered a crime or felony, and be punished by death; 2. A violation should be considered a misdemeanor, and be punished by fine and imprisonment.¹⁹

Advocates of the severer punishment dwelt on the enormity of the offence. It was "one of the highest crimes man could commit," and "a captain of a ship engaged in this traffic was guilty of murder."²⁰ The law of God punished the crime with death, and any one would rather be hanged than be enslaved.²¹ It was a peculiarly deliberate crime, in which the offender did not act in sudden passion, but had ample time for reflection.²² Then, too, crimes of much less magnitude are punished with death. Shall we punish the stealer of \$50 with death, and the man-stealer with imprisonment only?²³ Piracy, forgery, and fraudulent sinking of vessels are punishable with death, "yet these are crimes only against property; whereas the importation of slaves, a crime committed against the liberty of man, and inferior only to murder or treason, is accounted nothing but a misdemeanor."²⁴ Here, indeed, lies the remedy for the evil of freeing illegally imported Negroes, — in making the penalty so severe that none will be brought in; if the South is sincere, "they will unite to a man to execute the law."²⁵ To free such Negroes is dangerous; to enslave them, wrong; to return them, impracticable; to indenture them, difficult, — therefore, by a

18. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 238.

19. There were about six distinct punishments suggested: —

1. Forfeiture, and fine of \$5000 to \$10,000 (Early's bill: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 167).

2. Forfeiture and imprisonment (amendment to Senate bill: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 231, 477, 483).

3. Forfeiture, imprisonment from 5 to 10 years, and fine of \$1000 to \$10,000 (amendment to amendment of Senate bill: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 228, 483).

4. Forfeiture, imprisonment from 5 to 40 years, and fine of \$1000 to \$10,000 (Chandler's amendment: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 228).

5. Forfeiture of all property, and imprisonment (Pitkin: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 188).

6. Death (Smilie: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 189-90; bill reported to House, Dec. 19: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 190; Senate bill as reported to House, Jan. 28).

20. Smilie: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 189-90.

21. Tallmadge: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 233; Olin: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 237.

22. Ely: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 237.

23. Smilie: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 236. Cf. Sloan: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 232.

24. Hastings: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 228.

25. Dwight: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 241; Ely: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 232.



death penalty, keep them from being imported.²⁶ Here the East had a chance to throw back the taunts of the South, by urging the South to unite with them in hanging the New England slave-traders, assuring the South that "so far from charging their Southern brethren with cruelty or severity in hanging them, they would acknowledge the favor with gratitude."²⁷ Finally, if the Southerners would refuse to execute so severe a law because they did not consider the offence great, they would probably refuse to execute any law at all for the same reason.²⁸

The opposition answered that the death penalty was more than proportionate to the crime, and therefore "immoral."²⁹ "I cannot believe," said Stanton of Rhode Island, "that a man ought to be hung for only stealing a negro."³⁰ It was argued that the trade was after all but a "transfer from one master to another;"³¹ that slavery was worse than the slave-trade, and the South did not consider slavery a crime: how could it then punish the trade so severely and not reflect on the institution?³² Severity, it was said, was also inexpedient: severity often increases crime; if the punishment is too great, people will sympathize with offenders and will not inform against them. Said Mr. Mosely: "When the penalty is excessive or disproportioned to the offence, it will naturally create a repugnance to the law, and render its execution odious."³³ John Randolph argued against even fine and imprisonment, "on the ground that such an excessive penalty could not, in such case, be constitutionally imposed by a Government possessed of the limited powers of the Government of the United States."³⁴

The bill as passed punished infractions as follows: -

For equipping a slaver, a fine of \$20,000 and forfeiture of the ship.

For transporting Negroes, a fine of \$5000 and forfeiture of the ship and Negroes.

For transporting and selling Negroes, a fine of \$1000 to \$10,000, imprisonment from 5 to 10 years, and forfeiture of the ship and Negroes.

For knowingly buying illegally imported Negroes, a fine of \$800 for each Negro, and forfeiture.

W.E. Burghardt Du Bois: The first proposition was to prohibit the coastwise slave-trade altogether,³⁵ but an amendment reported to the House allowed it "in any vessel or species of craft whatever." It is probable that the first proposition would have prevailed, had it not been for the vehement opposition of Randolph and Early.³⁶ They probably foresaw the value which

26. Mosely: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 234-5.

27. Tallmadge: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 232, 234. Cf. Dwight: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 241.

28. Varnum: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 243.

29. Elmer: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 235.

30. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 240.

31. Holland: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 240.

32. Early: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 238-9; Holland: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 239.

33. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 233. Cf. Lloyd: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 237; Ely: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 232; Early: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 238-9.

34. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 484.

35. This was the provision of the Senate bill as reported to the House. It was over the House amendment to this that the Houses disagreed. Cf. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 484.



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Virginia would derive from this trade in the future, and consequently Randolph violently declared that if the amendment did not prevail, "the Southern people would set the law at defiance. He would begin the example." He maintained that by the first proposition "the proprietor of sacred and chartered rights is prevented the Constitutional use of his property."³⁷ The Conference Committee finally arranged a compromise, forbidding the coastwise trade for purposes of sale in vessels under forty tons.³⁸ This did not suit Early, who declared that the law with this provision "would not prevent the introduction of a single slave."³⁹ Randolph, too, would "rather lose the bill, he had rather lose all the bills of the session, he had rather lose every bill passed since the establishment of the Government, than agree to the provision contained in this slave bill."⁴⁰ He predicted the severance of the slave and the free States, if disunion should ever come. Congress was, however, weary with the dragging of the bill, and it passed both Houses with the compromise provision. Randolph was so dissatisfied that he had a committee appointed the next day, and introduced an amendatory bill. Both this bill and another similar one, introduced at the next session, failed of consideration.⁴¹



March 3, Tuesday: A British fleet again forced the Dardanelles, hoping to intimidate Turkey into the war. The Turks, their defenses newly strengthened, sank two British ships killing 600 seamen.

Article I of [the Constitution](#) had granted the new federal government a power to "suppress insurrections." A federal legislative act of May 2, 1792 had implemented this by authorizing the President to use the militia to suppress insurrections upon notification by a federal associate justice or district judge that the execution of the laws was impeded by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings. Then an act of February 28, 1795 had enlarged this by authorizing the President, on application of the legislature of a state, or of that state's Governor if the legislature could not be convened, to call forth the militia of other states to suppress an insurrection against the government of that state. On this day the federal legislature finalized the Insurrection Act of 1807, laying down the procedures by which the federal Administrative branch might federalize local law enforcement in order to suppress an insurrection: first the President was to order the "insurgents to disperse" — then if this did not happen, whatever force the armed agents of the federal power needed to apply would be legitimated. The federal military could consider itself to be part of a *posse comitatus* and act to enforce domestic law: "[I]n all cases of insurrection or obstruction of the laws, either of the United States or of any individual state or territory, where it is lawful for the president of the United States to call forth the militia for the purpose of suppressing such insurrection, or of causing the laws to be duly executed, it shall be lawful for him to employ, for the same purposes, such part of the land or naval force of the United States as shall be judged necessary, having first observed all the prerequisites of the law in that respect," these "prerequisites" being first the notification of an associate justice or district judge that the execution of the laws was being obstructed, and second the application of a legislature or governor. (Further procedures to put down insurrections would not be needed until 1861.)

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 3 of 3 M 1807 / It has been a favor'd day, a current of

36. Cf. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 527-8.

37. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 528.

38. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 626.

39. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 626.

40. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 626.

41. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 636-8; HOUSE JOURNAL (reprinted 1826), 9th Congress 2d session, V. 616, and House Bill No. 219; ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, 10th Congress 1st session, VI. 27, 50; ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 10th Congress 1st session, pages 854-5, 961.

the precious life has attended my mind for which I desire to render thanks where they are alone due.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 4, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 4 of 3 M / This morning the corps of George Burdeck was found in the water in Job Shermans dock. The looks of the poor creature was sorrowfully affecting it was said he went a few evenings ago from home a dram shop on the Ferry Wharf much in liquor but whether he was murdered or drowned by accident is a question in many minds the marks on his face appear'd to be more of violence than accident but be it what it may I hope it may prove a solomn warning to those miserable creatures who sell liquor, for it appears to me the guilt or ruin of many will lay heavily to their charge. The jury found a verdict of accidental death

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 5, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5 day 5 of 3 M / Pretty good Silent meetings I desire to be thankful for every favor
The case of G Burdeck being doubtful & many of the towns people greatly dissatisfied with the Verdict join'd by the Jury yesterday, another 24 was summoned this forenoon which 20 to 24 found a Verdict of Willful Murder*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 8, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*1 day 8 of 3 M 1807 / In our morning meeting my mind was painfully barran, & no capasity to get into a better state, but the meeting was uncommonly still & appear'd to be a Solemn favor'd time to others.
David Buffum was unusually livly in testimony from these words "Oh foolish Galatians who hath bewitched you that ye should not obey the truth impressing the necessity of not stiffling the witness in our hearts but to give up to whatever it teaches or manifests to us, adding his desire for himself & us that we may thro' obedience becomes heirs to the kingdom. H. Dennis was also very livly from these words "Are there not twelve hours in a day wherein a man may labor & do all his work but behold the night cometh wherin no work can be done," impressing therefrom the very great necessity of working while time & opportunity is graciously lengthened out to us, and expressed her fear of their being a lukewarm indifferent state among us, & apprised those*

of this indifferent class, of the very great offence th[e]y were in the divine sight, even to be spewed out of the Mouth.

[a grid of six horizontal lines 1 / 4 inch apart and fifteen verticals, as though emphasising the above. This was done with some kind of straightedge, so it was not doodling.]

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 11, Wednesday: Three Piano Sonatas op.51 by Leopold Kozeluch were entered at Stationers' Hall, London.

 March 12, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 12 of 3 M 1807 / If there were none at meeting that performed more acceptable worship than I believe I did, I fear there might as well have been no gathering, for my mind was continually on the fly from one frivolous thing to another, & had not power to raise the pure life in the least degree, if I turned my thoughts towards good things they seemed to rest nearly in immagination, there was nothing in my mind which was capable of true enjoyment

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 13, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 13 of 3 M 1807 / Depression seems to be my lot this evening, nothing but discouragement is before me

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 March 15, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 15 of 3 M / Our meetings were silent in the morning, had some degree of life in the afternoon it rose by intervals, but thro' the day death seemed to have the ballance. I often lament my unprogressing state, but a mear lamentation without exertions to have it otherwise will avail nothing & perhaps only augment the guilt

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March 16, Monday: Publication of Prelude and Air for the Piano Forte by William Crotch was entered at Stationers' Hall, London.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 16 of 3 M / Spent part of this evening at J.E. Junr very pleasantly as to the outward but little alloy in the inward; my mind was gathered & enjoyed some sweetness, it is a favor to have the priviledge of agreeable society, & to a rightly disposed mind may be a sorce of much benefit, but when young people assemble & give way to light conversation it is quite the reverse. in my favor'd moments I have had to lament over a certain clas, & reflect how much good they miss of by chusing companions whose delight is intrifling conversation & vain amusements

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



March 18, Wednesday: 5,000 British troops disembarked in [Egypt](#), intent for a 3d time that they were going to intimidate the pasha. They would capture Alexandria (El Iskandariya) but nothing else.

French troops began to surround Danzig (Gdansk).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 18 of 3 M 1807 / While setting this evening in a sweet company of my youngerly brethren & sisters at my beloved friend DR's my mind was favor'd with ability to breath in secret to the Almighty for his holy help. And the language of my heart was Oh Lord keep me low, suffer no exaltation of self to arise. Some distressing occurrences which have happened, of those who have begun well & made considerable progress in the line of religious duty, & after runing well for a time, then by unwatchfulness have let go their hold & lamentably slidden from the right foundation, was very feelingly brought to my remembrance & a sincere desire was raised that others harms may prove a warning to me

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



March 19, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

19th of 3rd M 5 day / Our meeting was silent & to me a precious opportunity for which I trust my mind was humbly thankful before I went I was brought into a feeling state & reflected on my unworthiness, & queried with myself what benefit so poor & dry a thing as I was could expect to gain by going to meeting, but soon after I was seated, the precious life arose & difused itself sweetly in my mind. The passage which Peter mentions of the Spirits being preached unto in prosin was the chief subject of

my contemplation & I trust my mind was a little introduced into its meaning. There are many whose spirits are bound & imprisoned in wickedness of various kinds, but that which I had chiefly to lament was those who are bound down to the riches of this wor[l]d. Oh that they may be Preached unto by the baptizing power of Christ & aroused from that letergic stupor, which prevents their enjoyment of the liberty which is in Christ Jesus. My mind was engaged to pray for my own deliverance & for preservation from the bond of sin & death

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 21, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 21 of 3 M 1807 / My mind this Morning is in a pretty feeling state & whenever that is my lott I consider it a favor, for I dread that barren unfeeling condition with which I am so frequently tried. it seems to be the result of unfaithfulness, for I believe was I more faithful in times of clearer discernment, I should avoid much of it. In those times when my mind is so entirely void of good, I have no capacity to do any thing & even to look unto the Almighty for help seems like Mockery, but sometimes when I have no expectation, I am suddenly relieved from it by the arisings of the life when I can scar[c]ely tell when or how it comes

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 22, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 22 of 3 M 1807 / Our meeting this Morning was but an insensible time to me, but it was large & very still Anne Greene was favor'd in a livly testimony which affected Some present In the afternoon my mind was more favor'd with the animating influence & to get into a state of feeling, for which I was very thankful

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 23, Monday: French siege guns opened fire on the Prussians and Russians in Danzig.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 23 of 3 M 1807 / Last night I was called to watch with a

sick friend, whose religious remarks in the corse of the night was very comfortable. he appear'd to be in a contrite disposition, expressed a sense of his short comings, & regretted his want of obedience to light & knowledge which he said had been thro' his whole life abundantly afforded. he said the public station in which he had stood had exposed him to many snares & temptations, the grocer [grosser] part of which he had been mercifully favor'd to withstand, but had fallen into many omissions, which on a sick bed had given much uneasiness, & he had seen they were incompatible with a religious life, which was the only thing that would stand us in stead & be as an Anchor at the solemn final change, & in short is all that will render lifesweet & comfortable.

I never more regretted my defect of memory, for there were many observations & remarks, with much solid counsel which he particularly imparted to me, that I should be glad to commit to writing. But one of them were so impressive that I cannot easily forget it "Speaking of the emptiness of profession with out a possession of religion, he said "religion suffers from its empty professors, for the world sees from their conduct that they are not what they profess, & it is that which gives libertineism keenness & weight against the truth.

I was glad of my being with him & sincerely hope if he is restored to helth again that he may be favor'd to put in practice the good resolutions which he has now formed

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



March 24, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 24 of 3 M 1807 / My mind this Afternoon labors under much discouragement from a view of my numerous infermities - indeed they are so many that the language of the poet is pretty well adapted to my condition "Some are flau'd & some flau'd all oer"

Oh dearest father sanctify my heart sweeten & clense it by thy redeeming love.

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March 25, Wednesday: Although in 1805 the British House of Commons had passed a bill that made it unlawful for a British subject to capture and transport [slaves](#), that measure had been blocked by the House of Lords. In February 1806, Lord Grenville had formed a Whig administration. He and Charles Fox, his Foreign Secretary, were opponents of the [slave-trade](#). Fox and [William Wilberforce](#) led the campaign in the House of Commons for a new Abolition of the Slave Trade bill, while Grenville was leading that campaign in the House of Lords. Grenville criticized his fellow Lords for "not having abolished the trade long ago," offered that it was a practice "contrary to the principles of justice, humanity and sound policy." The vote in the House of Lords carried by 41 votes over 20. The vote in the House of Commons carried by 114 votes over 15, and the international trade in slaves was outlawed as of March 1, 1808 by "An Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade" (STATUTE 47 GEORGE III., 1st session, Chapter 36). British captains caught continuing the trade would

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be fined £100 for each slave found on board.



The Slave Trade Act outlawing the slave trade in the British Empire immediately received royal assent. However, it would not stop the British slave trade. If slavers were in danger of being captured by the British navy, captains might reduce the fines they had to pay by having the slaves thrown off the far, hidden side of the vessel to be pulled down by the weight of their chains. Some people involved in the anti-slave trade campaign, such as Thomas Clarkson and Thomas Fowell Buxton, would begin to argue that the only way effectively to end the suffering was to make slavery itself illegal. One month later, Parliament would pass the Slavery Abolition Act that gave all slaves in the British Empire their freedom. (Note that this was occurring 16 years after the Danes had abolished their trade. Note that the US had abolished its participation in the international slave trade on March 2d. Note also that British colonial slavery would continue until 1833, and US slavery would continue until toward the close of our Civil War.)

W.E. Burghardt Du Bois: At the beginning of the nineteenth century England held 800,000 slaves in her colonies; France, 250,000; Denmark, 27,000; Spain and Portugal, 600,000; Holland, 50,000; Sweden, 600; there were also about 2,000,000 slaves in Brazil, and about 900,000 in the United States.⁴² This was the powerful basis of the demand for the slave-trade; and against the economic forces which these four and a half millions of enforced laborers represented, the battle for freedom had to be fought.

Denmark first responded to the denunciatory cries of the eighteenth century against slavery and the slave-trade. In 1792, by royal order, this traffic was prohibited in the Danish possessions after 1802. The principles of the French Revolution logically called for the extinction of the slave system by France. This was, however, accomplished more precipitately than the Convention anticipated; and in a whirl of enthusiasm engendered by the appearance of the Dominican deputies, slavery and the slave-trade were abolished in all French colonies February 4, 1794.⁴³ This abolition was short-lived; for at the command of the First Consul slavery and the slave-trade was restored in An X (1799).⁴⁴ The trade was finally abolished by

42. Cf. Augustine Cochin, in Lalor, *CYCLOPEDIA*, III. 723.

43. By a law of Aug. 11, 1792, the encouragement formerly given to the trade was stopped. Cf. *CHOIX DE RAPPORTS, OPINIONS ET DISCOURS PRONONCÉS À LA TRIBUNE NATIONALE DEPUIS 1789* (Paris, 1821), XIV. 425; quoted in Cochin, *THE RESULTS OF EMANCIPATION* (Booth's translation, 1863), pages 33, 35-8.



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Napoleon during the Hundred Days by a decree, March 29, 1815, which briefly declared: "À dater de la publication du présent Décret, la Traite des Noirs est abolie."⁴⁵ The Treaty of Paris eventually confirmed this law.⁴⁶

In England, the united efforts of Sharpe, Clarkson, and Wilberforce early began to arouse public opinion by means of agitation and pamphlet literature. May 21, 1788, Sir William Dolben moved a bill regulating the trade, which passed in July and was the last English measure countenancing the traffic.⁴⁷ The report of the Privy Council on the subject in 1789⁴⁸ precipitated the long struggle. On motion of Pitt, in 1788, the House had resolved to take up at the next session the question of the abolition of the trade.⁴⁹ It was, accordingly, called up by Wilberforce, and a remarkable parliamentary battle ensued, which lasted continuously until 1805. The Grenville-Fox ministry now espoused the cause. This ministry first prohibited the trade with such colonies as England had acquired by conquest during the Napoleonic wars; then, in 1806, they prohibited the foreign slave-trade; and finally, March 25, 1807, enacted the total abolition of the traffic.⁵⁰

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 25 of 3 M / Called this Morning to see J.L. who yesterday opened an hat shop in this town, & spent a little time with him, as he is young in years & experience his situation claimed my affectionate sympathy, & my mind was affected with desires for his preservation, beyond my capacity of expression

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



March 26, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 26 of 3 M 1807 / I am going to meeting, & wish I had not talked so warmly as I did just now about a matter which might have been finished with but a few words & no warmth of Spirit. I believe every thing of this kind weakens a man in his spiritual condition

No day without exceptions in my conduct, but thro' mercy was favor'd in meetings with the precious influence of the good spirit which rose to an unusual height, for which I trust I was very thankful, & desired to be more & more faithful to the pointings of truth, so as to merit a continuance of heavenly favor. In the first meeting O Williams was concern'd to bear a

44. Cochin, THE RESULTS OF EMANCIPATION (Booth's translation, 1863), pages 42-7.

45. BRITISH AND FOREIGN STATE PAPERS, 1815-6, page 196.

46. BRITISH AND FOREIGN STATE PAPERS, 1815-6, pages 195-9, 292-3; 1816-7, page 755. It was eventually confirmed by royal ordinance, and the law of April 15, 1818.

47. STATUTE 28 GEORGE III., ch. 54. Cf. STATUTE 29 GEORGE III., ch. 66.

48. Various petitions had come in praying for an abolition of the slave-trade; and by an order in Council, Feb. 11, 1788, a committee of the Privy Council was ordered to take evidence on the subject. This committee presented an elaborate report in 1789. See published REPORT, London, 1789.

49. For the history of the Parliamentary struggle, cf. Clarkson's and Copley's histories. The movement was checked in the House of Commons in 1789, 1790, and 1791. In 1792 the House of Commons resolved to abolish the trade in 1796. The Lords postponed the matter to take evidence. A bill to prohibit the foreign slave-trade was lost in 1793, passed the next session, and was lost in the House of Lords. In 1795, 1796, 1798, and 1799 repeated attempts to abolish the trade were defeated. The matter then rested until 1804, when the battle was renewed with more success.

50. STATUTE 46 GEORGE III., ch. 52, 119; 47 GEORGE III., sess. I. ch. 36.

*short testimony among, & in the last several times spoke feelingly & pertinently to buisness. Tho' my mind was favor'd yet I apprehended life to be low & the Seed under Sufferings among us. There was several cases of deplorable delinquency which we had to dispose of, & which cause exercise & pain to Some who travel for Zions Prosperity [travel in the ministry]
Received this Morning an affectionate letter from my beloved friend Susanna Barker which was very comforting & encoraging.*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 27, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 27 of 3 M / Nothing material has occured thro' this day worthy of insertion: more than my mind has been pretty much a blank as to religious impressions. My mind is frequently alarmed at the very swift passing of time, & it seems as if it never was more rapid than at present, to look back three months ago I can scar[C]ely realize the loss, or tell how it has gone, or what improvement I have made in any sense, it seems silently to have fled & left nothing but a blank behind.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 March 29, Easter Sunday: According to the records of the West Church in [Boston](#) as investigated by Judy Fichtenbaum of the Concord Museum, on this day a son, Charles Howard Lapham, was born to Mr [Luther Lapham](#) & wife ([Sophia Dunbar](#) Lapham).

CHARLES DUNBAR

Heinrich Wilhelm Olbers discovered the sole [asteroid](#) visible with the naked eye, Vesta (this was the 4th asteroid to be viewed from Earth).

ASTRONOMY

“Responses to the Litany for chorus” by Samuel Wesley was performed for the 1st time, in St. Paul’s Cathedral, London. This had been intended for last [Christmas](#) but had been postponed until Easter, today.

 March 30, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 30th of 3rd M / Last seventh day I set out to [Portsmouth](#), & when I had travelled near a mile I was so fatigued that I was ready to turn & come home but pretty soon a cart came up the owner of which readily took me in & carried me to my journeys end. here I reflected how unexpectedly we are sometimes provided for, even when things appear very dubious & we are ready to conclude we must give out, no way appearing to advance forward, in the midst of discouragement deliverance comes to our humbling admiration, & I was not a little thankful & even humble for this little assitance I lodged at Cousin Z Chases, & in the Morning went up to John’s & from there went to meeting in a pretty severe

Snow Storm where I had but little life, & if I should judge of the state of the Meeting it was but a dull time After Meeting returned to Cousin Z Chases where I was obliged to stay all night as the Storm continued & increased, therefore did not think it prudent to come home till this Morning, on my way stop'd at Cousin Alice Gould & got home about Noon This visit has not been a time of much religious improvement & I hope have not sustained any material loss, it has been very pleasant as to the outward, feeling an open & or freedom, which reminded me of my juvenile visits to Portsmouth. This Afternoon my friend Loyd Greene called to see me, I feel a love for him

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

➡ March 31, Tuesday: William Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, Duke of Portland replaced William Wyndham Grenville, Baron Grenville as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

SPRING 1807

APRIL

➡ April: George Gordon, Lord Byron prepared more poems for publication.

The epidemic of measles on St. Helena had claimed 150 lives.

➡ April: Mrs. Elizabeth Houston moved with her nine children including her son Sam to a farm on Baker Creek, some 10 miles south of Maryville, Tennessee.

➡ April: Abigail McIntire Patch and her daughter Molly Patch were baptized at the 1st Baptist Church in Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

➡ April: Alexander Wilson had been walking about in Pennsylvania, usually alone, birdwatching in an attempt to prepare the drawings for the initial volume of his Cyclopedia. Once the financial backing had been obtained, Alexander Lawson had agreed to engrave the plates. In this month Wilson wrote to William Bartram:

The more I read and reflect on the subject, the more dissatisfied I am with the specific names which have been used by almost every writer. A name should, if possible, be expressive of some peculiarity in colour, conformation or habit; if it will equally apply to two different species, it is certainly an improper one. Is migratorius an epithet peculiarly applicable to the robin?





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Is it not equally to so almost every species of turdis we have? Europea has been applied by Pennant to our large sitta or nuthatch, which is certainly a different species from the European, the latter being destitute of the black head, neck, and shoulders of ours. Latham calls it carolinensis, but it is as much an inhabitant of Pennsylvania and New York as Carolina. The small red-bellied sitta is called canadensis by Latham, a name equally objectionable with the other. Turdus minor seems also improper; in short, I consider this part of the business as peculiarly perplexing; and I beg to have your opinion on the matter, particularly with respect to the birds I have mentioned, whether I shall hazard a new nomenclature, or, by copying, sanction what I do not approve of.

 April 1, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 1 of 4 M 1807 / I have to acknowledge myself to be a poor hatting [hating] thing, & feel the very great loss which I have sustained thro' disobedience & unfaithfulness

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 2, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5 day 2 of 4 M / I am just going to meeting with but little prospect of setting more than a cypher, as I feel nearly void of good, or of the means of attaining to any feeling in a religious way.
In the forepart of the meeting I seemed to feel a little animation, but soon sunk into dull frame & was unable to rise out of it*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 3, Friday: Mary Carpenter was born in Exeter, England.

[Henry William Herbert](#) was born in London, a son of the Honorable and Reverend William Herbert, Dean of Manchester.⁵¹ He would be educated at Eton College and at Caius College of Cambridge University, and evidently in the process would run up a considerable amount of debt.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*4 OClock 6 day Morning 3 of 4 M 1807 / While I am at watching with a sick person, at this dead hour of night, my mind is introduced into sensations which banishes drowsiness from mine eyes.
Oh! the uncertainty of time & the inevitable certainty of death. How desirable is the object, to be prepared & enabled to meet with calm resignation Such an Awful Scene as is now before me, when the body reduced by racking pain & parching fever is*

brought nigh unto death, then to take a retrospect of our past life & find it has not been so fully dedicated to the service, cause & honor of our God as he has required, but have rejected his tender calls to holiness from season to season, lovingly & mercifully vouchsafed in our hearts, having lived even to grey hairs in a dead & flat profession, without a lively profession of religion, & now tremblingly to stand as at the threshold of eternity deploring our past omissions in life. How dread, how Awful, how awakening to the heart. Awake Awake Oh! my soul & be thou on thy Strictest Search & Watch, "catching each ray" & obeying the smallest monition [cognition] of divine truth, that when called to resign thy clay tenement, & to appear at the tribunal of Justice & Mercy thou may feel the sweet consoling reward of peace for thy faithfulness here & an Assurance of happiness in the regions of celestial Abodes

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 4, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*7 day 4 of 4 M 1807 / I am but a poor blank, & hardly fit to be compaired to a blank sheet of paper, for that is clean & white, capable of receiving useful & spiritual matters from the pen of the inspired, & conveying it to others - but that is not my case for I am not clean, nor in my present State capable of receiving the livly impressions which Sometimes result from a Spiritual communication, being in a dead unuseceptable State. - And the reason of my being thus left is clear to my understanding, it is for the want of Fasting & Watching
Called this evening to see my dearly beloved Aunt Martha Gould who last fourth day was taken very unwell with an heavy cold attended with a pain in her head, & neack & fever. - while Setting with her I was favor'd with a tender feeling & more life than before thro' the day - but after I left there I went to a friends house where by entering into conversation, which was very innocent, yet I evidently felt my strength diminished thereby & a loss sustained*

51. The Honorable and Reverend William Herbert, as the head of the Diocese of the Manchester Cathedral of Manchester, England, has set his name down in the history books by having in 1837 given a flower a name. He designated a flower of the *Amaryllidaceae* as "*Hippeastrum*" or "Horseman's Star" — and since he was a specialist in medieval weapons this has been claimed to have been in reference to a mace-like weapon swung by horsemen during the 14th Century known as the "Morning Star" or "Holy Water Sprinkler." Here is an image of the knightly weapon in question, and of the bloom in question:



It would be my opinion that if the Reverend Herbert did actually name this bloom after this device, he must have named it thus not because of any resemblance between the flower and the weapon, but because of the resemblance between the flower and a **wound** that might result from the use of that weapon.

 April 5, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 5 of 4 M / Our Meeting this mornng was large & much favor'd. D Buffum was also favor'd in public testimony, lovingly & pertinently to apprise us of the necessity of our believing in the Light & walking in the light that we may become children of the light & of the day. & at a second Standing, Solemnly impressed the necessity of our thankfulness for every favor from the divine hand, & observed if we kept our ranks in the truth, our lives would Shine among men & we should be flocked unto as doves to the window of the Ark O Williams spoke a few words In the Afternoon OW was again concern'd in a few words which I apprehended left a good savor on the meeting indeed I do not recollect when it felt to me that there was generally a better covering over the meeting. & in the Afternoon especially, my mind was in a tender feeling frame, & I trust it has been a day of some little refreshment to my poor starving mind. I went toward night with several friends to visit the Work & Alms House which afforded sufficient scope for reflection - took tea with R Taylor & spent the remainder of the evening with my precious H

 April 6, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 6 of 4 M / Tho' in a pretty insensible frame most of the day, was this evening brought to a state of feeling & while setting at a friends house a book was read containing, some humorous Anecdotes, which excited an innocent mirth, (if any mirth is innocent) but what was contained in an excellent letter which I have read many times much to my edification was feelingly presented to my mind, & enabled me to draw from an assimilation therewith the words are as follows "Carefully avoid books of entertainment that divert & make one laugh for be assured, the more they please the natural mind, the more they displease & grieve the spirit of God. Oh turn them out of your dwelling, let them not come into your hearts, they are poison to the soul, & if followed after, with other jaiding [wearying] enjoyments, will lead down to the shadow of Death

 April 7, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 7 of 4 M / I feel & really am a poor inanimate thing, in every sense of the word. Oh that there was more of the precious sap of life circulating in my mind, where shall I find it, how shall I obtain it?

The above was written in the morn[in]g since which my feeling have been much different, it has seemed as if the seal of the fountain of life was a little broken & the waters thereof had issued out to the tendering & refreshing of my heart. Oh that I may be preserved in an humble thankful spirit for every favor is at time the ardent breathing of my Soul - Spent part of the evening at Sam'l Thurstons, very pleasantly, with some of my female friends among whom, was my precious H.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 8, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 8 of 4 M / This evening walked over on the Point, thinking to call at Thos' Robinsons to see our Dear Rowland Greene who is here on a religious visit & is visiting familys, but when I got there my mind was so weak that I walked by & feared my company would be a burden to their minds. I know of no time when I was more incompassed with weakness, I apprehended I felt a degree of the same consciousness as Adam did when the Almighty called "Adam where art thou," feeling, sensibly feeling that I was far from that sweet & precious state of innocence which I might have been, had I not from time to time, against the express command of the spirit of truth partaken of forbidden pleasures which had often reduced & impoverished the soul of that divine life & strength which I might have enjoyed.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 9, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5 day 9 of 4 M / At Meeting Our Dear Rowland Greene was favor'd to bear a short testimony suiting the low state of Society. he said that "no people stand more in need of deep seriousness & watchfulness than we do, because none make so high a profession, & therefore we are culpable without it, & queried whether our minds were not placed on things that are visible when we are Assembled for the purpose of Worshipping the Almighty God, & ought to be centered on things that are invisible. he expressed that he had not a prospect of many words & concluded, with these words which he said had been repeatedly sounded in his mind "To thy tent Oh Israel"
My mind is so burdened & oppressed with my sins that I seem to*



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*be secluded from the enjoyment of the precious life & liberty in the truth. I long that the bond maybe broken, & to be created entirely anew, for tho' I have at times long strove to be good, yet I find much of the old nature remaining, & am ready to fear that I shall never be healed of my infermity
Spent the evening at Sam'l Thurstons in company with R Greene whose company was very pleasant to me & can safely say I love him Dearly*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



April 10, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*6 day 10 of 4 M / Was engaged this mornng in notifying Several familys that our Dear R Greene would visit them in a religious way in the corse of the day
This afternoon Rowland & his companion took tea at our house, & soon after we drew into Silence, from his instructing, & truly Authorised communication in our family I was abundantly confirmed, that he is one that is Skillful in the ministry. He said that soon after he took his seat Noah was brought to his remembrance, & he d/had been led instructivly to view him, that he was commanded to build an Ark for which he was buffeted by his neighbors around him, they wondering for what such a Machine was built, but he regardless of their scoffs persisted in the undertaking, having received sufficient testimony & confirmation that the time was soon hastning that it would be necessary, & accordingly followed the exact dimentions prescribed therefor, & soon the floods come which destroyed all but those who were conformible to the divine direction, here he pointed out the necessity of our preparing a spiritual Ark to sustain & support us in the solemn & trying time that was hastning on all flesh, advising us to be regardless of what may be said of the singularity of our appearances in performing what the Lord may direct, enduring the Cross, dispising the shame &c I was truly thankful for the opportunity, as perhaps my mind was more covered with a covering of the right thing than I ever remember it to be before "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth Salvation; that Saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth"*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



1807

1807



April 11, Saturday: When Spanish soprano Isabella Angela Colbran performed in Bologna, this was Gioachino Rossini's initial glimpse of his future mistress and wife.

[Robert Bulkeley Emerson](#) was born in [Boston](#), a son of the [Reverend William Emerson, Jr.](#) with [Ruth Haskins Emerson](#), named perhaps after [Bulkeley Emerson](#) of Newburyport, Massachusetts (1732-1801), an entrepreneur.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 11 of 4 M / When the buisness of the day was over, towards night went to Connanicut with R. Greene & J Lankson to be at meeting tomorrow. we lodged at Cousin J Greenes, & the next mornng took a memorable walk with my dearest R in which he was very communicative on Subjects which interested my feelings as well as instructive to my mind. he gave some particulars of his present journey, & visits to some of the familys in [Newport](#), some pleasant some painful, but on the whole a pleasant prospect among the Youth of our Moy [Monthly] Meeting. & some hopeful who are not members. The meeting was large and favor'd. Rowland first sympathisingly addressed the little remnant of that meeting that were members with himself, incoraging them to hold on their way saying "Fear not little flock it is your heavenly fathers good pleasure to give you the kingdom" - then to the People he preached the Cross & the necessity of bearing it, dispising the Shame, & at a second Standing he affectionatly addressed the Youth, shewing the preference between a pious life & beauty of Vanity & the necessity & beauty of an early dedication to the requirings of truth we dined at J Greenes & after dinner Rowland feeling his mind at liberty to proceed homeward we walked toward the ferry. we had a little sweet conversation, & parted at the wharf in much love & I trust true affection. in this little opportunity my mind seemed doubly united to this my very endeared friend, with whom I have been some Years acquainted & allways found him to be a near sympathising friend, one that is deeply gifted in the divine Mystery having a word of comfort in due season to Such as are afflicted, & to those who are traveling Zion ward, & a Skilful reprovor of unfaithfulness May he with myself be preserved in the truth & finaly become so established as never to depart therefrom After parting with him at the ferry returned to Cousin Greenes & spent a little time with them in a greeable conversation, particularly with cousin Anne. - Then crossed the ferry home, with a large company of rude young men & boys. Several of them were drunk, & used very bad language. I pittyed them & felt thankful that I was not like them. Spent the evening with my precious H - relating to her the occurences of the day & wished she could have partook of our Zest

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



April 13, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 13 of 4 M / A dull day in every sense, indulged in eating too much which is a weakness I'm subject too & wish I could get the better of it, but what good does wicking when there is no exercion to mend

 April 14, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*3 day 14 of M / This mornng fell into light conduct which has since caused inward Suffering, but I fear not so deep as to prevent my giving way to the Same again. - Oh what a poor weak thing I am, what abundant cause for weeping & lamentation to be set up
This evening made a short call at a friends house where my mind was Suddenly dipt in Sympathy, & covered with a precious sweetness Thus now & then I get a season of favor tho very unworthy, for which I desire to be thankful*

 April 15, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 15 of 4 M / Occupied as usual & nothing Material to insert, in the evening made Several calls, to see my friends which was pleasant.

 April 16, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5 day 16 of 4 M / This morning was handed me a printed sheet portraying the cruel sufferings of the Poor Africans both in their passage from their native land, & after they get to the West Indies, the perusal of which affected my mind & aroused an old concern which I have long felt but never gave up to conform to it is that of abstaining from the produce raised or cultivated by this poor afflicted race of beings. I hope if it is required of me to bear my testimony in this way that it may be clearly manifested, & that I may be faithful thereto.
We had a good silent meeting my mind was favord with quiet, tho' now and then inclind to rove, & now & then discouraging Prospects presented to my view, but on the whole it was a good time, for which I desire to be truly thankful. in the afternoon wrote to my friend M C if Lynn*

 April 17, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 17 of 4 M / A sweet visit from my dear Cousin A Greene this morning, her conversation & remarks were instructing This Afternoon much unwell with an heavy cold, & this evening under considerable weakness walked out to D Buffums. on the way there my mind was led into serious reflections on the loss & misuse of my precious time, the eveng was Spent in social converse sweet & innocent, but my feelings were Such that I thought best not to enter much into it, & I was not without my apprehensions that an example of silence might be useful to some present.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 18, Saturday: The Principality of Anhalt-Dessau became the Duchy of Anhalt-Dessau and, hey presto, Prince Leopold III was Duke Leopold III.

The County of Schaumburg-Lippe became a principality under Prince Georg I Wilhelm.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7th day 18th of 4th M / But little gained in Purse or Spirit. I'm a poor thing

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 19, Sunday: [Luther Lapham](#) was identified as one of those who, making a publick Profession of their Faith, owned the Covenant in the West Church in [Boston](#).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 19 of 4 M / Too much lightness of mind this Mornng before meeting, but was more quiet than I expected. we sat in silence, & a pretty solid meeting. - In the Afternoon O Williams delivered a short testimony. - after meeting took a walk round the Hall - roving thoughts & fruitless castle building. Oh that I could but attain to a greater degree of religious firmness, my mind is often humbled under a sense of my short comings.-

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 20, Monday: [Ludwig van Beethoven](#) signed a contract with Muzio Clementi in Vienna giving Clementi sole printing rights in Britain for the Rasmovsky Quartets, the Symphony no.4, the Coriolanus Overture, the Piano Concerto no.4, and the Violin Concerto.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 20 of 4 M / This eveng called at a couple of friends houses, at the first our conversation turned on the subject of simplicity, & my mind was pretty zealously engaged to inforce the necessity of our keeping to plainness in our furniture & apparel, believing that many who begin pretty well & feel that their peace depends much on their dwelling low, after they have lived a little while & their outward circumstances beginning to grow more easy, They begin to query why, such a little thing may not be got, & another & another till at length, our houses & persons can hardly be distinguished from those who never did profess plainness, & am often impressed with the danger there is in gratifying our inclinations with what may be called little nonessentials, & feel an ardent desire that I & my brethren may be preserved in the pure Simplicity, when we are first called to bear testimony to truth the mind is generally in a little humble frame, & we grow scrupulous of many little things in dress & address, which wounds our tender feelings & are willing to bear the cross in renouncing them. but by & by, the cross of them is taken away, & here the enemy takes the advantage, & suggests this little thing & another till we become calous & forget the days of our espousals, the days when we were humble & low, & were willing to be led out of the Wilderness as by the hand of our God, on whose arm Alone was our only dependance. That I may ever keep in humble rmemberance those precious & blessed days is at times the most anxious breathing desires of my soul

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 21, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 21 of 4 M / Occupied in trade, & finished a letter which I had begun some days before to my friend MC, tho' very destitute of a right quallification

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 22, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 22 of 4 M / Met with a newly published Book entitled, The Penitential Tyrant or Slave Holder reformed which wuted my taste so well that I spent more time in reading it this Afternoon than was concistent with my income. I love to see a fervant Zeal manifested against that henious traffic. it is a subject into which my mind has more than commonly been dipt for some time pst, & indeed ever since I have arrived to the years of maturity I have felt much about it, & had I have borne a more Zealous testimony against it, believe it would have tended more to my Strength, but alaw like many others who are halters, have

shunned the Cross, & having lived so long hardly know where to begin to take it up.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 23, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 23 of 4 M / Attended preparative meeting, in the part of worship H Dennis was concerned in a short but acceptable testimony - In the that [?] for buisness my feelings were somewhat awakened particularly at Some of the Queries Several of which bore sorrowful testimonies of our weakness, & that concerning sleeping I apprehended was answered more full than our state would admit which drew forth a few stammering expressions from poor me

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 24, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 24 of 4 M / Thro' favor I am kept alive in spirit, & as I was walking the Room this evening, thought I never more fully felt & understood the meaning of "Bearing the Cross for Christ's sake."

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 25, Saturday: In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal of having recently encountered a former school classmate, hardened, who "had just come on shore from a [Slave](#) Voige to the Coast of Africa":⁵²

TRIANGULAR TRADE

7 day 25 of 4 M / My mind still under lively impressions & tho' they lead me in the line of the Cross as to the natural part, desire to endure all with patience, if I can but insure to myself the presence of the Lord which is my delight to feel, but Oh my weakness. I'm afraid of falling. Help [?] me Oh Lord. keep me in the hollow of they all preserving hand. This forenoon H Almy called at the shop & after a little pleasant conversation, he appeared inclin'd to sit still, & I willing to join him therein. So after a pause which was attended with a good degree of solemnity, Holder was concerned to make a few remarks on the exellency of a pious life, & the wretched disconsolate State of such who have lived to old age without having conform'd to the dictates of truth, being favor'd from time to time with the visitations of Gods love in their hearts, & now when on the

52. This may have been the brig *Three Sisters*, whose [slaves](#) would be auctioned at the US Customs House in October, or it may have been one of the [negreros](#) *Eagle* bringing a cargo of 180, the brig *Nancy* bringing a cargo of 94, the schooner *Nancy* bringing a cargo of 73, the *Neptune* bringing a cargo of 140, the *Factor* bringing a cargo of 85, the *Lark* bringing a cargo of 95, the *Concord* bringing a cargo of 48, the *Alfred* bringing a cargo of 84, the *Hiram* bringing a cargo of 105, the *Flora* bringing a cargo of 80, the *Ann & Harriet* bringing a cargo of 145, or the *Baltimore* bringing a cargo of 80 — that we know of. There were so many Rhode Island vessels still engaged in this traffic — it was like it was going out of style or something!



graves edge to look back on their past omissions & commissions thro' time not to feel the enlivening hope of peace & rest in the life to come, observing "The child shall die an hundred years old, but the Sinner, being an hundred years old shall perish" he concluded by observing "that tho' our trials might be Severe & our disappointments hard to bear, yet by faithful obedience we may experience a way to be made where no way may appear & hard things rendered easy & bitter things sweet." The above remarks appear'd to reach the heart of poor old G.W who was present with us, so that after Holder left us he appeared quite contrite even unto weeping.

This afternoon a young man whose initials are J.S called in with whom I had a little conversation, & tho' it did not turn naturally on religious Subjects yet it was very pleasant. I believe him to be a young man who has retained a good degree of innocency, thro' a considerable exposure to the vices of the world We Sometimes meet with Some who, tho' they are not in membership with us, yet feel pleasant, & our hearts become drawn into nearness with each other As I believe was reciprocally the case between us. I could but contrast the difference between him & some of my other old School fellows, who in their Younger days were in a pretty good state of innocence, but since they have come to man's estate have run into the various wickednesses of the present day. My mind was not a little affected not long since at meeting a young man with whom I formerly went to School, & then was an innocent lad. he had just come on shore from a Slave Voige to the Coast of Africa, his countenance bespoke a mind exactly suited for the purpose he had been about, he looked so hardened that I could scarcely endure to look at him, & so affected my feelings that I have frequently reflected on his situation with painful sensations many times since

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

("There, but for the grace of God, go I!")



April 26, Sunday: In the Convention of Bartenstein, [Russia](#) and Prussia agreed to pool their forces to drive French troops out of [Germany](#).

John Clarke Emerson died in [Boston](#) before completing his 8th year (his brother [Ralph Waldo Emerson](#) was three).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 26 of 4 M / Pretty good meetings in the afternoon D Buffum bore a livly [testimony] to the necessity of our preparing for the final change, God being just and equal in all his ways would afford sufficient means to enable us to attain a seat in the Kingdom.

Between meetings finished a letter began the day before to my friend J Austin [of] [Nantucket](#) Took tea at D Williams where my mind was cover'd with the precious life. Oh I love to feel it & desire to be found worthy more & more to receive the heavenly Bounty.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 27, Monday: On the Feast of Peregrino Laziosi, Franz Joseph Haydn was carried to the Servite Monastery, Vienna (there was a chapel in the monastery dedicated to that saint and the composer was hoping for a cure for his swollen legs).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*2 day 27 of 4 M / But little life For the evening called at J
E's & Spent a bit of time very agreeably*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 28, Tuesday: 14-year-old Friedrich Günther replaced Ludwig Friedrich II as Prince of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt under regency.

The fine French household furnishings of the deceased [Timothy Dexter](#), together with “the carved images with the pillars on which they stand” from his front yard on High Street, were advertised to be sold at public auction by P. Bagley & Son, auctioneers, “on Tuesday the 12th of May next.”

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*3 day 28 of 4 M / More feeling this morning than Yesterday. led
into sympathy with an acquaintance in affliction
This afternoon about 4 O'clock died Saml Brown, which occurrence
has spread "a gloom profound" over my mind, to reflect on the
truly afflicting & disconsolate situation of the Poor widow who
is now confined to her room unable to see him whom She has lately
wedded, Alas now a cold corps - she is an acquaintance whom I
esteem, & believe She has known & felt the living power of truth
in a remarkable manner to reach & convince her mind. May she be
supported thro' all, & may the present affliction prepare her
mind for a more full surrender of heart to the pure living &
substanceal truth, & may my mind be also awakened to greater
dilligence, at the Awful Scene presented to view.*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 29, Wednesday: The French completed their fortifications surrounding Danzig (Gdansk).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*4 day 29 of 4 M / Nothing material to insert. The day passed as
usual Sinning & repenting*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 April 30, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5 day 30 of 4 M 1807 / At [Portsmouth](#) Moy [Monthly] Meeting [the
following phrase inserted above the line] in company
with a certain young woman. The first was silent & to my mind a
very favor'd time, quiet & solid - the part for discipline was*



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also a pretty good time considering the abundance of buisness before us, but poor me was buisy, & made a bad shot, was severly retorted upon, & very kindly helped out of the difficulty. I hope it may teach me wisdom in the fiture. We dined with Isaac Mitchell & came home.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

MAY

 May: In New-York, Robert Fulton's new "steamboat" device was ready for painting.

 May 1, Friday: Completion of locks around a 45-foot drop in the Merrimack River known as the Amoskeag Falls and consequent opening of New Hampshire's Manchester Canal enabled the river system to handle barge traffic all the way up from Boston to Hooksett, New Hampshire.

CANAL

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 1 of 5 M 1807 / At trade & but little brought to pass, prospects gloomy. but little to say for myself, weakness in flesh & spirit abounds --

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 2, Saturday: The first New-York city tour guidebook, Dr. Samuel L. Mitchill's THE PICTURE OF NEW YORK, was published.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 2 of 5 M 1807 / Pretty dilligently at trade & but little life in religion.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 3, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 3 of 5 M / Good new from NYork, my Brothers James & David have both arrived safe from sea, & also Uncle Stanton James staid but a few days on shore Shipt again in the same vessel & with Same crew for New Orleans, from there to Liverpool, & was to Sail the 27 of last M. The above good news excited in my mind a degree of thankfulness, but was far from raising me from a very dejected state. my faith is almost gone, & my patienve all most



1807

1807

exhausted. glooms surround me, & discouraging prospects present to my view, arising both from within & without, & whether I shall ever attain to any degree of religious firmness, or be so Situated in my outward circumstances, & as to under it prudent to alter my condition in life is yet hid. Oh that I may guard against an uneasy or repining disposition, & be enabled to meet the cross occurrences of life with christian meekness Our Meetings were both Silent & tho' my mind was not tried with a certain kind of death to all religious Sensibility as it frequently is, yet that was a trying low, depressed season, being under various exercises, & among the rest was introduced into concern for an individual who has many times caused much concern for her Spiritual advancement, but of late has appeared to go off from friends, & dwindle in that precious growth In which she once promised an hopeful increase

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 4, Monday: Frances Knapp was born to [John Leonard Knapp](#) and [Lydia Frances Freeman Knapp](#) at Llanfoist, near Abergavenny in Monmouthshire, England.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*2 day 4 of 5 M / Pretty dilligently at buisness, tho' but little brought to pass
Spent the evening in company with my friend SB at D H's, & while setting there reflected on my short comings, & thought what a poor creature I was & the little prospect there is of my being better But was a little comforted at reading a letter which they had received from my friend J Bringhurst wherein he Says,
"Remember me to Dear Stephen Gould, & tell him to strive to hold out to the end in good earnest, then all will be well"*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 5, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 5 of 5 M 1807 / This Morning went on board the packet in company with a large & agreeable company of friends bound to [Greenwich](#) to attend our Quarterly Meeting we had a long but on the whole agreeable passage. when we arrived I called with others at J Caseys & took a little refreshment then proceded out to Thos Howlands where JR & I lodged after breakfast the next morning we came to town & visited most of our fellow passengers, my time thro' the day was much taken up in obtaining subscriptions for a friend who has latly had his house consumed by fire & nearly all his furniture & close [clothes] - took tea at J Caseys & in the evening went over to Hopkins Cooks where We fell into Silence & a most reaching season it was to some present. Dear Lydia Weeks spoke powerfully to a State present among the Youth who had Seen the way minutly Pointed out in which they should walk, & encoraged them to comply with the terms, & they would then be made to rejoice in Judah in Jerusalem - then Rowland Green encoraged us to Strive to be willing, Sincerely



to say "Thy Kingdom come thy will be done" & said he apprehended however amible the disposition if we followed on to know the Lord we should be led much in the way of the Cross, & Said he had felt much for the Youth Present & concluded with encouragement to press forward & to hold ou our way – pretty soon after the conclusion of the Sitting we retired to bed, but for a Season sleep was gone & my mind was engaged in earnest desires for an increase in the root of life. I know not when I have more forcibly felt desires of this kind - took breakfast at HC & was occupied Most of the time before meeting in obtaining Subscriptions

At Meeting we had a precious current of testimonies in rotation as follows Peter Hoxie Rowland Green D Buffum J Casey. then L Weeks in supplication. Daniel Howland & John Baley. Tho' there were many public appearances Yet they all seemed to be well timed & an uncommon degree of Power attending the whole of them. in the meeting for discipline, many pertinent & feeling remarks were made on the answers to the queries, & other business by Moses Brown, J Casey, Rowland Green, Peter Hoxie, D Buffum & O Williams It is Rarely the case that the life continues so sweetly to run along with the buiness in meeting as at this – at the close of the meeting I stoped to receive Subscriptions for the friend affore mentioned, & was enabled to pay him D112.75c which in the corse of today & yesterday was given me for his releaf - after dining at N Greens, took tea at H Cookes - then called at the Widdow Mumfords where I met a precious company of Young friends, we soon drew into Silence & dear L Weeks was again concerned in a precious testimony which I know reached the hearts of Some present - -then Susanna Barker was concerned to address the Widdow in a few encoraging Senteces After which we parted, & I again Lodged at H Cooks, & took breajfaste the next morning, then again embarked with our company for home & got here in about two hours & an half

The satisfaction & precious tender feeling which I have enjoyed at this Quarterly Meeting has exceeded any thing that I have ever witnessed before when from home at any Quarterly Meeting, & I desire to be truly thankful for the little spiritual norishment received at this time, & at parting with my friends there this morning, my mind was deeply affected, & I Said in my heart "I love Greenwich, I love many that are there & some that are not joined in membership with myself"

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 7, Thursday: The Treaty of Finkenstein forced Prussia to join France against Russia.



May 9, Saturday: Friend Stephen Wanton Gould wrote in his journal:

7 day 9 of 5 M / Pretty dilligently at Trade & ruminating on my late visit. Spent the evening with my endeared H who expects to leave town tomorrow, for Portsmouth, where she intends keeping a School the insuing Summer. I may here acknowledge, what diffidence will prevent my doing more publicly that tho' the distance is short & may be easily & frequently traveled, yet it is much more of a trial to my feelings to part with her than I had contemplated, but feeling a belief that it may be for the best Shall endeavor quietly to Submit. May she be kept in holy

rememberance

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 10, Sunday: [Russian](#) troops disembarked at Neufahrwasser (Sopot) to reinforce the defenders at Danzig (Gdansk).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 10 of 5 M / My mind is this Mornng quite dull, but have Sweetly ruminated on my late visit, & desires is raised that there may not be too much of a feeding upon it, but that the mind be drawn more & more from the outward even from the outward Instrument to him who is life & Substance it self, Christ Jesus in the heart

At Meeting this Morning, my mind was roving, but not in so bad a condition at as some times, O Williams stood up & Observed that 'The righteous live by faith, & that it was by faith that we shall see him that is invisible & queried how far we had been occupied this morning in search of this precious faith that works by love to the purifying of the heart' Dear H Dennis then kneels in supplication, & prayed that our hearts might be broken into deep contirtion before the Lord, & that we might be favored to render unto him thaksgiving & praise Honor & renown" This supplication Sensibly reached my heart - oh that it may be kept tender, for I love to feel tender & humble, but Alass it is too often hard & obdurate

At the Afternoon Meeting my mind was more settled, but was unable to attain to that precious life which I much stand in need of - It was Silent Took tea & spent the evening at Saml Thurstons in company with CR & LC & as circumstances were should have given way low Spirits, bout Cousin L by his droll remarks frequently occasioned merriment which Served to divert the mind from a theme rather trying at present

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 11, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 11 of 5 M / Pretty successful at Trade, made a good bargain by Selling a Clock & taking the pay in Crystals, mainsprings & the promise of a ballance in Cash Think I feel thankful for the favor, & hope the disposition may be cherished

Spent the evening at DRs & felt too much warmth in conversation, but believe there was no material damage done - We may hurt a good cause by an injudicious management & at the same time our words may be entirely correct, but for the wont of properly timeing them we sometimes frustrate a good purpose

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 12, Tuesday: The household furnishings of the deceased [Timothy Dexter](#), together with “the carved images with the pillars on which they stand” from his front yard, were sold to the highest bidder by the firm of P. Bagley & Son, auctioneers. The statue that produced the highest selling price was that of the goddess of Fame, at \$5. The statue of William Pitt, the final one with a recognizable identity, garnered only \$1, that of the “Travelling Preacher” commanding only 50 cents presumably for firewood.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 12 of 5 M / Pretty dilligently at Trade. In the corse of the Afternoon have endeavord to make a just estimate of temporal things & find "there is but little worth living for" The illls of life has appeard to overballance the good, but the best way is to seek ability to pray to be supported thro' all tryals, & not repine at any, but meet them as instruments sent to prepare us for the full enjoyment of a better country. May all that is within me be earnestly engaged to seek an inheritance, where none can say "I am sick". My weaknesses are numerous, & I may often acknowledge as with my mouth in the dust that I have been highly favord of the Lord, but I have not been So faithful as is required, yet feel encoragement to press forward a little longer. Oh Lord enable me to hold my confidence in thiee.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 13, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*4 day 13 of 5 M / Our last monthly meeting was adjourned to this day at [Portsmouth](#) to accomodate Matthew Barker Junr that he might publish his intentions of Marriage with Ruth Anthony. As I was a representative it became my duty to have attended, & this morning my mind was brought into a streight on the account which occasioned much exercise, believing I should hardly know how to frame an excuse for my absense but fearing my Shop had been left quite as much as was reputable for one in my dependant circumstances - at length concluded to Stay at home tho' I felt Somewhat condemnd therefor
Could I feel as if any thing Substantial had been gained today most gladly would I insert it
Made several calls in the eveng, but to little amount as to inward life.*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 14, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 14 of 5 M / No public offering at Meeting. The forepart of it was a pretty favord time to me, but before it closed my mind got to roving.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 15, Friday: [Russian](#) troops attempted to break through to the defenders of Danzig (Gdansk) but were beaten back with heavy casualties.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 15 of 5 M / Pretty dilligent at Trade. In the evening walked towards Green End with Holder Almy & Stoped at his brother Job's. While walking it seemed as if I could hardly enjoy the scene enough. The Medows are beautifully green, the air mild, with the singing of the birds, renderd the walk highly delightful, & afforded scope for sweet contemplation

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 16, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 16 of 5 M / My mind is a little impressed with a tender feeling & desires are raised that there may be a more full dedication of heart to the all important Concern. Met this Afternoon with the committee to provide for Friends at the Yearly Meeting time. I'm just going to [Portsmouth](#) where I expect to take Meeting tomorrow my mind is disirous that the precious life may attend my visit

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 17, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 17 of 5 M / Just returnd from [Portsmouth](#). Our meeting there was silent, but to my mind a livly opportunity. I thought divine help was near to that little gathering Lodged last night at Cousin Z Chases & took breakfast. Then called at cousin John's from there went to P Lawtons where I found my precious H in good health & satisfied with her new employment, which was cause of thankfulness in my heart After meeting returnd to PL; & spent the Afternoon. Then walked home & am the least fatigued that I ever remember to be from walking so far in one day. It is now nine in the evening & I am writing this in my shop.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 18, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 18 of 5 M / Not without some little sense of religious feeling, but the spring is low at best.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 19, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 19th of 5th M / I have been setting a little while between

day & dark in my shop, endeavoring to turn the mind inward & see if the beloved could be awakened, & find that he is Still near, tho' he hath apparently long withdrawn his precious life giving presence

Oh Dearest father remove the Stony heart & give me a tender feeling heart of flesh, enable me Oh dearest Lord to draw near unto thee.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 20, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 20 of 5 M / I hardly know what to write except that I have been pretty dilligently at work, & the mind at time brought into sympathy with an individual under suffering. Called this evening to visit my cousins H & A Gould

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 21, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 21 of 5 M / In our meeting for worship my mind was sweetly covered by the precious life, & was favord to get deeper than common. Oh that ever favor may be thankfully & humbly acknowldeged.

In the preparative Meeting OW menioned his intentions of publishing his intention of Marriage with R H at next Monthly Meeting. A A was also reported by the overseers as a delinquent in not attending Meetings & using profane language. both cases sent forward. The latteer excited Some tenderness in my mind, but dare not stand up to express it

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 22, Friday: The trial of former Vice-President Aaron Burr began in Richmond, Virginia. He was charged with the treason of "assembling an armed force ... to seize the city of New Orleans ... and to separate the western from the Atlantic states."

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 22 of 5 M / Not without a little feeling of the right feeling, but on the main a poor destitute thing. Spent an hour at the Couch House to no proffit, but loss of strength & time. In the evening called at D Williams's & passed an hour to good Satisfaction

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 23, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:



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7 day 23 of 5 M / As usual occupied at Trade, attended with a little degree of life

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 24, Sunday: After Napoléon placed his brother on the Spanish throne, Spaniards rose in revolt throughout the country.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 24 of 5 M / From the effect of a pain between my shoulders & a portion of Physic thought most propper to omit meetings, but should have been glad to have been with them & partook of the little bread that perhaps was broken - understood OW was concern'd in testimony forenoon & Afternoon, Also DB in the Afternoon. Spent part of the forenoon in writing the Marriage certificate for M B & R A & the Afternoon in reading S Grub's journal, from which I trust my mind was proffitably instructed. As it has cleared away pleasant, feel a disposiotion to walk out a little this evening to enjoy the Sweet air & the comapny of my friends but as I have not attended meetings feel most easy to keep at home

And now while I'm writing my mind is a little introduced into desires that I may be preserved from the Spirit & Polutions of this wicked world, & the language which arises is Oh Lord renew in me a right Spirit, my many weaknesses & dificiencies are almost continually before me & are Sometimes So magnified that a fear arises that they will never be brought into subjection to that which enables to rise superior to all vain & sublunary [earthly] enjoyments, & nothing short of the baptism of the Cross will work the clensing opperation, many times my mind is in so unfeeling a condition as to religion that I fear a State of insensibility will be the final issue. & from the effect of such a state which I have observed in some (that it is to be feared are very stupid) I can say of a living truth. I have dreaded exceedingly. Oh that the sweet enlivening Spirit of truth may not be withdrawn tho' [through] my own unwatchfulness, but by my constant care, from day to day be replenished, & my mind strengthened & established on the never failing, all supporting Arm of them that are faithful & Obedient.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 25, Monday: [Ralph Waldo Emerson](#)'s 4th birthday.



Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 25 of 5 M / Occupied as usual at Trade. favord this evening with a revival of tender feeling, & while setting at a friends house had deeply to feel my own weaknesses, & was so much engrossed therewith that I had but little or no inclination to join a conversation

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 26, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*3 day 6 of 5 M / Feel but little to rejoice in but weekness, & tho I feel but poor in every sense, there is something under neath that affords comfort.
I have been taking a view of my present State this evening, & have had to believe that before a further advancement can be attained there must be more of a reduction of Self. The mind that is active in its own Strangth must know a being Still, that judgement may pass over the transgressing nature, & Oh that all that is offensive be perged away in my mind I really long that it may*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 27, Wednesday: Prussia surrendered Danzig (Gdansk) to the encircling French.

[Frances Knapp](#) died at Llanfoist, near Abergavenny in Monmouthshire, England.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 27 of 5 M / Another day gone & little or nothing gained. I called this evening at CRs [Clarke Rodmans, Hannah's parents house] & spent the time pleasantly

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 28, Thursday: Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz ([Louis Agassiz](#)) was born in Motier, a village on the shore



of Lake Morat, [Switzerland](#), the son of the Protestant pastor there.⁵³

WALDEN: The mice which haunted my house were not the common ones, which are said to have been introduced into the country, but a wild native kind (*Mus leucopus*) not found in the village. I sent one to a distinguished naturalist, and it interested him much. When I was building, one of these had its nest underneath the house, and before I had laid the second floor, and swept out the shavings, would come out regularly at lunch time and pick up the crumbs at my feet. It probably had never seen a man before; and it soon became quite familiar, and would run over my shoes and up my clothes. It could readily ascend the sides of the room by short impulses, like a squirrel, which it resembled in its motions. At length, as I leaned with my elbow on the bench one day, it ran up my clothes, and along my sleeve, and round and round the paper which held my dinner, while kept the latter close, and dodged and played at bo-peep with it; and when at last I held still a piece of cheese between my thumb and finger, it came and nibbled it, sitting in my hand, and afterward cleaned its face and paws, like a fly, and walked away.

PEOPLE OF
WALDEN

LOUIS AGASSIZ

This is the Vaudois region of Switzerland in which many followers of Pierre Waldo, Waldenses, had holed up during the Middle Ages. The Agassiz family could trace its Protestant roots back into the 13th Century in the canton of Vaud adjacent to Fribourg, and Louis's father was the 6th in an unbroken succession of pastors. –In all likelihood Louis had remote ancestors who had attempted to lead a life like that of Jesus!

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 28 of 5 M / Attended our Moy [Monthly] Meeting which was held in town, the part for worship to my mind was a time of quiet & I trust a degree of strength was acquired. Holder Almy was concerned to encourage those whose minds were also in a Situation to say "teach me the right way & guide me therein". Also enfor[ced] the necessity of our faithfulness in little things & said they that were faithful in the little should be made ruler over much. & at a Second Standing appeared much engaged to encourage us to the use of the plain language & simplicity in dress

The part for discipline was a season of labor some trying cases were before us, but generally appeared to end pretty well Matthew Barker & Ruth Anthony had their Answer & were at liberty to marry marry. Such a poor tool as I am was appointed with a better to oversee their Marriage Obadiah Williams & Ruth Hadwen published their intentions of the same kind. Oh that I may be favored to dwell deep in the Spirit of my mind, Surely the present low State of things require that, the Youth as well as those more advanced should strive to support the tottering fabrick. I desire to be kept humble & low that nothing of the creature may move me to be active in Society. & from my present Standing there is abundant need that I get often to the watch tower, & even to the place of fasting, that every particle of the creaturely will may be Subjected.

53. One explanation for the unintelligibility of the popular song "Louie, Louie," in which the only words on which people have been able to agree are "Louie, Louie," is that it was written by little Jean Louis Rodolphe's papa, who spoke only an obscure Swiss dialect, to sing to him in the evenings in his cradle.



1807

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RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 May 29, Friday: The Ottoman Sultan Selim III was deposed by Mustafa IV, son of Abdulhamid I.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*6 day 29 of 5 M / What shall I Say? another day past & a want
of the Substantial food is Still witnessed
Labor under some inconveniences with a pain in my side for
Several days & do not find it to be materially better, or much
worse, it has occasioned Some anxiety, but hope to be favord
with patience & resignation come what may come*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

1807

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May 30, Saturday: According to an article in the Caledonian Mercury of Edinburgh, Scotland for June 8, Monday, 1807, copied from the London Gazette, the “WAR-OFFICE” had released on May 30th a list of the names of officers being posted to various military formations. This appointments list was lengthy, but we note that the “Ensign John Thoreau” who had been posted to the “4th Foot” on November 3, 1804 was appointed to be “Lieutenant, without purchase” in the 40th Regiment of Foot.



(His Majesty’s 40th Regiment of Foot had for instance fought to drive the forces of General George Washington off of Long Island and away from the port of New-York.)

Without purchase means what it says, that Ensign John had not purchased this position for cash or received it



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through court influence as an English gentleman might do in this timeframe but instead was an ordinary bloke who got it awarded to him merely because of demonstrated military abilities. Since the image portrays an officer of the 30th Regiment of Foot during that timeframe, it will do very well as an illustration of our newly minted young Lieutenant of the 40th Foot named John Thoreau. He was a redcoat.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 30 of 5 M / After writing the above last evening the pain in my side came on & was more severe that had ever been. it occasioned me to look around & consider that if I should be repatience & the anxiety that such a fit of sickness would accasion [occasion?] who is now at [Portsmouth](#), was by no means the least consideration, but tho' [through] mercy I am much relieved & favord to be in my Shop today, but not able to use much exercise.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



May 31, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 31 of 5 M 1807 / At meeting this Morning I was but a poor barran peace [piece] of earth & fear arose & has continued tho' [through] the day whether there was any quality remaining in me that was capapble of being so far improved as to Yeald a little increase, to reward the good husband man for his many cares & watering. I was ready like the janduced Man to think others had the complaint beside myself, tho' D Buffum appear livly in testimony, from the Scripture "Steward give an account of thy Stewardship" -owing to the weather's being wet & the wind raw, & my side much complaining, thought best to omit Meeting this Afternoön but have thought since it might have been as well to have ventured it

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

JUNE



June: [Napoléon Bonaparte](#) defeated the Russians at Friedland.



June: [George Gordon, Lord Byron](#)'s HOURS OF IDLENESS.



June 1, Monday: The Principality of Anhalt-Köthen became the Duchy of Anhalt-Köthen. Prince August Christian Friedrich became Duke August Christian Friedrich.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 1 of 6 M 1807 / The day passed as usual at Trade -Somewhat affected at seasons with desires that the work of regeneration may be revived. And Oh Saith my soul at this season, may it be

revived, may all that is within me that is opposed to the operations of truth be totally annihilated. My health is Somewhat improved from Yesterday, which is to be numbered among my many favors

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 June 2, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 2 of 6 M 1807 / A degree thankfulness arises in my heart at being able to insert that it has been a day of divine favor, being released in measure from that hard unfeeling state with which I am so long & frequently tried. A state wherein it seems as if the Streams of divine life wherby a little refreshment from the fountain of life may be obtained - & no capacity to labor for it. My heart this day has been more tender & ability given to turn inward, & pray to the Lord for help. & may my heart be truly thankful for the little Strength afforded Was comforted with the presence of a precious youth who spent a little time in the Shop, he appears hopeful, & of a truly can say my soul was engaged in secret supplication for his preservation thro' paths of Youth

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 June 3, Wednesday: Çelebi Mustafa Pasha replaced Hilmi Ibrahim Pasha as Grand Vizier of the Ottoman Empire.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 3 of 6 M 1807 / The day had passed as usual at my occupation, with now & then a little of the precious influence to arise in my mind, but near the close of the evening was favored with a more free access to the Spring. I desire to be thankful therefor Spent the evening at J Earls to satisfaction. & perhaps to some improvement.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 June 4, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 of 6 M 1807 / In consequences of an appointment from Moy [Monthly] Meeting I expect to attend the Marriage of Matthew



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Barker & Ruth Anthony which will be Solemnized this day desires are raised that I may so conduct myself as to add dignity to my appointment. Oh Lord help my Spirit.

I had a pretty good meeting & the Marriage was conducted in a becoming manner. I Scarcely remeber to have been at so quiet a Meeting or to have heard s couple speak more Audible - The company at the house was small & orderly. How beautiful is the appearance to see young people conforming to the good & wholesome rules of Society

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 5, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 5 of 6 M 1807 / "Little things are little things but faithfulness in little things is something great". & for want of faithfulness in little things, or things hid from the view of the world, things which are nearly between God & me I fear I shall become a dead lifeless professor. I often experience my Spiritual condition hurt by either omissions or commissions in this way, as has been the case this day, for this morning my mind was in a favord state.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 6, Saturday: Envoys from the rebel Spanish government in Asturias landed in England requesting assistance.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 6 of 6 M / Rode to [Portsmouth](#) with A Barker as far as the meeting- house - from there walked down to P Lawtons Spent a little time with my precious H & then went to Cousin Z Chases & lodged the next morning returnd to P L; & from there went to meeting, where it was a precious refreshing Season to my spirit, a season of renewd favor for which my mind was bowed in humble thankfulness. what I have written is not extravigant for I know not when I have had so Sweet a meeting. H Almy was very livly in testimony

Din'd & spent the Afternoon at PL's with her with whom my heart is nearly & tenderly iunited.

On my way home called at J Brightmans for J Stevens who walked home with me & was an agreeable companion

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 June 8, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 8 of 6 M / The day has bee passed much as usual - rec' a letter from my dear friend J Austin in Albany.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 June 9, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 9 of 6 M 1807 / It is under an humbling sense of my great unworthiness that I insert the favors of this day. Plenty of employment at my trade & still more abundantly to be thankful for; a quiet mind favord with a livly flow of that spirit which quallifys us for prayer. Oh that I may so walk as to merit a continuation of this precious feeling with which I have been favord this day. In the evening called at Several frineds houses & was still favord with this precious influence. Be thankful Oh my soul & render unto God thanksgiving & praise for he hast done much for the[e] Youth to the present day

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 June 10, Thursday: French forces attacked the Russians at Heilsberg (Lidzbark Warminski) but were repulsed with heavy losses. Total casualties were 18,000.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 10 of 6 M / Silent meeting, & a pretty composed mind, but now & then wandered a little. on the whole it has been a pretty comfortable day. Got a little acquaintance with Robt Bragton of [Nantucket](#) & believe him to be a friend of the right kind.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 June 11, Friday: Bayreuth passed from French to Austrian administration.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 11 of 6 M 1807 / I have not felt much of the force of religious exercise but have had a degree of thoughtfulness & feeling thereon. Several friends of the Ministerial class have come to town to attend our Yearly Meeting. The desire of my heart



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*is that we may be favord together & the visitors & visited be
proffited
My dear H came to town this afternoon with whom I spent a
precious bit of time this evening*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 12, Saturday: As the Russian army retreated, the French took control of the field at Heilsberg.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*7 day 12 of 6 M 1807 / It is now nine in the evening. I have
just returnd from my buisness of placing friends at their
boarding houses who have come to attend the Yearly Meeting. it
is an ardiuous task but one that is necessary to be performed,
which reconciles me to do my endeavors in promoting good order
at those places. It is pleasant to see our friends, & very
pleasant to see those on whose faces is the mark of desipleship
of this mumber there are some that I have seen this afternoon
both Young & old, & there are also some who appear to have but
little of the [Quaker](#) in them which causes a very reverse
sensation from the former*

*It is the desire of my heart that my conduct may be so guarded
as not to afford cause of stumbling in any & a desire is raised
while I'm writing that I may be favord to deepen in my spirit &
be some little support to those who are concern'd for the
Churche's prosperity Oh that I may be favord at this our Yearly
Meeting with a fresh Spring of life - to feel my mind
strengthened to hold on my way in the line of relegion, for with
our it What are we? but poor blind & destitute creatures*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 13, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*1 day 13 of 6 M 1807 Yearly Meeting / Our meetings this day have
been large & favord with Stillness but according to my sense wa
s not so much favord with the Spring of life as many yearly
meetings that I have known. In the forenoon the public laborers
were, first Peter Hoxie then James Greene then Sarah Talbot then
Richard Mott in an eloquent testimony of one hour & five minutes,
which was very pleasing to the people, but according to my sense
was not very encoraging to some who are engaged to walk in the
Streight & narrow way. In the Afternoon we had but little
preaching but considering the largeness of the gathering it was
a very quiet time tho according to my sense less favord with the
arising of the precious spring of divine life than in the
morning. The public laborers were first Sarah Talbot, then
Mehitable Jenkins both acceptably. Then a few words by James
Greene. Then the meeting was disturbed by the talking by way of
preaching by one that was not a member but was Soon Stoped by O
Williams who sat near him. The meeting concluded after a lengthy
supplication by Richard Jordan the latter part of which was*



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attended with the Baptizing evidence but according to my sense the fore part of it labored & was couched in such manner that I could not comprehend it. This days service as well as many other circumstances tend to convince me that the greatest preachers are not always favor'd alike

As to my own mind considering the many concerns I have had to attend to, has thro' divine mercy & help been favor'd beyond my expectations

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 14, Monday: A combined force of French, Poles, Saxons, Dutch and Italians attacked the [Russian](#) defenders of Friedland (Pravdinsk) southeast of Kaliningrad (Königsberg) with disastrous and costly consequences for the Russians. Total casualties numbered 26,000 to 28,000.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day / Our meeting [Yearly Meeting] this morning open'd with but little preaching only a few words by D Buffum & a few by E Thornton, but there appear'd as E expressed it "a sweet screene over the gathering" under which we proceeded to buisness & it went on to every appearance pretty well. Our company at dinner was small, & as it happened was well it was so, as the young woman who lives with us is unwell not able to wait on many Our Afternoon meeting was a precious favor'd opportunity. we enter'd into the State of Society as represented by the Answers to the Queries - which acrt[?] of some painful departures from the law & Precious Testimonys given us as a Society to bear, The appearance of the want of care to bring up our tender offSpring in a guarded manner & the complaint of the too frequent use of Spirituous liquors was mentioned in all the answers, occasioned a deep exercise in the minds of many friends & was very powerfully spoken too by our friends [Moses Brown](#) Richard Mott, Matthew Franklin & Thos Rotch. Had a few agreeable friends to take tea among who were Estes Newhall a friend from Lynn that I was never acquainted with before but feels near to my best life I love him much. In the evening walked out & stoped at the door of my friend CR & found them setting in Silence steped in & was favor'd with them to feel that the Shepherd of Israel had encompassed them with his Holy crooke. M Collins spoke very sweetly to a tried state present R Green's testimony was also fraught with comfort & consolation. The Setting concluded in an humble petition to the Almighty for help & preservation by Sarah Fish

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 15, Tuesday: Cheered by the news from Spain, Foreign Secretary George Canning declared in the House of Commons that "any nation in Europe that starts up with a determination to oppose ... the common enemy ... becomes instantly our essential ally."

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day The meeting [Yearly Meeting] yesterday was adjourned



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to the third hour this Afternoon. We were favord to transact the buisness that came before us in a good degree of love & condescention. some excellent remarks were made by many friends & in particular by our friend R Mott & M Franklin. We had several of our Lynn friends to tea & with some of them I was never before acquainted, I love them much, & believe they loved me. Our much endeared friend John Casey called in the evening whose company is allways strengthening to me My mind thro' the day has been favord to witness the extendings of the wing of Ancient goodness to my comfort & incoragement - & in particular this evening desires have afresh arisen that my heart may be renewed, old things done away & new ones brought into dominion But notwithstanding the favor before mentioned my heart hath often been pained under much depression from circumstances which may not be best to insert here circumstances which are but little known to others but often keenly felt by myself

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 16, Wednesday: French forces occupied East Prussia.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day Engaged this morning with a brother committee man in visiting the boarding houses in consequence of some misbehaviour among the young people yeasterday it was reported that some went to the Theatre & others in a Sailing party which occasions much exercise to the minds of well concernd friends -it is a lamentable circumstance that young men & women should come here under pretence of attending the Yearly Meeting & at the same time enter into acts which disgrace our Christian testimony, such had much better keep within their own meetings for instead of being a Strength & comfort to their friends, are sorces of much afflictions - my mind is brought under the precious influence of truth the mind tendrd under aconcern that I may maintain my testimony faithfully & increase & deepen in the root of religion

Our Meeting [Yearly Meeting] yesterday was adjourned to the tenth hour this morning, reading the epistles was the chief buisness our friends R Mott & Matthew Franklin were largely engaged in testimony, & I hope their testimonies were useful - they are both friends of a very easy & agreeable delivery which require their strecit watchfulness lest the creature become exalted - Our friend WmFlanner & R Jordan have had but little to communicate thro' the Settings of the Yearly Meeting We closed under a Solemn sense of the favors mercifully vouchsafed to us at this season & I hope it may [be] to us as bread cast upon the waters to return in due time, for as to my own part I have not been able to feel so much of the sweetening influence of the precious truth in my mind as at seasons of more abstraction, being much in cumbered with cares at the boarding houses as well as cares at home, which obstructs the circulation of that Spirit so desirable to be felt -



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Happened in the evening at Anne Carpenters where was a large circle of my acquaintance & friends, among whom was my precious H it was a pleasant opportunity -

The Satisfaction taken in the company of those to whom we feel ourselves united in pure love is truly delectible. I have had a large share of those of this description in the course of this Yearly Meeting & been favored to entertain them as much to my satisfaction as perhaps at any time in my life - for this with my many unmerited mercies & blessings I desire to be humbly thankful & render unto the Lord the tribute of thanksgiving & praise Oh that all the reprobate nature may be purged away by the power of the Cross, for I am confirmed that there is no other way for us to Deepen in the path [?] plot [?] of truth by coming to the Apostles experience, to "die daily"

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 17, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day [Yearly Meeting] / Here endeth our Yearly Sacrifice - Several of the ministers of the different congregations attends but the meeting was not very large Elizabeth Varney & Sarah Talbot opened the Service & R Mott carried it on in a very lengthly testimony wherein he very clearly proved our doctrine of Perfection & several other points much to my satisfaction. I thought him much favored & hope his labor may be with effect - After dinner called at D Rodmans to take leave of my dear friends M Purinton & wife -them to C Rodmans to part with Micajah Collins & wife all of whom are very near & precious to my best life, & found it not a little affecting to part with them. Oh may the tenderness excited on the ocasion remain with me as a Sweet savor. -

At 5 OClock this Afternoon our friend S Talbot appointed a meeting for Servants of every description I thought of going but considering it was not particularly for people of my description (tho' in one Sense I am a Servant) & feeling my mind to be under great weakness have omitted it. understand it was rather a Small meeting but a favored one -- Spent the evening with my precious H my love has been renewed & Strenghtened toward her in the course of this Y Meeting She is indeed truly precious to me & may she so remain "til time is done"

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 19, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 19th of 6 M 1807 / Our friends having all left us, have begun to today apply myself a little to buisness, which has been allmost totally neglected thro' Y Meeting

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 20, Saturday: A Piano Sonata in G by Leopold Kozeluch was entered at Stationers' Hall, London.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:



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7 day 20 of 6 M / Last evening took Chaise & rode with my precious H to [Portsmouth](#) where she again commences the School (I lodged at P Lawtons Jr.) -This mornng rose at 4 OClock & reached home before all our family were up. it was a pleasant ride, & on the rode this mornng my mind was introduced into an exercise on acct of one that has many times claimed my anxious Solitude for her establishment in the everlasting truth, & the secret Supplication of my heart was that she may be faithful to the offers of divine mercy & tender regard
Been much occupied this afternoon closing the Accts of those who boarded friends at the Yearly Meeting time.
Spent the evening at C R's, & felt more open in conversation than common & believe I kept myself in pretty good Subjection, except once speaking with out sufficient defference.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 21, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 21 of 6 M / In the forenoon meeting Anne Greene preached a little in a very livly manner - I in the Afternoon D Buffum was concerned in a few words at the necessity of a preparation for Death It was a dry day with me as to the spirit of life - Took tea & Spent the evening at Jon Dennis's. it was very agreeable time, but I was unable to feel that precious influence in my mind, which gives the highest relish.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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→ June 22, Monday: Off the Virginia coast *HMS Leopard* demanded the return of four British “deserters” by the *USS Chesapeake*. When the *Chesapeake* refused the *Leopard* opened fire killing 3 and wounding 18, then proceeded to seize the four sailors in question (this would almost produce a war between Great Britain and the United States).

Since, except for the avoidable defenses of Fort Columbus on Governors Island, the city of New-York was unprotected from the cannon of sea invaders, there were mass meetings of the citizenry in this coastal population center, expressive of a “fortification fever.” John McComb Jr.’s [Castle Clinton](#) would be created as a cannon emplacement at the lower tip of Manhattan Island.



Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 22 of 6 M 1807 / Much occupied at Trade, but more life that Yesterday This Afternoon as the Soldiers were passing by the Shop my feelings were arrested with feelings which I hope ever to retain a sense of. I said in my heart surely the Lord has no delight in this, the Drum, the fife & all martial preparations are an offence in his holy eye sight

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

→ June 23, Tuesday: An armistice between France and [Russia](#) went into effect.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 23 of 6 M 1807 / Much engaged at work, but can add with a degree of thankfulness that a precious little current of life has accompanied my mind, so that I have in measure witnessed the Apostles word to be true - "Dillegent in buisness fervant in Spirit serving the Lord" I have this afternoon been arrested with reflections of a serious nature, such as the rapid progress of time, how one day after another goes in quick succession, & we appear regardless of its loss, & many continue in this insensible condition till visited by the pale Messenger, & even then seem careless & unconcerned to the effect of his visit. My mind is not a little affected at the approach of night, the setting of the sun, & desires are lovingly raised that my sun



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may go down in brightness in that no cloud may eclipse it in its progress.

Spent the evening in I trust to some proffit. Called at J Greenes to see cousin Anne - from there went to CR & spent the remainder agreeably.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 24, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 24 of 6 M 1807 / Tho' nothing new or of much importance occurs in the corse of my stepping along from day to day, yet I do not feel quite easy to omit inserting a line or two every day, tho' it may not be of much use to myself [the clause & I am clear it never will be to others is crossed out] & I dont expect it ever will to others, yet this I can say, that it is a Satisfaction to my own mind & in some instances a real benefit

Spent the eveng at D Rodmans under serious reflections - I have had this Afternoon & evening closly to inspect my own standing, to look & indeavor to discover whether there is any growth in the truth, & am lead to fear that I am short of what is requisite I should be. Desires have lovingly risen in my mind that I may be increasingly watchful over my own conduct that I may never wound the precious truth for the cause remains dear & I hope ever may.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 25, Thursday: The Emperor [Napoléon](#) and Tsar Alyeksandr met for the initial time, on a raft in the River Nieman (Nemunas) at Tilsit (Sovetsk) northeast of Königsberg (Kaliningrad).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day mornng 26 of 6 M 1807 / I'm just going to [Portsmouth](#) to attend the moy Meeting desires are fresh in my heart that it may be a proffitable season in the best sense -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



June 26, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day mornng Our meeting yesterday was a pretty good time. Cousin A Greene was concernd to address an afflicted state which she apprehended was present, but for my own part could not get to the root in my mind, tho' I labor'd for it - concerns in the last meeting was conducted with a good degree of love tho' Some of them were much debated, & perhaps might be too active but do not feel as yet much pained by it -

Owing to its being very stormy I went with Several friends in the stage directly to the meeting house It was so uncommonly wet & cold for the season that we had fires & set in the little meeting house.

After meeting I walked to Peter Lawtons & dined & took tea, & had a precious interview with my precious H then came homeward,

*& stopped at Elijah Anthony's & lodged, & this morning walked home
 Occupied thro' the day at Trade, & the mind at times dipt into cogitation not very proffitable -
 Went towards night on bussness to the house of a man who had all things to appearance very agreeable as the the outward, but while I was there my feelings were brought to reflect deeply on the very great insufficiency of these outward for conveniences & gratifications with out the one thing needful to accompany them, & if my feelings did not very much deceive me, there was but very little or none of this real escencial to be witnessed under the roof - & I was ready to cry out in my soul Oh Lord renew a right spirit within me*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

June 27, Saturday: [George Gordon, Lord Byron](#) was at Cambridge, where he met Hobhouse and Matthews and said farewell to John Edleston.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 27 of 6 M / Occupied at trade thro' the day, & pretty much a death as to the best life, but was unexpectedly favord this eveng while Sitting at my dear Aunt Martha Goulds with a little bread which was of a norishing kind. O may I be thankful for it -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

June 28, Sunday: [Richard Hildreth](#) was born in Deerfield, Massachusetts, where his father the [Reverend Hosea Hildreth](#) was principal of the Deerfield Academy (his mother was Sarah McLeod Hildreth). The father would continue to teach, rather than serve as a Congregationalist minister, throughout Richard's boyhood (he would teach for instance at Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire, where Richard would prepare before entering Harvard College).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*1 day 28 of 6 M 1807 / I'm a poor unredeemed thing, the mind much under a cloud - Our meetings were Silent & my mind in Such a State that I am unable to tell whether they were favord seasons or not
 Took tea af[ter] with my cousin Henry Gould & in the corse of the evening called at DWs & CR's*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

June 29, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*2 day 29th of 6th M / Tho' favor my mind has this afternoon & evening has witnessed the tendering effect of the good Spirit for which I desire to be thankful, but Oh my weakness & want is great. I am ready to fear that I do not advance one Step in religion, but am fast loosing ground. Oh the Great care & deep inward watchfulness that requisits on my part. I daily feel the necessity of indwelling but do not practice it as I ought
 Spent the evening at a friends house where I hope I was a little benefited*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

→ June 30, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*3 day 30 of 6 M / Trust I have been favord to keep nearer the life than at some other times
Received a letter from a friend to whom I felt a concern to write at the Yearly Meeting time, (tho' an entire Stranger) by which I felt encoraged to attend to the intimations of truth tho' ever so Small, as it appear'd from his answer that mine was well accepted
Spent the eveng at the Monravian Ministers where was their Bishop & his wife from Germany who are visiting their brethren in this Country. There is a meekness & simplicity in this people correspondent with Spirit of Christianity. & I apprehend I felt a good degree of Sincerity & Sweetness in the mind of the Bishop & his wife with which I could cordially unite - I am abundently confirmed that true religion is not confined to any sect or denomination, but that they that fear God & work righteousness are accepted of him, & that their reward is in proportion to their Sincerity & faithfulness to the light within.*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

SUMMER 1807

JULY

→ July: [Napoléon](#) and Czar Alexander signed the Treaty of Tilsit.

→ July: England's warship HMS *Leopard* engaged America's warship USS *Chesapeake* (some Boston merchants approved of this attack).

→ July 1, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*4 day 1 of 7 M 1807 / My mind is this morning brought into breathing desires that I may be preserved from falling. Oh! that I many be enabled to make any Sacrifice, for the promotion or arising of truth in my own heart. I'm sure as far as I know my oun heart, at times, it is the primacy of it to become redeemed from all carnal will, which I too frequently feel to present itself in religious concerns, the enemy with or by his subilty introduces a Spirit of this kind which in appearance much resembles the Spirit of truth, but not in nature & effect, therefore it becomes the needful care of all to have their eyes annoited with a holy eye salve of the Kingdom that we may not only see men as truly[?] walking, but to see them perfectly as they are.
The day has passed I hope to some proffit my mind has been favord to witness the arisings of life to a degree of consolation, &*



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while I'm writing this evening feel a degree of thanksgiving in my heart to the giver of every precious gift for his mercy this day

I don't know that ever I had a more full knowledge of the depravity of mans heart than this afternoon a very trying circumstance occurred in this neighborhood. - Doctor H who has parted with his wife has long had a will to have the child, & this afternoon found it playing at its Grandfathers E door. he took it home with him but was soon followed by his wife & her father, who was greatly enraged, they soon began to quarrel, & from high words proceeded to blows in the Scyffle the child was in danger of being hurt the cry of murder issued from the Mother which collected a large number round the house in addition to what were there before, & it promised to be a Scene of carnage, but tho' [thro'] favor was prevented as the child was soon taken & brought out of the house -The circumstance is a very disgraceful one & has much affected my mind. Here we see the effects of unhappy marriages. Oh that I may be preserved from Such depravity of mind a Secret prayer is begotten in my soul that I may be preserved from ever giving way to passion - All the time of the noise I remained still in my shop. I was not an eye witness to any of the occurrences -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 2, Thursday: Responding to the events of June 22d, President Thomas Jefferson ordered all British shipping to leave US waters and dispatched a ship to England to demand satisfaction.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 2 of 7 M 1807 / At our meeting this day were Married Obadiah Williams & Ruth Hadwin, it was a Still meeting & I thought a favord one to me it was quite so, for which I trust I am measurably thankful D Buffum was concernd in a Short but livly testimony, he appeard desirous that "If we eate or drank or whatever we did it might be done to the honor & Glory of God" Spent the eveng at the wedding house there was a precious little company Setting around the room. I do not recollect when I felt more Sweetness to pervade my mind than at taking my seat among them

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 3, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 3 of 7 M / The day has passed pleasantly without any painful occurence, save a sense of my want of faithfulness in concerns of my Souls peace. made Several calls this evening, & among the rest on the new married pair who both appeared to be in a pleasant frame of mind. I wish them all happiness, & desire they with myself may be found in the faithful discharge of our duty

My precious H has been renewedly brought near to my best life this evening & I am led to crave - with a degree of bowedness of Spirit that the dew of the everlasting Hills may rest upon her. How Sweetly have I anticipated future happiness when made



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one by Hymens Silken tie & still closer united by the three fold cord of divine love. My heart is bowed under the consideration with humble thankfulness, that the prospect brightens when we Shall be made one – But Alass how faiding & trancient are all things here? we know not what to build our hope upon save the immutable foundation of Truth, a very Small matter may frustrate all our plans of life

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



Our national birthday, Saturday the 4th of July:⁵⁴ In AN ORATION, PRONOUNCED AT BROOKFIELD, UPON THE ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE, ON THE FOURTH OF JULY, 1807; BEFORE A NUMEROUS ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLICANS OF THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER, Levi Lincoln, Jr. applauded [Thomas Jefferson](#), “the sublimity of whose mind first ken’d American Independence and whose pen impressed the solemn Declaration.”

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

In Richmond, Skelton Jones delivered a funeral oration over the men of the USS *Chesapeake* who two weeks earlier had lost their lives due to an attack by the British warship *Leopard*.

In Petersburg VA, people marched through the streets with an “effigy of George III on a pole” and later burned their effigy on Centre Hill.

The new eagle decoration crowning the gate of the Navy Yard in [Washington DC](#) was unveiled to a federal salute and the sound of music.

CELEBRATING OUR B-DAY



In Nizza near Nice, which at the time was part of the French empire, [Giuseppe Garibaldi](#) was born (he would be baptized as “Joseph Marie Garibaldi le” at the church of Saint-Martin-Saint-Augustin in the district Vieux-Nice).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*7 day 4 of 7 M 1807 / There has been much noise about our Streets of Guns, Drums &c as they have passed along my mind was affected with Seriousness under the consideration of the depravity of the human mind. I consider all this parade & extravagance as the result of depraved minds, & many times when I have Seen Such conduct I have Said in my soul "Surly [Surely] the Lord taketh no delight herein" -
Towards evening walked to Portsmouth & lodged at Cousin Z Chases. - The next mornng walked up to P Lawtons where I found my precious H in good health & satisfied that she is in her right place, which to me is cause of greatful acknowledgements of thanksgiving - from there to meeting where I sat under much leaness & want of ability to get to the right sorce till a few minutes before it concluded when the precious life arose & was like a Sweet morsel to my poor roving mind, & I concluded I was not Sent quite empty away. I dined at Joseph Motts & after dinner*

54. This was [Nathaniel Hawthorne](#)'s, or [Hathorne](#)'s 3rd birthday.



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went into the chamber to see my dear old cousin Elizabeth whom I have long wanted to see, for She is one that I loved when a boy & well remember her when I lived with my Aunt Martha Gould, & also her excellent testimonies in our public meetings She recited Some Anecdote of my boyhood which were very interesting to my feelings, her conversation in general was very instructing which made my visit a truly proffitable Season. She Said she was thinking of me the day before but did not expect so soon to see me. She appeard to be much pleased with my coming, & I am Sure I'm glad I went & hope Some of her excellent remarks may never be forgotten but treasured up in my mind as long as I live Spent the remainder of the afternoon with my precious H & in the evening walked home

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 5, Sunday: About 10,000 British troops sent from South Africa attacked Buenos Aires (they were easily defeated by the Spanish defenders).

 July 6, Monday: [George Gordon, Lord Byron](#) was at Gordon's Hotel, London.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 6 of 7 M / The day has passed with but little religious exercise, tho' not so much pained with death to the sense of it as at Sometimes. Spent the evening at D Williams in company with Mary Morton whose company of humble redeemed deportment was very sweet & instructing to my mind I could but feel a Strong desire excited that I might be more & more drawn from the Spirits of this world & become entirly engaged to do my masters will while time here is mercifully lengthened out to do it in Oh that as thorough renovation of heart may be wrought in me for I daily see the necessity & advantage resulting from it

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 7, Tuesday: The Peace of Tilsit was signed by emperors Napoléon and Alyeksandr. In secret agreements, Russia was given a free hand against European Turkey and Finland. Russia joined the Continental System against Britain and pledged support of France against Gibraltar.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 7 of 7 M / This mornng my feelings a[re] in a degree sweetened by the arising of that precious life which I love to feel & a prayer is renewedly begotten in my heart that I may center to the Spirit of life on all occasions & at all times As the day is nearly closing & the feelings attendant on my mind in the Mornng are Still with me I may insert that a degree of thankfulness arises in my heart for the present favor. Oh my soul may it be thy increasing care to dwell deep & humble – may nothing be ascribed to unsanctified-self but a true sensibility of mind be maintained that all good cometh from God Alone Spent the evening at a friends House where the time might have been Spent agreeably, & to proffit, but was prevented by other visitors not very congenial So it is we are frequently



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disappointed in our prospects, & perhaps its for the best

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 8, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 8 of 7 M 1807 / Another day is gone & my mind is somewhat affected at the loss of it under an apprehension that it has not been so well improved as is consistent with will of heaven but however remiss I have been, it has not been the worst of days to me, my mind was sweetly visited this morning by the incomes of truth a Small current of which has attended it thro' the buisness of the day

Made several calls this evening first at O Williams for the first time since he & his new wife have kept house found them pleasantly settled & apparently well suited with each other - then stopt few minutes at CR's - then went to D Rodmans & found he had received an excellent letter from our mutual friend B Purinton the reading of which was very salutary to my feelings especially as she remembered me & mine in very affectionate terms.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 9, Thursday: A treaty was signed between France and Prussia at Tilsit. Prussia was restored to its 1772 borders but Hesse-Kassel and all Prussian possessions west of the Elbe were incorporated into the new Kingdom of Westphalia. Prussian possessions in Poland were joined into the Duchy of Warsaw in personal union with Saxony. Danzig (Gdansk) was declared a free city with a French garrison.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 9 of 7 M 1807 / Favord with the precious life early in the Mornng, had a good meeting tho' silent. This afternoon had a mind to meet with the committee who were appointed to consult about building our meeting house larger for the accomodation of the Womens Yearly Meeting - Recd a precious Letter from my H & answerd the Same.

It has been a day that has excited very serious & tribulative reflections - The minds of the people are much exasperated at the conduct of the British Ship of War toward one belonging to the United States & the President has issued a proclamation prohibiting the people from furnishing any British Ship of War with Supplies of provisions; in consequence of which A town meeting was this day called by the beating of two Drums & two fifes & have voated a cooperation with the Presidents proclamation - When the Drums & fifes passed by my dwelling my heart was deeply affected within me at the Sight, & a fervant prayer was raised that the glorious day may be hastened when Swords may be beat into Plowshares & Spears into pruning hooks, & nations learn war no more, but if it please the Almighty to visit us with the desolating Sword & Spear, may he be near to his depending ones, those who know that their only help & Shure defence is in his All Powerful Arm - My heart is rent with the Awful prospect of being surrounded by war & carnage, but as Strength is Mercifully given in proportion to our trials I am comforted with the hope that we shall be favord to place our



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*confidence in Him that Over ruleth the heart of Things
In the evening walked a little & made several little calls-*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 10, Friday: Serbian revolutionaries signed an alliance with Russia. They agreed to support the Russians in return for money, guns, medical supplies, and personnel.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day day 10 of 7 M 1807 / Rose earlier than common & took a pleasant walk. gs [?] loiter'd thro' the day & had my evil propensities much to war against, & have with Sorrow to Say, the victory was not accomplished but more favord with Strength than at Some times - Staid in the Shop in the evening engaged in letter writing

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 11, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 11 of 7 M / I cannot boast of much Spiritual Strength, but on the contrary can acknowledge my abundant frailty & weakness, I'm a poor thing & fear it will be my lot to remain So - In the evening made two very agreeable calls, the first at DR, the other at J Earls

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 12, Sunday: Silas Casey, who would become a Major General of Union volunteers, was born.

A letter from Jesse Hawley to Erastus Granger expressed a projection of an [Erie Canal](#).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 12 of 7 M / At meeting this mornng Matthew Franklin was with us & preached full an hour & an half in the Afternoon we Sat in Silence My mind has been in quite a destitute situation as to life, & have hardly been able to obtain a morsel of bread - took tea & spent most of the evening at Sam Thurstons

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 13, Monday: Colonel Robert Patton completed his term as governor of [St. Helena](#). His daughters' fondness for walking had led to the naming of "Sisters Walk." The next full-time governor would be Major-General Alexander Beatson, who would take office on July 4, 1808.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 13 of 7 Mt 1807 / The times as to the outward Seem to be Alarming preparation for War is making in our land, orders are received from Government to raise an hundred thousand Militia- I have had a little to examine my own standing to see whether I am able to stand my ground, should I be pressed as a soulder, & have a hope that should I be tried on this head I shall be favoured to give a convincing reason for my refusal to bear Arms.



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It is the desire of my heart while I write this, that I may be favoured to bear up the Christian testimony in a Christian Spirit, & bring no reproach on that testimony which our Worthy forefathers Suffered so much for. Had the company of JS a young man not of our Society but an attender of meetings, he appears to be an innocent young man, & desires are raised that he may experience the Sanctifying power of truth effectually to operate in his mind

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 14, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 14 of 7 M / My mind has been at times in the course of the day dipt into seriousness on various accts The Alarm of war is continued, various reports in circulation, but the language of my mind is "be ye not troubled" which hath been a sweet resort when persons have come in & Spoke Alarmingly of the Situation or our Country. Oh that I may center down deep, that I may be founded & grounded on that rock which is never moved at the clashing of the potsherds of the Earth - I desire to acknowledge my many favors & not to be puffed up, but humbled under them, I have a plenty of buisness at my trade which is cause of encouragement, but dont discover my purse to increase. - Spent the evening at J Earls in a Sweet circle of my female acquaintance & some mails, it was indeed a precious season, my mind was in a very tender frame & I was lead to commemorate some similar opportunities at the Same house when the Stream of divine Life has risen high in our minds Oh that the desire of my Youth may be remembered, & often renew'd

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 15, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 15 of 7 M 1807 / Went to bed last night under a depressive sense of my Sins & unfaithfulness. The first testimony that ever our Ancient deceased friend Nicholas Davis delivered, were allmost continually sounded in the ear of my mind "Disobedience makes a long wilderness, but Obedience cuts the work Short" -- The day has passed, a pretty good care to dwell near the life, but on turning over the leaves of my conduct find some that ought to have been better There is not a day passed but this is the case. Shall I ever attain to more fixedness? Surely if I do "it must be thro' much suffering & as I feel now think I should be willing to undergo a considerable Share, if it would make me better, but suppose if it Should come, like the children of Israel, I should remember the flesh pots of Egypt - Spent the evening at CR where there was a young woman not in membership, but an attender of meetings toward whom I felt a degree of Gospel love to flow in my heart & aspirations of spirit were raised on her behalf - towards persons of this discription my mind is often drawn forth in much love & tender concern that they may perfer [prefer] Jerusalem to their chiefest Joy - to me it was a precious opportunity & the feelings there experienced I pray may be often renew'd - Oh that there may be a tender watchful Spirit carefully maintained in my heart that I may go forth daily in



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search of spiritual nourishment for it is clearly my opinion from Sad experience that if there is not a renewed daily concern of this kind we shall dwindle in Substance & be come mere formalists, this state my soul dreads, & Oh! Saith my very Soul at this season Search me Oh God & prove me by thy refining power, that I may be preserved alive in the Truth

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 16, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 16 of 7 M 1807 / Went to meeting under much want of religious life & tho' I strove to get Settled & center'd could attain to but very little enjoyment - This afternoon A young man from L Compton whose name is Adam Manchester came on buisness to my shop & while there introduced the subject of religion, on which I felt but poorly quallified to discourse, but he continued his enquiries & spoke a little of his own experience, before I Said much to him I made a little pause & turned my mind inward & said in my heart, What a poor creature I am to Speak on points of this nature? & felt a little prayer to arise in my heart for help which was mercifully vouchsafed to my own amazement. it seemed as if my understanding brightened, & I could speak with uncommon conciseness & perspicuity. My mind I trust was clothed with a living concern that he might find the true & living way of which he appear'd Sincerely desirous but had heard Such winds of doctrines that his mind had become clouded with doubts & fears of various kinds

It was to me a memorable season as it was a renewed proof to my own mind that the Lord was yet with me & that I was not forsaken by Him atthe[?] my mind was so painfully destitute for sometime before that I had allmost begun to conclude that his face was his & the light of his precious countenance would never be lifted up on me any more - this seemed to be a fresh extension of divine regard, & tho' I spoke much yet I did not feel any Zeal to arise against the different persuasions that we were speaking of, but on the contrary love & goodwill predominated in my heart toward all -I believe he is a tender speaking young man & may by attention to that Spirit which he is possessed of, be lead & guided into all truth. I lent him the Manuscript acct of the life of Elizabeth Ashbridge & Some religious Tracts, & gave him the pamphlet Watch unto prayer &c & we parted under a good degree of love toward each other

Spent the evening at D Williams - & M entertained me with Some interesting Anecdotes of the journey of MM & EC in the Southern States & particualrly at Virginia Yearly Meeting -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 17, Friday: Bayreuth passed from Austrian to French administration.

Carl Maria von Weber arrived in Stuttgart where a position awaited him (he had been spending the 5 months since leaving Carlsruhe on an impromptu concert tour).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:



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6 day 17 of 7 M 1807 / Not without omissions & commissions, but I trust divine mercy & regard hath been measurably extended for I have felt in a tender Susceptible frame of mind, & have endeavored to turn to the right object - In the evening called to see my Cousin A Greene who is over to attend the Select meeting tomorrow, & closed it at CR's very preciously -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 18, Saturday: Robert Fulton described his torpedoes for the benefit of New-York officials.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 18 of 7 M 1807 / Much engaged in business, but not so much so as to preclude a thankful disposition of heart, my mind has been turned inward & favored with a refreshing Stream from the fountain of life, I trust - In the evening rode on horse back to [Portsmouth](#) t& lodged at Z Chases

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 19, Sunday: France demanded that Portugal adhere to the continental blockade and close its ports to British ships, arrest British subjects, seize British property, and declare war.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1st day / My horse traveled hard which induced me to walk to meeting. on my way there called at P Lawtons where I found my precious H in good health & after a little pleasant converse went to meeting, where I was favored to have my mind in good measure gathered & centered to the spirit of life for which my heart was often engaged to breath forth thanksgiving to the Author of every blessing - The passage of scripture which afforded me instruction was "Jesus wept" - Wm Almy was at Meeting & preached a little very sweetly - Dined at J Chases then returned to P L & spent the remainder of the Afternoon in the Company of my precious H who I found under the refining power of truth, passing thro' deep & close baptisms, my heart according to its measure is lead into Sympathy with her & the breathing desire is that She may be Supported & sustained by the everlasting never failing hand & Arm of God - She feels preciously near my best life & Oh dearest father wilt thou help her - took my horse from where I left him & rode comfortably home by nine O'clock

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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July 20, Monday: In New-York harbor, Robert Fulton demonstrated his torpedoes, managing after three attempts to sink a target ship.

[George Heriot](#) painted Presqu'isle, St. John River.



[Samuel Lord Dexter](#) died childless at the age of 34, survived by his 2d wife.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*2 day 20 of 7 M 1807 / I have just return'd with J W & D W brothers committe Men to treat with AA but our labors were ineffectual the poor thing refused to see us & when we went Where he was he run away from us. I felt much for him & should have been glad to have discharged my duty to him. may the power of Truth yet reach his mind, & so effectually operate as to bring him within the Holy enclosure
The day closes with a good degree of Sweetness & I trust it has been a Season of some spiritual advancement - I desire I crave in Sincerity of Soul that this renewed extension of divine regard may be held in remembrance - Made several calls this evening, & was favor'd not to do or say any thing that tended to discipate that precious Sweetness attendant on my mind thro' the day*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 21, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 21 of 7 M 1807 / It has been a day of feeling, a day wherein my mind has been refreshed & replenished with good - Oh that I may be preserved under an humble thankful sense of every favor. it is in my heart to Say blessed be the Name Lord for he is kind to me & help's me beyond what I deserve. Oh that the whole bent of my heart may be in doing they Holy will - Spent most of the evening at DR's I hope to Some proffit, I at least feel not from the visit as yet

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 22, Wednesday: In the Royal Palace at Dresden, the emperor Napoléon approved a constitution for the Duchy of Warsaw.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 22 of 7 M 1807 / Much favor'd on acct of buisness it is plenty & seems to afford an encoraging prospect as to the outward, for which I desire to be thankful & to keep a Strict guard on my mind, that the love of proffit or the desire to gain have no more place in my mind than absolutely necessary - I am at a loss what to write respecting my Spiritual progress of this day, it has been a day of tenderness & I am encoraged to hope that some little advancement is made in the line of faithfulness. Oh my soul dwell deep, get thee to thy watch & to thy watch Tower
In the evening made Several calls & a precious one at CR's

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 23, Thursday: General Bennigsen's March for piano or harp by Leopold Kozeluch was entered at Stationers' Hall, London.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 23 of 7 M 1807 / In the forenoon that venerable Old Patriarch Jeremiah Austin called at my Shop & spent with me nearly an hour & a Quarter, his conversation was very pleasant & I can truly say edifying. How pleasant to be in the company of Such an old man, whose life is repleat with piety & virtue Oh saith my soul may all that is alive within me be engaged to attain to the like happy frame of mind -
Our meeting was Small & rather a dull season but I trust the bread of life was dispenced to a few, tho' they might have had to eat it under Suffering - in the preparative Meeting there was considerable buisness, & some that will prove very trying among friends, & what the consequence & or where the end of it will be I cannot tell but hope it will be to the honor of Truth's Testimony

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 July 24, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6th day 24th of 7th Mth 1807 / I'm yet a poor things & the



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prospect of being better is so small that it affords me room to fear my account is far from being acceptably adjusted – Spent the evening at J Earls in company with several of my acquaintance who were all very pleasant, but for my own part could not feel much life, & believe I sustained loss by too much talking, which is frequently my lot

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 25, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 25 of 7 M 1807 / Occupied at Trade, in religious concern's I remain a poor hatter [halter?] having been very destitute all day till towards night, then was favor'd with a little bread which has Sustained me thro' [thro'] the evening - It is cause of thankfulness & my mind is really humbled at this time under a belief that the good Spirit is yet alive in my Soul. Oh may it be kept alive - Spent the evening ay O W's, found him and his wife, with their little flock forming a very pleasant circle - here I can but reflect upon the very great usefulness, as well as sweetness of a good Wife -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 26, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 26 of 7 M / In the mornng walked on the Point & went on board one of the Gun Boats now preparing for sea. This is among the things which I do that causes Sorrow, & introduces death, & tho' the mere going on board of one of those vessels may be thought warrantable, Yet I believe I Gratified a vain curiosity which had better been crucified - & it really proved so for Some of the bye standers made some remarks which has caused pain of mind - Our meeting this monrg was to me a poor dull Season, tho' I labored to center my thoughts on the right place, yet could not find that I overcame the enemy in hardly any degree In Afternoon wrestled hard, & came off rather better than in the mornng - no preaching today - Took tea with DW then went with him to endeavor to obtain an opportunity to treat with AA - but to no effect, he refused to speak with us, & sent us word that if We came where he was, he would give us a good Setting off - poor thing - may that Word which is quick & powerful & sharper than a two edged sword [sword] yet pearce him to the heart & work an effectual change Spent the remainder of the evening at D Buffums

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 27, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 27 of 7 M / Nothing remarkable thro' the day, I have been a poor dull tool in every sense - Spent the evening at C R's where my mind was a little Strengthened - by some interesting conversation -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

→ July 28, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 28 of 7 M 1807 / Weakness & Poverty abounds, as may be said every day of my life - This forenoon a Young man came to the Shop & Spent most of it in conversing on various Subjects, among which was war, our opinions were very different. I did not incline to say much on the subject, but perceiving his mind to be tender I gave him - The account of the Suffering of Richard Seller, which he read & appeared much affected thereby - & I believe it will be of use to him - at least so far, that if he should ever go into the Army, & friends should be brought under Suffering Similar to R S it will teach him to be merciful

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

→ July 29, Wednesday: [George Heriot](#) painted the Grand Falls of the St. John River.



Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 29 of 7 M / Not much religious life, tho' a degree of it I trust is yet in me - My beloved cousin A Greene called and Set some time with me in the Shop this afternoon her conversation was truly instructing, & Oh that I may be proffited by it - In the evening took a refreshing walk & made an agreeable call at



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my much Esteemed friend DR's

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 30, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

30 of 7 M / Attended out MY Meeting held in town Altho before I went I was entirely barran of every feeling which contribute to a good meeting, yet when I first took my Seat, a Sweetness, a fixedness on the right object, took place in my mind & I was enabled, to keep to it thro' the meeting & while setting, living praises arose in my heart to the Lord for thus favoring me when I so little deserved it & so little expected it. Oh sath [sic] my soul may this precious watchful care which so Sweetly pervaded my mind increase untill it is enough to continue to the end of my days -H Almy bore a living testimony to the necessity of delligence & Mary Mitchell took up the subject in a very encoraging manner both to Holder [?] & the meeting then Mary Morton concluded in a fervant prayer for our preservation, for the help of the little ones, those whose hands were ready to hang down & knees ready to smite together for fear, & that the minds of those engaged in dicipline might be enabled to Support the testimony aright, not like the fly in the Ointment of the Apothecary give an ill savor - In that part for buisness of the Church Our much esteemed friend Anne Greene laid before us a concern which has for several years impressed her mind to pay a religious visit to Salem & Falmout Quarterly meetings which concern was cordially united & sympathised with & a committee appoointed to assist her & produce a certificate to next monthly meeting if way should open -During the deliberations of the day some of the most trying cases occured that I ever remember - but tho' [thro'] divine help I believe I was favord to keep on the right ground & said nothing I am sorry for or will wound the testimony The cases of T Barker & D Huntington came before us & were sent to the Quarterly meeting, what the end of them will be the Lord only knows - Meeting set the longest of any that ever I attended Z C & wife & P L dined with us & after dinner Steped up to C R to See my dear H a few minutes before she went out of town

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



July 31, Friday: Martha Aldin had murdered her husband, and her sentence had been that on "Friday next she should be drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, there to be [hanged](#) by the neck till she was dead, and her body afterwards to be dissected." Her hanging took place at high noon on Castle Hill, Norwich, before a massive crowd.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 31 of 7th Mo 1807 / Yesterday arrived our Ancient friend J Bringhurst from Philadelphia - as he came up from the packet he called to see me, a few minutes, & this forenoon came & set sometime with me in the shop, I esteem him as a good old man, & his company is pleasant - The day has passed with but little religious thoughtfulness. I can hardly call it carelessness nor yet carefulness -- After a very pleasant walk round the Hill in company with DR called at CR's where I found E reading the Manuscript Journal of a young man's tour in England by which I

found a certain life raised, to which "a death had better be known"

6 day rode with Peter to the meeting House to meet with the School committee, then returned & Peter kindly brought me homeward to the top of Lawtons Hill which was a great help as the day was very hot - on my way home, Stopt at Saml Thurstons & was favor'd with the company of Our excellent friend Mary Mitchell her converstaion was instructing & refreshing to my mind I love her much, remembering her visits to my beloved Aunt Marthas when I was a small boy & lived with her - on my return home found my shop & little property all Safe for which I desire to be thankful, & hope I shall be endabled to return thanks in the proper way, which is increased dedication to the Service of my God - In the evening made a precious call at C R, & another at J Earls, where I found AA & fell into unexpected conversation with her - tho' I manfested rather too much Zeal in support of my own opinion yet I firmly believe I had the right side of the question

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

AUGUST

 August: [Thomas De Quincey](#) had absented himself from his course of studies at Worcester College, Oxford. [Samuel Taylor Coleridge](#) met him in Bristol and handed him £300 with the pretence that it was a loan. De Quincey then escorted the Coleridge family to the Lake District and finally was able to meet his famous penpal [William Wordsworth](#), at Grasmere.

 August: Secretary of the Treasury [Albert Gallatin](#) noted that anti-British feelings among New-York businessmen seemed to be lessening.

 August 1, Saturday: Georg Joseph Vogler was appointed Hofkapellmeister and Privy Councillor for Ecclesastical Affairs to the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 1 of 8 M 1807 / Occupied as usul thro' the day & in the evening called at J Earls where was my friends Wm S Burling of N York, whose conversation was truly edifying, feeling my mind sweetly impressed with the necessity of "Being watchful, standing fast in the faith, quiting myself like a man, & being Strong" in the support of the precious testimony, & may both he & I follow on to know the Lord & to walk unreservedly in the ways of his Holy requirings is at seasons my earnest prayer.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 2, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 2 of 8 M / In the mornng went over on the Point & took a sea bathing - Our meeting this forenoon was large & I hope some

were profited by the opportunity, for my own part I must acknowledge it was a low time, for I had but very little power to wrestle against that Spiritual death which so often besets me both in & out of meetings - when I came home found my brother Isaac much unwell which gives me a degree of useasiness as I think his symptoms are some what alarming, he has been unwell with a small attack of the Disentary for more than a week, but I think his complaints are now more like the approach of a bilious fever

The meeting this afternoon was Similar to the mornng, Silent & dull. I tried to wrestle but had but little power, however I'm encoraged to hope it was not wholly in vain - Took tea & spent most of the eveng at J Dennis's - it was a pleasant visit but not so much favord as at some times -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 3, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 3rd of 8th M 1807 / Occupied as usual at trade, endeavoring at times to turn the mind inward, & felt a little of the precious Sweetning influence to arise, but alas how far short I am of what I ought to be. I daily see my short comings & am almost ready to fear retrograde motion in the work of regeneration. Oh Soul be up & doing, get thee to thy watch, & to thy watchtower, lest the enemy of thy peace overcome thee -

After writing the above while setting in the Shop I felt my mind drawn to read the the [sic] Scripture & then to set in Silence, & while setting, was mercifully favord to witness the divine presence to be near, & was enabled to feel the Lord to be present help in every needful time. O that I may be humbly thankful for all the mercys that I receive This evening called at Cousin A Thos's [?] / where I thought the the [sic] Seed was under Suffering /

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 4, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

day 4 of 8 M / Favor'd with the circulations of the Sap of life thro' the day - Spent the evening at D.R with several of my acquaintance - & tho I talked when I had better been Still, yet it was a precious time to me, O how unworthy I am of the many favors which I receive -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 5, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 5 of 8 M / This mornng between the hours of seven & eight, in company with T H [J H?] & Wm Burling, visited the Charity School of E Trevet, we had the satisfaction of seeing 50 children all at reading or writing which he teaches gratis except two, they appear to improve fast, & behave orderly. Wm at the conclusion of the school addressed them in a few words very



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pertinently & pathetically, impressing on their minds a sense of thankfulness to their tutor, & the most proper means to shew it was by striving to improve" he did it in a solid weighty manner which appeard to have an effect on the minds of the Children This evening walked to Portsmouth & lodged at Z Chases -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 6, Thursday: Friend Stephen Wanton Gould wrote in his journal:

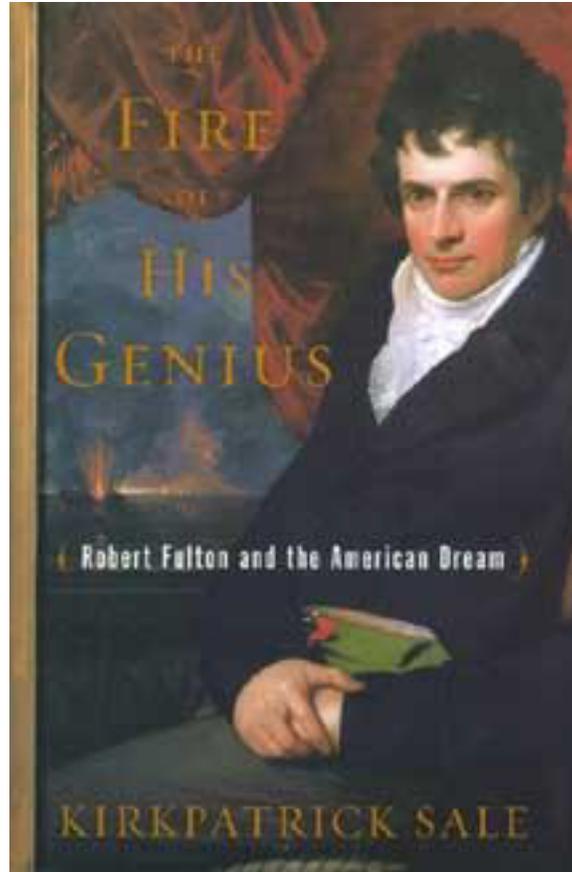
5 day After breakfast went up to P Lawtons & found my endearing H well Our friend M Brown came while I was there with whom I had much pleasant conversation on various subjects - Richard Mott Elizabeth Coggeshall & Mary Morton were at meeting but none of them appeard in testimony but Richard who stood a great while - In our meeting for Church concerns we had several things of importance before us & were favor'd to transact them in a good degree of love & condescension - Anne Smith (of Wickford) spread a concern which had for a long time impressed her mind to pay a religious visit to friends in Richmond state of Newhampshire & from thence into New York State as far as Hudson - which was corially united with & her certificate endors'd After meeting I dined at P Lawtons with a very agreeable comapany O Williams & wife J Earl. R Rodman. B Earle. D Austin Wm Burling. & S Thurston & wife - I spent the evening with my very precious H which was the first since she has lived at Portsmouth. it was a sweet time - feeling our minds renewedly refreshed together, & a Seal witnessed that our intended connection is in best wisdom appointed. may the dew of heaven rest upon her, may may she receive the Strengthening support of the Lord in all her steps thro' life, is the affectionate wish of my heart -- I lodged there & next morning

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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➡ August 7, Friday: In New-York, Robert Fulton launched his new steamboat, which he was calling *Steam Boat* at the moment and which he would name *North River* (this is the riverboat that is frequently referred to now as the *Clermont*).



➡ August 8, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 8 of 8 M / Occupied pretty dilligent at Trade & feel this evening a precious sweetness in my mind

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

➡ August 9, Sunday: Robert Fulton had carefully negotiated a partnership with Chancellor Robert R. Livingston. This man Livingston seemed to be a mere judge of the court of chancery of the State of New York, and yet in fact his deep background political influence was such that he was known among the knowing there as the 2d most powerful person, after the governor, in the State. Livingston arranged that, if he and Fulton could merely drive their steamboat four miles along the Hudson River in one hour, the government would grant them an enormous privilege: a 20-year monopoly of steamboat service. No patent application would be necessary and yet no competition would be permitted. For twenty years they would be allowed to charge whatever they could induce their passengers and customers to pay. So on this day there came about the initial trials of Fulton's unpatented boat, described at the time as "an ungainly craft looking precisely like a backwoods sawmill mounted on a scow and set on fire." It made a successful 1-mile run on Manhattan Island's East River. (Soon it would steam up the river from New York Harbor to Albany in 32 hours, and back down



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with the current in 30.) Fulton would christen it, inventively, *Steam Boat*, although later it would be known as the *North River* and we know it now as the *Clermont*. Because of the events of this day, you have probably been led to suppose that Fulton invented the steamboat, as a way to harness heat and force it to produce forward motion. No, what this inventor invented was a government-sponsored monopoly, a way for rich people to get richer by putting their own steamboats on the Hudson River while forestalling anyone else from doing so. Which is to say that, instead of inventing ways to translate steam power into mechanical power, Fulton was into inventing ways to translate the political power of office and lobbying into the economic power of money.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 9 of 8 M 1807 / I'm just going to meeting, not in so humble a frame of mind as at some times, but hope to get right before night -

I can truly say I am agreeably disappointed for when I took my seat in meeting as a precious mantle was spread over my mind, & instead of having to wrestle with my own spirit, the necessity was measurably taken away - the silent part of the meeting continued till nearly the usual time of its breaking - when Elizabeth Coggeshall rose & delivered a testimony as near Gospel as any I have heard for some time, on the subjects of Affliction, love & the necessity of Subduing our own carnal, wills I know not when I have more witnessed the Baptizing effect of any testimony -

Our Afternoon meeting was a very uncommonly favored time -Richard Mott stood full two hours declaring the truth with much life & power - I think his testimony this afternoon of much more use than any he has delivered here in his visit - when he sat down there was a very remarkable Solemnity over the Meeting which continued for some time when E Coggeshall closed in solemn supplication - Took tea at C Rodmans in company with my dear H who came to town this morning & took meetings with us today, & went directly out after tea so that I have had but little opportunity with her. She was precious near my heart, & should have been glad to have enjoyed more of her company - In the evening sat a little while with D R & wife with my mind sweetly ruminating & sometimes speaking on the favors of the day - It has been a precious day to me for which I desire to be very thankful

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 10, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 10 of 8 M / Favor'd with the renewal of life thro' the day - in the forepart of the evening Set a while in the shop of WC where I experienced a degree of exercise which was perhaps priffitable to myself, in the latter part called at J Earls where was R Mott & wife R was sociable & some of his conversation was instructing, but he spoke on one subject in which I differed with him, I took the liberty to advance my opinion in opposition to his but did not defend it much [which gave him a chance to harp{?} largely upon his, all scratched out] as the company was large. I felt embarrassed at entering into much argument which gave him a good opportunity to expatiate largely in favor of his own sentiment, & I was willing to be accounted a fool before them -the evening did not close so sweetly as I



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could wish –

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 11, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 11 of 8 N / Feeling considerable exercise from last evenings conversation, thought I should not feel easy to let R Mott go out of town without further labor on the subject - & thinking it probable he might be in Obadiah Williams shop took a walk up & found him there. we pretty soon resumed the Subject, & after a lengthy debate it evidently appear'd that meither of us was likly to relinquish our opinions, but we parted in love towards each other --Setting in company with a friend this evening, he said "Well Stephen what doest thou think of the signs of the times among us "(alluding to some circumstances now operating in our Moy [Monthly] Meeting), I reply'd, "The times are low what shall be done about it, weep between the poarch & the Alter", he reply'd "No that will not do, every man must build the wall over against his own door -working with one hand, holding the sword in the other against the enemys" which reply seemed so peertinent that it made an impresssion of some usefulness on my mind

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 12, Wednesday: France made the demand of July 19th an ultimatum — Portugal must also declare war on Great Britain, arrest all British subjects in the country, and confiscate all British assets.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4th day 12 of 8 M 1807 / The precious life has been felt sweetly to arise in my mind, at seasons, thro' the day, it would have risen much higher but was prevented for the want of entering into the closet - Jeremiah Austin Junr & wife came to town this forenoon. I was glad to see them, for I love them much

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 13, Thursday: Charles Baker of Waltham got married with Abigail Parks.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 13 of 8 M / This Morn & before meeting my dear old friend Patience Austin came to the shop & set with me for some time relating the various deep exercises & baptisms of this poor Soul since she left [Rhode Island](#) - My heart was much affected thereby & prayers begotten that She may be enabled to bear up under every afflictive dispensation - She is one I have loved much ever since our first acquaintance, & believe her to be a true christian We had a precious meeting. Our friend Richard Mott was very acceptably engaged in testimony & fervantly in Supplication - it held near three hours - Spent the evening at D Williams in pleasant conversation, but very little life experienced on my part

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 14, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6th day 14 of 8 M 1807 / When the boody is disorder'd the mind is not clear - I'm laboring under an heavy cold, but am abloe to be in the shop & attend to my little concerns of an outward nature, & while inserting this favor my mind is disposed to thankfulness to the Author of every blessing both spiritually & temporally, he hath liberally bestowed of the choicest of them to me, but suitable returns have not been made. Oh saith my soul, may there be more full dedication of heart to the divine will my mind is often humbled under a sense of my short comings - Our Friend R Mott left town about one OClock expecting to tarry at [Portsmouth](#) tonight & proceed on to [Providence](#) in the mornng - In the evening called at Aunt [M G's C R](#); & [J Earls](#) at the latter place I should have been stronger if I had talked less -but trust I said nothing materially amiss -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 15, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 15 of 8 M 1807 / A degree of life has attended my mind thro' the day. My cold is rather better, than yesterday, so that I think to go to [Portsmouth](#) presently, & be at meeting there tomorrow - After a pleasant ride, reached the Abode of my precious H & spent the evening with her - then returned to Z C's & lodged in the morning again visited my dear H, & went to meeting where we had a precious time; Our dear Old friend Mary Mitchell was concerned in supplication then in a livly testimony to the Youth - & at the conclusion of the meeting she requested we might meet again at half past three in the Afternoon - the meeting was larer [larger?] & more favord than the mornng. The dear old woman again opened the service in solemn supplication to the God & father of all for preservation from the snares of the world, & a firm establishment in the everlasting truth, a willingness to abide allotted Baptism & a final admittance into the relms of eternal Bliss - She then was engaged in a most excellent address to the beloved youth on whose account she was tenderly interested, the current of love also flowed towards the Aged whom she addressed in a very livly manner - At the conclusion of the meeting she took an affectionate farewell, expressing an apprehension that it would be a final parting with many present - & the meeting ended under a solemn covering, & for my own part I may acknowledge I[t] was a good time to me & was thankful my lot was cast at there -Took tea at Asa Shermans with my H - Wm Mitchell & precious daughter Eliza it was a very agreeable opportunity. I love William dearly, he is a sage old man & a beautiful pillar in our Society - from Asa's we returnd to P L, & from there I went to Z C, & lodged, & this morning came home -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 16, Sunday: Robert Fulton accomplished a steamboat run around the southern tip of Manhattan Island.

British troops landed near Copenhagen to prevent Napoléon from taking the Danish fleet.



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August 17, Monday: Robert Fulton's *North River* (which we now know as the *Clermont*) began chugging up the Hudson River from New-York, averaging 5 mph. By nightfall it reached Haverstraw Bay. It would accomplish a successful round trip to Albany.

Carl Maria von Weber was appointed "Geheimer Sekretär" to Duke Ludwig Friedrich Alexander in Württemberg. He was responsible to administer the Duke's affairs and instruct his children in music.

Robert Fulton left New-York aboard his steamboat *Clermont*. He would arrive in Albany in 32 hours. The journey would prove the practicality of motorized water transport.

Nè l'un, nè l'altro, a *dramma giocoso* by Simon Mayr to words of Anelli, was performed for the initial time, at Teatro alla Scala, Milan.

Augusta Byron married Lieutenant-Colonel George Leigh.

GEORGE GORDON, LORD BYRON



August 18, Tuesday: Jérôme Bonaparte became King of Westphalia.

Robert Fulton reached Governor Livingston's home, Clermont, at 1PM. His average speed had been 4½ miles an hour.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 18 of 8 M 1807 / As I was standing near the Market Cart of our friend H.A. there came up a poor old black Man formerly the property of a member of our society & very rich as to wordly possessions - As he came & looked into the cart H asked him if he wanted meat, he said a little peace which lay there - H asked how much money he had & whether he thought what he had would purchase it, he said he feared not & wanted it weighed & found it would not, the meat was cut, which come to two cents less than the money he had, as he took the meat he held it in one hand, & the remaining two cents in the other, & said "here is all the Money poor old negro got, & I am eighty years old" - My mind was affected before but when the poor old man uttered those words in such plaintive accents, my Soul was moved or touched to the quick with tenderness toward him I know not when I have experienced so humbling sensations - when I ate my own dinner I ate it with an humble thankful heart, to the God & father of mercies that I was so bountifully provided for I was lead to consider the many favors I enjoy, & to feel a sense of the sufferings of others - It is remarkable that the estate of this poor old black mans master is now all gone & out of the family & his children come to be as poor as this old black man.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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August 19, Wednesday: Robert Fulton steamed north out of Clermont, and reached Albany, [New York](#) in slightly more than 8 hours. The entire journey thus had required 28 hours and 45 minutes.

[Jane C. Webb](#) was born at Ritwell House near Birmingham, England. Her father Thomas Webb, Esq. was wealthy and her early years would be spent in luxury — luxury that would not endure.⁵⁵

[JANE WEBB LOUDON](#)

The Emperor Napoléon suppressed the Tribunate, making his control of policy more effective.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 19 of 8 M 1807 / Arose & occupied my time before breakfast in transcribing Mary Mitchells Epistles the Quarterly meetings constituting this Yearly Meeting – Most of the day & evening an insensibility of mind to religious impressions, but I trust the good spirit was several times felt to be near - A little prayer now rises in my heart alike this "Oh Lord keep me near, bring me near the fountain of life"

[RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS](#)



August 20, Thursday (or February 1, Sunday, depending on which source we believe): [William James Hubard](#) was born in Whitchurch Shropshire or Warwick, England, to William Hubard and Catharine Hall Hubard.

In a circuit court in Richmond, Virginia, at the treason trial of former Vice-President Aaron Burr, which was for a proposal made at a meeting in a mansion on Blennerhassett's Island in the Ohio River between Ohio and Virginia on the night of December 10, 1806, a proposal to assemble a military force to wage war against the United States of America, defense attorneys produced an elaborate argument as to the meaning of treason and asked the judge to exclude all general evidence that had been submitted by the prosecution that failed to pertain specifically to that particular discussion in that particular location on that particular night (a discussion at which, admittedly, Burr himself had not even been present, and a discussion the nature of which was being testified to by merely one uncorroborated witness).

Robert Fulton's *North River* (which we now know as the *Clermont*) began the return trip, with [François André Michaux](#) on board.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 20 of 8 M / At meeting my mind was sensible of divine help, but such was my situation most of the time that I could not avail myself of it - was somewhat comforted by the living powerful supplication of that truly venerable Old prophetis [prophetess] Mary Mitchell -In the preparative meeting two cases of buisness was brought & sent to the Moy [Monthly] Meeting, one the intentions of a friends marriage & the other for a removal certificate - - At tea this afternoon my [sic] was visited with a Sweet brook of precious life, for which my heart is thankful - it has attended me thro' the evening & tho' it seems to be low yet it does me much good as my mind seems to be in such a tender frame as I have longed to have it for a longtime -& in measure releaved from that hard unsusceptible state with which I am so often tried - Oh Gracious & merciful God, thou art very kind to

55. Information about [Jane Webb Loudon](#) has been extrapolated from Jack Kramer's WOMEN OF FLOWERS.



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me, enable me Oh father to live near the fountain of Divine life

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 21, Friday: Robert Fulton completed his first round trip to Albany by arriving in New-York.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*6 day 21 of 8 M 1807 / There is scarce anything will affect me more than a relation or sight of human sufferings, & just before dinner my mind was deeply penetrated at hearing the Sufferings of a poor black woman last Winter
My mind has been favord to feel a Sweet flow of life for which my desire is to be thankful
Spent the evening at R Taylors except a short clall towards the close at C R's -*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 22, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 22 of 8 M / Had conferences with two friends on a difficult subject in society, one discovered a painful disposition the other accorded with me in sentiment - I am thankful & can say humbly thankful that my mind is preserved from the mixture & feel love in my heart to flow toward all - It has been an highly favord day to me - Oh saith my soul may due returns be made to the bountiful giver of every blessing & favor, my heart hath felt the humbling influence to arise this evening with renewed fervant desires for preservation from every hurtful thing - This evening made agreeable calls at C R; D R & J Es

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 August 23, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 23 of 8 M 1807 / Our Meeting this mornng was a good composed time to me & I thought generally favord - Our dear old friend Mary Mitchell Said "While her eyes had surveyed her young friends she had felt her mind disposed to call to them in the language of the royal prophet "let the young men & mainds, Old men & children praise the Lord" She feelingly exhorted us to "attend to that inspeaking word which if attended to would work deliverance from Sin & an enlargement in the truth, she sweetly illustrated a religious life, & desired we might so live as to insure a reward of peace in the Solemn moment hastning on all - In the Afternoon the meeting was without preaching, but not without speaking for a drunken Indian woman came who disturbed us very much - I thought the disturbance was no disadvantage to me, as it drove me more to the center than perhaps I Should otherwise have got - After meeting C R - O W & myself took tea & spent the evening at D Buffums very agreeably & I hope to a degree of proffit - while setting there my thoughts were often turnd towards my precious H with desires she could partake with us -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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August 24, Monday: George Anson Byron returned to England on board the frigate *Concorde* and obtained his initial commission.

GEORGE GORDON, LORD BYRON

[Russia](#) and Turkey agreed to an armistice.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 24 of 8 M 1807 / My dear Aunts Martha, Mary & Hannah have this day removed from John Coggershalls House to Jeremiah Lawtons it is a pleasant place I feel glad they are so pleasantly situated as to the outward in that respect but how they will get a living I know not but hope the good hand of Providence that hath helped them hitherto will Still be their support --Receiv'd a comfortable letter from my friends Wm Burling of N York - in the evening called at Several of my friends houses -& have nothing to insert -except that there is but very little religion in me today

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 25, Tuesday: [Nicolò Paganini](#)'s "Napoleon Sonata" to honor the birthday of Emperor of the French and King of Italy [Napoléon](#) (which had actually occurred on August 15th) was performed, by the composer, for the initial time.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3rd day 25 of 8 M / I am a poor thing & allmost dead as to religious sensibility, but notwithstanding my poverty was much favord in writing to a young female at Salem for whom my Soul hath often felt much for I was thankful to find there was yet something alive in me & readily Yealded to the impulse - Spent most of the evening at Jon a Greene's in company with cousin Anne who has come over to attend the Moy [Monthly] Meeting - had a little opportunity with my valued friend Thos Howland whose company I love

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 26, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 26 of 8 M / Tho' I'm still a poor dead thing, yet a degree of the precious life has been witnessed to arise - towards night recieved a letter from my friends David Smith of Bolton which did me some good - Spent the evening in the Shop at writing

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 27, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 27 of 8 M 1807 / I'm now going to [Portsmouth](#) with E R to attend our Moy [Monthly] Meeting. Oh Saith my soul may I be favord with patience, may I be favor'd with Wisdom & Strnegth for if I'm not mistaken there will be occasion for all that are disposed to bear the burden, to recur to the fountain of life & wisdom that they may receive a right qualification to act in



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matters that may come before us - Oh father be with us, be with me Oh father & preserve from a brittle spirit & favor me oh Lord with thy holy spirit

Our first meeting was a good time to me, my mind was favor'd to get into the quiet, & to keep in it thro' both meetings, Dear Hannah Dennis was concern'd in a short testimony, (the first for several months) it was to my feelings a precious offering seasoned with the best salt - then Mary Morton was concerned in a very acceptable offering, & the meeting concluded in a little more than an hour - The part for discipline was long but the buisness was conducted much better than I expected Our friends [Moses Brown](#), Joseph Collins, Wm Peckham, Sylvester Weeks, Joseph Harris, Thos Arnold & Thos Howland were with us as a committee from the Quarterly Meeting to assist us in a difficult matter before the meeting, which they did much to our satisfaction, & the matter is ended

I dined with P Lawton, & had a precious little opportunity with my endeared H, then rode home & petty [sic] soon went to bed much fatigued from the effect of the long meeting I was at the meeting house from, 9 OClock till 3 OClock in the afternoon - but do not feel the worse for it this mornng

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



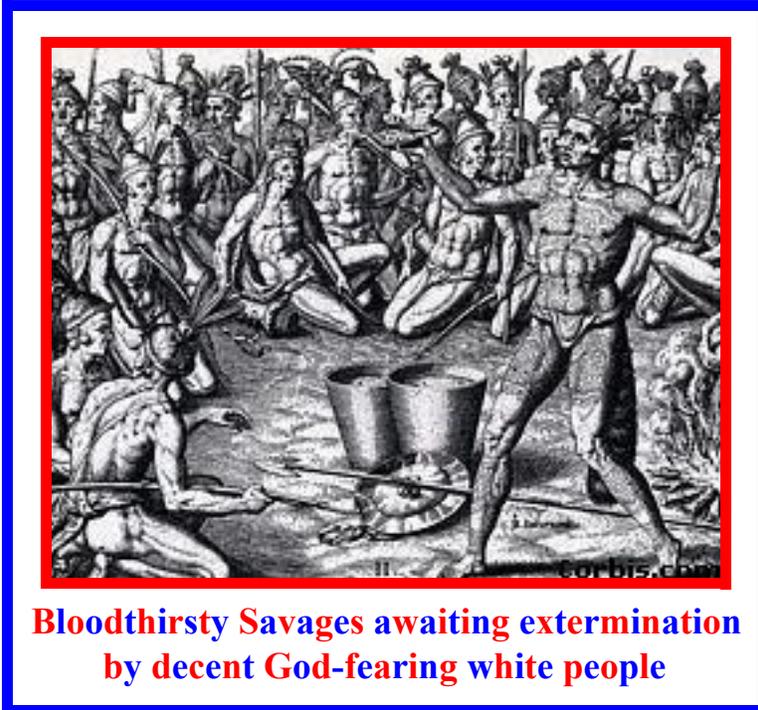
August 28, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6th day / Nothing material to insert, all the family have heavy cold but myself. I desire to be thankful for the escape. - In the evening called to see my dear Aunts Martha, Mary & Hannah in their new abode, & found them all down with the Influenza —

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Brunswick, Hildesheim, and Hesse were joined to become the Kingdom of Westphalia under King Jérôme Bonaparte.

President [Thomas Jefferson](#) wrote to Secretary of War Henry Dearborn, who was the primary administrator of Indian affairs during his administration, instructing that “if we are constrained to lift the hatchet against any tribe, we will never lay it down until that tribe is exterminated.” (Try explaining this away.)
On second thought, don't even bother trying to explain it away — if you are one of those who suppose that



this Thomas Jefferson is the guy who penned our Declaration of Independence:



“...the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.”

— Declaration of Independence



This Jefferson theme would be being constantly repeated:

"The Whites, by law of conquest, by justice of civilization, are masters of the American continent, and the best safety of the frontier settlers will be secured by the total annihilation of the few remaining Indians."

- L. Frank Baum, author of the Oz books



August 29, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 8th M 29 1807 / My mind this evening is dipt into seriousness, & desires are raised in my heart that a thorough renovaton may be experienced.

The above was written in the forepart of the evening since which I have made a visit to Benj'n Baley & wife of N York, who are here on a visit to their friends, & the benefit of health -While I was setting in the chamber with them, my mind was unexpectedly arrested with feelings which bowed my spirit towards his wife with whom I have been long acquainted & is now in a poor state of health - And had it not been for a mixture of pride & diffidence believe I should have communicated some of my feelings to her - my desires were that she might attain to that state of watchfulness unto prayer which can effect a thorough renovation of heart, & furnish with patience to endure the pains of the body & resignation to the divine will, - Oh that this may be her happy experience

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



August 30, Sunday: Theresia Helferstorfer, wife of Antonio Salieri and mother of his eight children, died in Vienna.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1st day 8th M 30th 1807 / My mind has this mornng felt the renewal of life & have had to reflect on various subjects with



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Seriousness, particularly riches & happiness - I am Scarcely willing to admit the former in any degree conducive to the latter, I have of late Seen Several instances which hath nearly confirmed me that there is no connection between them, tho' I believe both rich & poor may be happy & that both have their cares, yet I have thought so much mor responsibility is attached to Riches than poverty, that they are not enviable, but most of all & above all that is to be desired is the middle path & an heart humbly thankful for every favor vouchsafed & that in all our movements, the cause of Truth be our primary object - A State correspondent with Agur the son of Jakeh [author of Proverbs 30] - "Remove far from me vanity & lies; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full & deny thee, & say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor & steal & take the name of my God in vain"

We had this mornng a favor'd meeting but the seed or spring of life was low with me - Our friends D Buffum & E Coggershall were largely favor'd in testimony Judge Arnold of [Smithfield](#) was at meeting & much affected - After meeting my mind being drawn towards [Portsmouth](#) to see my Beloved H with whom I have spent but very little time for several weeks, & even months, thought it warrantable on that acc't to leave the afternoon meeting to Spend the Afternoon & went with her, but it was not without some reluctance that I left the meeting as it is an example I do not approve, & in riding out met a young man a member of Society the Sight of which affected my mind & led me to fear my example would so some hurt, & a voice like this was so affectingly in sounded my mind that I was allmost induced to turn back "Adam where art thou? Adam where art thou?" but on turning the matter in my mind felt more approved for going & fell into a little conversation, whereby I clear'd myself & obliquely reprov'd him - my visit to my precious H was precious indeed, & I trust both were renewedly confirm'd our engagements to each other were founded on that which was right I lodged at P L & this 2nd day [Monday] morning rose at a little past four OC [oclock] & rode home in good season to open my shop & have been rather more industrious than common for me - Called this evening at Aunt M Goulds [Martha et al] found them better - then at D R's where I found Jemimah Ausatin who I was glad to see for the love I bore for her before she went away. I fear the poor child has not gaind much in the better part Since I saw her last - While I was setting at D's my mind was tendered with a belief that the Spirit of truth was yet with me, & I trust living thanks arose in my heart to the God of all that he was once more pleas'd to visit my soul with his refreshing presence

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

SEPTEMBER



September: The sloop *Fox* rammed Robert Fulton's steamboat in an attempt to disable it.



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September 1, Tuesday: In a circuit court in Richmond, Virginia, former Vice-President Aaron Burr was acquitted of the treason of having attempted to establish an independent nation comprised of Mexico and parts of the Louisiana Territory, an empire of which he would be the ruler, because his act could not be attested to by two witnesses. He would immediately depart for Europe to avoid prosecution for the murder of Alexander Hamilton.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 1st of 9th M 1807 / Pretty diligently at trade & at times favor with the precious arisings of life - Oh that I could dwell nearer the fountain Spent the forepart of the eveng at D W's & the latter at C R: -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 2, Wednesday: This day marked the first mention of Jan Ladislav Dussek in the service of Charles Maurice de Talleyrand.

British ships began a [bombardment of Copenhagen](#) with fire bombs and phosphorus rockets, to preempt the use of the Danish fleet by Napoléon.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4th day 2nd of 9 M / Pretty dilligently at trade, - In the forenoon Cousin A Greene called at the Shop & set sometime She is a friend I love much, & whose conversation is very interesting, tho' much in the simplicity -- Called this evening to set with her a little while before she goes on her journey which she expects to tomorrow if the weather permits

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 3, Thursday: Robert Fulton registered his steamboat as the *North River Steam Boat*.

[Gorham Dummer Abbott](#) was born to the Reverend Jacob Abbott and Betsey Abbott in Hallowell, Maine.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 3 of 9 M / This mornng between 9 & 10 OClock Our beloved friends Anne Greene & Abigail Robinson, accompanied by Jon Dennis set out on a religious Embassey to Salem & Falmouth Quarterly Meetings, when they got into the carriage they all appeared as if they were sensible of the importance of the undertaking - I went up to be with cousin Anne a little while before she left us, she appear'd to be in the most sweet frame I ever saw her, her company was so very pleasant that my mind seem'd to partake of her spirit, & living desires arose in my soul that I might more & more imitate, her life & conduct, so as to attain to the like degree of favor she has - Our meeting was small but to me a very comfortable one, & I thought the Lords hand was renewedly stretched forth to do us good, & all that was wanting was a faithful obedience to the divine call in our hearts but alass, there is so many that stand opposed thereto, that I sometimes fear it may be said of us as to Israel formerly, "All the day long have I stretched forth my hand unto a wicked & rebellious generation"



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Spent the evening at E Hosiers [?] where I went purposly to see Eliz Coggeshall, she is one of the faithful of the day, & tho' but little over 30 years of age has already visited all the meetings of friends in the United States, all in England Ireland Scotland & Wales - While setting with her this evening my mind was brought into nearness with her & I thought I loved her better than ever -Oh that I was as faithful as She is, but Alass I'm a poor halting thing, & fear I shall never be otherwise

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

September 4, Friday: Robert Fulton initiated regular steamboat service between New-York and Albany.

The [Reverend Dr. Robert Morrison](#), initial Protestant missionary to [China](#), arrived at the Portuguese settlement of Macao at the mouth of the Pearl River leading to Canton.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6th day 4th of 9th M 1807 / Nothing of note has occur'd that I recollect that is worth inserting, & some may think it wholly superfluous for me thus to journalize but there is a peculiar satisfaction in it to me, & I have believed it right for some Years

Spent the evening At Aunt Martha Goulds & C R's, while setting at both places, as well as at times thro' the day, my mind was Solemnized so that I felt but little disposition to join in conversation - Oh saith my soul at this time, may an holy solemnity cover my mind at all times & on all occasions

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 5, Thursday: [Richard Chenevix Trench](#) was born at about this point in Dublin.⁵⁶ His father Richard Trench was a barrister-at-law, and his mother the author Melasina Trench (1768-1827). Melasina Trench had been born on March 22, 1768, in Dublin, and had been brought up by her grandfather, Richard Chenevix Trench, Bishop of Waterford. In 1786 she had married with Colonel Richard St. George, who then died in Portugal. Beginning to travel through Europe in 1798, she had met, among others, Nelson, Lady Hamilton, and President John Quincy Adams. In 1803 she remarried in Paris, with Richard Trench of Moate, County Galway. Her husband being detained in France, in 1895 Melasina personally delivered a petition to Napoléon. Her husband was released in 1807. Her poems would all be issued anonymously and she would die at Malvern, Herefordshire, on May 27, 1827. Her letters and journals would be edited by her son Richard, in 1862, as REMAINS.

After four days of [bombardment of Copenhagen](#), a British naval force captured the Danish fleet. Most of the city had been destroyed.

British forces occupied Heligoland.



September 6, Friday: [Robert Hunt](#) was born at Devonport, Plymouth, England. His father, a naval officer, would drown during Robert's youth. He would go to London to study medicine but poor health would cause his withdrawal, and he would settle in Cornwall.

56. Some sources say he was born on September 5, 1807 in Dublin, some that he was born on September 9, 1807 in Dublin, some that he was born on December 30, 1807 in Dublin. All sources concur that this happened in Dublin, that this happened in 1807, and that he was born.



1807

1807



September 7, Monday: A Presbyterian missionary sent to [China](#) by the London Missionary Society, the [Reverend Dr. Robert Morrison](#), had declared his intention to be the bringing of “the light of science and revelation” to “peacefully and gradually shed their lustre on the Eastern limit of Asia and the islands of the rising sun,” lands which up to that point had been very much in the dark. He stood fresh off the boat on a Canton dock with the bee in his bonnet to convert all these teeming multitudes of Chinamen to the truth and power of [Christianity](#) and thus earn an entire galaxy of stars for his heavenly crown — and he bore in his hand a letter of introduction from then Secretary of State [James Madison](#). He was wondering who to show this precious letter to first. Let us have a moment of silence, and contemplate the possibilities.

[Moment of Silence]

In result of the [bombardment of Copenhagen](#) that had proceeded from August 16th to September 5th, and in return for an understanding that the British would attempt to leave Copenhagen within six weeks, Denmark signed a capitulation document surrendering all its navy and naval stores.

Under threat from France, King Gustaf IV Adolf ceded Pomerania to the French.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day / This Afternoon rode to [Portsmouth](#) with couzin Z C, spent the evening at [P L's](#) with my dear [H](#) then returned & lodged at Z C's the next morning returned to [P L's](#) & walked with him to meeting where my mind was favor'd with access to the spring of life & to me is was a very favor'd tho' silent meeting, Oh! that I may render due thanks from the heart to him from whom cometh every blessing, & those of this kind I esteem the greatest – After meeting, J Rodman & I went to H Almys & dined. I made a pleasant visit there, & left J & returned to [P L](#), again where I lodged & this / 2 day [Monday] / morning rose at a little past 4 O'clock & walked home in about two hours – It has been a day of tumult the Militia has paraded the Streets with the sound of Drums & Fifes which with their appearance allways affect my mind with seriousness & put me to inspecting the ground of my faith in the Christian Religion, & I have thought this day that my objections to appearing as a military man is founded & something more than meer traditional Religion, for I think I have seen that wars & fightings are an offence to the Almighty & that he hath no delight in them, Oh that the pure spirit of Christianity may more & more abound in my heart -- Called at Earls, & Sarah introduced me to a man who lived in the other part of the house that had a Galvance machine I examined it & took several Shocks, it is a wonderful thing & past my finding out that a few peaces of metal Should have such an effect on the human frame, but it is like many other things, that we are but ignorant beings, & to impress on our minds with the Greatness & goodness of God – Spent the remained of the evening at C R: with a precious covering over my mind. Oh that I may be thankful –

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 8, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 8 of 9 M 1807 / Nothing material has occur'd to insert, & may only add that I am a poor erring creature – Spent the evening at writing in my Shop

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 9, Wednesday: Great Britain ended its 8-month occupation of Montevideo.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 9th of 9th M / The day has passed as usual – Received a letter from cousin Anne Greene, which mentioned that she & her companions were well & at Salem, expecting to take meetings in their way to Falmouth – Made several calls in ther evening at the usual places

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 10, Thursday: Andrew Law received a US copyright for his Harmonic Companion.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 10 of 9 M / We set our meetings in silence, soon after the very lifeless & unconcerned countenances of allmost all present, my feelings became affectionately arrested with desires that the truth might yet rise triumphant over that dull & easy state that abundently prevails among us. I thought notwithstanding our case was bad, there were yet left a few names in our Sardis that had not defiled their garments; or at least were striving to wash them from their defilements. my mind was lead into a close search on my own account accompanied with desires that I might become more & more in earnest to be redeemed from the world, & tho' the little foxes now & then rushed in to nip the tender shoots of life, yet I thought it a favord time & they in good measure prevented from doing hurt.
In the corse of the afternoon I have had to view the dangerous situation of a state of ease, & a state that hath been favord in the beginning with many divine openings, but contenting them selves with yesterdays manna, have settle down in the form of sound words & doctrine, but lack the life & Power. Oh saith my soul, that I may daily more & more search for that living food without which we cannot live unto God one day, nor one hour — This evening while setting at a friends house my mind became remarkably reached & tender'd with a sense of divine goodness being near - I desire to be thankful for the present favor, & may with thankfulness acknowledge that the day throughout has been an uncommonly favor'd one –

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 11, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*6 day 11 of 9 M 1807 / My friend P Dunham came to the Shop several times today, his company was agreeable & particularly so at this time, & we both seem'd to have a low path to tread – I don't remember a day when the Mountains of discouragement has more oppressingly arisen to view than this. It has seemed as if all I had even done or ever like to do, would prove, nothing but an augmentation of my guiltiness of unfaithfulness
So it is one day high & another low, yesterday I thought there*



1807

1807

*was a small gleam of encouragement on my tabernacle, & today,
darkness & cloud is my portion*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 12, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*7 day 12 of 9 M / I have felt yesterdays depression most of the
day but not to so great a degree, - called in the evening at
Aubt Patty Gould, & C R —*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 13, Sunday: On the Sunday after the nameday of Princess Esterházy [Ludwig van Beethoven](#) directed the initial performance of his Mass in C at Eisenstadt. This was not a success.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*1 day 13th of 9 M 1807 / Arose early & took an healthful walk
across the Beach, & ruminated on Scened past, present & to come
returned & before meeting read a chapter in the New Testament &
in a few moments retirement, was favord with a refreshing stream
of divine life under which I went to meeting & found it to
continue & to me it was a good meeting towards the close of it
Abigail Sherman stood up & repeated This Scripture "Fear not
little flock it is your fathers good pleasure to give you the
kingdom" - Then our friend Wm Flanner who came to town last
evening, arose & said he thought he felt a simple freedom, just
to desire friends to be more livly in their exercises if we
should be favord to have another meeting, & not come & go to
sleep, that would do no good he was persuaded, for his part he
said he had had a poor meeting, & felt as if much lassitude had
prevailed among us" which with a little more he was easy to
express with his hat on*

*At the afternoon Meeting Wm Seemed still under depression, but
however preached a little very sweetly After meeting C R, J S &
myself went down to A [?] Dennis & took tea with his precious
wife she bears up under the separation from her dear J quite to
admiration, considering her very depressed State for several
months past - on our way home we stopped at D B's where we found
Wm Flanner & companion we Set a little while with them & return'd
home - Wm is one of the right sort of preachers, he preaches by
example as well as precept, he is a meek spirited, deeply
concern'd friend, I love him dearly tho' I have had little or
no acquaintance with him*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 14, Monday: Former Vice-President Aaron Burr was acquitted of a misdemeanor charge.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*2 day 14 of 9 M 1807 / It haas been a confused day, by the noise
Guns drums & c - I was warned to appear with military apparatus,
but am confirmed beyond all controversy that it will tend more
to my peace to disobey their command than to obey it, even if*



1807

1807

they take much of my goods to Satisfy their demand - Our testimony against war is a very important one, & calls for the Zeal & christain spirit of all our members to Support it. I desire to bear my testimony Patiently & examplarily - Our friend Wm Flanner left town for Providence, accompanied by J S

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 15, Tuesday: Friend Stephen Wanton Gould wrote in his journal:

*3 day 15 of 9 M / Brought but little to pass in any sense, & am a poor empty vessel unfit got use
Spent the evening at R Taylors, on buisness of society*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 16, Wednesday: Friend Stephen Wanton Gould wrote in his journal:

4 day 16 of 9 M / Pretty industrious at trade, but quite barran till this evening, when I called in at D R's where I met dear R, our conversation turnd on Subjects which brought fresh into my remembrance the days of my espousals, days when the chief bent & concern of my soul was to seek & serve the Lord with all my might & strength. Oh how fresh & zealous was my mind to do the will of my heavenly father & I trust a good degree of the same is yet alive in me, but I have come far short of what I was designed by not yealding an unreserved obedience to every manifestation of the divine will, by halting, & not dwelling sufficiently deep in the Spirit of my mind - Oh saith my soul at this time, may my hands be put to the plow with an increasing fervor of soul & spirit, that those days of unfaithfulness & forgetfulness may be redeemed

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 17, Thursday: Friend Stephen Wanton Gould wrote in his journal:

5 day 17 of 9 Mt 1807 / I am a poor thing yet. At meeting I tried to get settled, but turn which way I would, some frivolous thing would run into my head & destroy my enjoyment of that precious life which Seemed to be underneath, but I could not attain to Strength sufficient to dig low enough to come to the Spring -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 18, Friday: Friend Stephen Wanton Gould wrote in his journal:

*day 18 of 9 M / Shall I say it hath been a day of favor? if a day of depression, & clouds as to my future living in this world, & conciousness of very great unfaithfulness in things of my souls concern, is a day of favor, this has been one
This mornng my belovd friend Joselh Austin arrived here from Nantucket, who I was glad to see, nay more I was rejoiced to see him, the Sight of him was better to me than any thing I have met*



1807

1807

with to day, or for many days, he appears to deepened in root & is Still deepening, his very countenance Saith he hath been with Jesus. - A little prayer arose in my heart while he was Setting by my side, that I might yet be purified from all sin -Oh! how I long at times to be deliverd from the burden of sin & death. Oh Lord help or I perish

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 19, Saturday: A great [comet](#) whipped around the sun. Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 19 of 9 M 1807 / The day has passed with but little benefit, - a poor dull thing - Set part of the evening at C R'

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 20, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 20 of 9 M / Our beloved friend Wm Flanner after having visited [Tiverton](#), Little-Compton, Acoaxet & several meetings in those parts, returned here yesterday & was at our meeting today, in the forenoon he was very large in testimony, appearing to be under a very depressive exercise on account of the lukewarmness & indifference that prevaile in this place, among the professors of religion, & also the aboundings of wickendness which he Said occasions much darkness & deep waiding for his poor mind. The life & power of the spirit evidently attended his communication & I was favord to feel the force therof in an uncommon degree in my mind. O Saith my soul may his testimony reach the hearts of those that are at ease in Zion for whom her ways do mourn - & may those who are sinning continually against the just witness in their hearts when the Lord God calls Again unto them in the Language "Adam where art thou", be so arroused thereby as to See their miserable fig leaf covering & seek another that Shall stand them in better Stead

Between meetings I called at J Shermans to see the dear man, [to see Fanner?] it was a precious call indeed, I desire not to think too much of any man, but truly it is my judgement there has not been a deeper & more honest laborer for some time, he is pleasant & very instructing in conversation, his countenance at the same time bespeaking a deeply Baptized spirit - I walked up to the meeting house with him, & should have been glad to have had him & companion to have taken tea with us this Afternoon -At meeting he was gain very Searching & powerful in testimony The current of which was mostly as in the morning - to such as were at ease in Zion - M Morton set her seal to it, Desiring we might individually take our portions of what was Said without placing it on others, & said that we read that Jerusalem was Searched as with lighted candles & she believed Something of it had been fulfilled among us this day - Towards night I rode with him & companion to D Buffums & spent the evening in their company very sweetly - I trust it has been a day wherein I have witnessed a degree of divine favor upon my Spirit & hope to be able to keep under its precious influence.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



1807

1807

 September 21, Monday: Captain [Paul Cuffe](#) and his *Alpha* arrived at Philadelphia.

In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 21 of 9 M 1807 / Several things have conspired this day to any my tranquility, perhaps its best I should be stired up to look around me, & see if all things be right, & I am persuaded they are not - but I really wish people would attend to their own private concerns without dabbling with others, & judging of the propriety or impropriety of conduct they know nothing about, nor need not know any thing about - but such is human nature, it must be busy about something, & it is the increasing wish of my heart, that I may be busy about the right thing - I have not felt the old nature raised, but rather my spirit grievously depressed

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 22, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 22 of 9 M 1807 / The mountains & clouds are so oppressingly around me, that it seems as if every prospect is closed & never will open

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 23, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 23 of 9 M / The clouds of yesterday have Somewhat dispersed, but I am far from feeling released from depression

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 24, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5 day 24 of 9 M / At our Moy [Monthly] Meeting this day held in town we were favord to transact the many concerns that came before us in a good degree of brotherly lov. George B Robinson & P Earle received their marriage license, & Ruben Shove & Lydia Fish were candidates to Hymen
The first meeting was to me a pretty favord time Susanna Barker & Mary Morton appeard very sweetly in testimony
I feel the most sweetness this afternoon & evening that I allmost ever felt after monthly Meeting, & thankfulness is in my heart that I was favord to keep in a right spirit thro' the corse of buisness - How comfortable to feel an evidence of faithfulness to apprehended duty -*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 September 25, Friday: The British pulled their troops out of [Egypt](#).

In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

? day 25 of 9 M / I hardly know what to insert - the day has



1807

1807

passed & whether any advancement has been made in the best sense or not I cannot tell but have felt this afternoon desires for it -Spent the fore part of the evening at Tho Robinsons in agreeable company

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 26, Saturday: In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*7 day 26th of 9th M 1807 / I sometimes think should any one ever have the perusal of my diary they would form rather a singular Idea of me, or at least think time & paper was very unnecessarily spent on writing it - but whatever may be thought of it I am well satisfied that it is right for me thus to note some of my feelings & exercises thro' time - I am fully sensible of the many improprieties of language & some other inaccuracies with which it abounds - Also that it is not written in a stile agreeable to read, but when it is considered that is designed solely for the benefit of one, that from time to time he may look over the past days & compare his feelings from time to time & from the past omissions be aroused to a sense of the danger he stands in of suffering the glass of time to run out, before his peace is made with his Creator - some excuses then may be made for the waste of time & paper -
In the evening walked to [Portsmouth](#) & lodged at Cousin Z Chases*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 27, Sunday: The great [comet](#) passed by the orbit of Earth on its way back into space, displaying well-separated gas and dust tails.

In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day / I[n] the mornng walked up to P L's & found my dear H well then to meeting where I could not get to the root as at some times. Our friend H Almy was concerned in a zealous & I thought favord testimony after meeting returned to P L, spent the afternoon & evening with my dear H & lodged there- -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



September 28, Monday: [Arnold Henri Guyot](#) was born as one of 12 children of David Pierre Guyot and Constance Favarger Guyot at Boudevilliers in the Swiss Canton of [Neuchâtel](#) (Swiss newborn boys are of course assigned this name Arnold in reference to the hero Arnold von Winkelried, of the 14th Century, in the same manner in which Jewish newborn boys were once assigned the name Jesus in reference to General [Joshua](#), who conquered the city of [Jericho](#)).

In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day / Rose early & walked home in about one Hour & three quarters it was a pleasant walk & a very refreshing visit Set the latter part of the evening at J Earl's in a pleasant circles

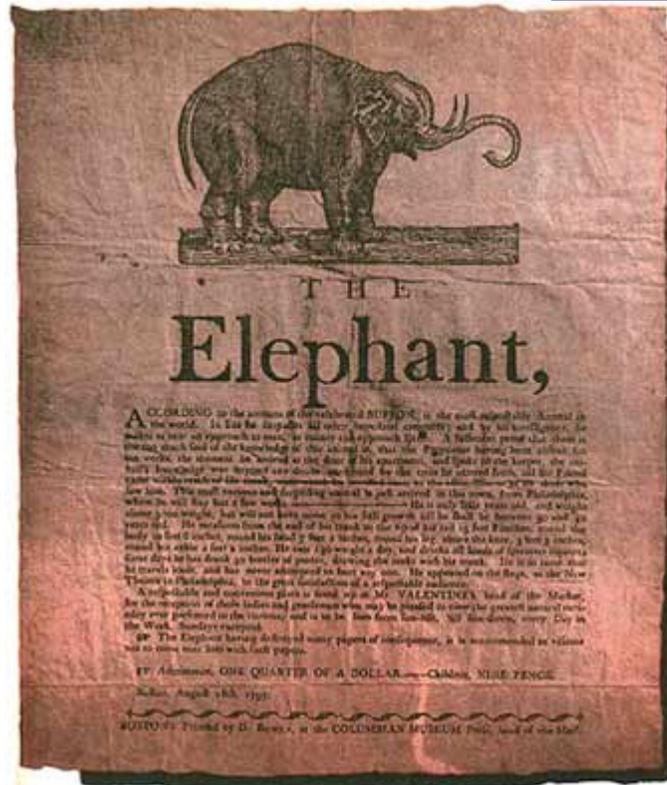
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

September 29, Tuesday: In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) recorded having foolishly paying nine pence to view a curious piece of machinery, and how that reminded him that once he had paid to view Old Bet when she had been on tour in 1797 — and that in addition he had glimpsed the [comet](#) that was currently in the night skies:⁵⁷

3 day 29 of 9 M / Spent nine pence foolishly, but there was some excuse for it, there is in town a thing called the house of Industry, which was represented to me as a curious peace of Machenery which I thought the line of my occupation would warrant me in visiting & to be sure it was curious to see many kinds of work all perform'd in miniture at one time by one set of works such as blacksmithing, shoemaking, a woman with her spinning wheel, sawing of wood, a woman pumping &c but "all is vanity saith the preacher" while I was standing by it I clearly felt I had no buisness there, & while I was there & before I went was inwardly reprov'd. I never before went to see any kind of show except - the Elephant & even then was much dissatisfied with myself for appearing at a place where so many people were - I hope this will be sufficient to teach me nore wisdom in future

In the evening viewed a Comet that for several nights has appear'd. There was nothing very remarkable in its appearance, except a Small flash like a tail, it is the first I ever saw, therefore the more of a curiosity

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



57. "GREAT COMET, 1807 (1807 R1). Visible with the unaided eye from early in September until late December, T=1807 September 19. Discovered in the evening twilight of September 9 not far from the bright star Spica. Comet of 1st magnitude with a short tail, moving toward the northeast. Late in the month, 1st magnitude with a 7-8 degree tail. During the middle of October, when situated Serpens, still of 1st or 2nd magnitude and sporting two tails, the longer of which spanned 10 degrees. Crossed Hercules in the latter half of October and the first part of November, fading from 2nd to 4th magnitude but the main tail remained up to 5 degrees long. Situated near the bright star Deneb in mid December, when approaching the limit of naked eye visibility."



1807

1807

 September 30, Wednesday: In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 30 of 9 M 1807 / My mind has been in a guarded state & on the whole a pretty good day.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

FALL 1807

OCTOBER

 October: Robert Fulton left New-York for [Washington DC](#).

 October: [George Gordon, Lord Byron](#) returned to Trinity; Writing satires and other poems; meets Davies and Hodgson.

 October 1, Thursday: When Portugal declined the French ultimatum of August 12th, the French and Spanish ambassadors were withdrawn.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 1st of 10th M 1807 / At Meeting George B Robinson & Phebe Earl were married the meeting was very quiet, & Hannah Dennis appear'd in a few words, expressing a wish that we might not set our hearts on things of this world, but seek first the Kingdom of Heaven & the righteousness thereof & all things necessary would be added - My mind was in rather a roving frame, but on the whole it was a much better meeting than I sometimes have - And now this afternoon a good degree of seriousness pervades my feelings & mental aspirations arise to the Father of mercys, that he would help my infermities, Oh Father help my infermities The forepart of the eveng at work, the latter at aunt M Goulds - had thought of calling at the wedding house, but on the whole thought it would contribute rather more to my peace to stay than go, as there was a large company

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 2, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6th day 2nd of 10th M 1807 / A want of care to keep on the watch & in the Cross is my daily experience, however there is nothing very remarkable that strikes my mind in this days progress, but that is certainly the case or there would not be that leaness in my mind this evening, that is, if it was not so - Called just now to see the new married pair, they seemed to be pretty much



1807

1807

the same George & Phebe

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 3, Saturday: [Gideon Hawley](#) died at the age of 80. His gravestone in the Barnstable/Marstons Mills Cemetery reads:

Gideon Hawley 1807
In memory of
Rev Gideon Hawley who was
born at Stratford, Connecticut, Nov 5 O S 1727
graduated at Yale College 1749
ordained in Boston July 31 1754
a missionary to the Indians at
Onohaguage or the Six Nations
installed at Mashpee April 10 1758
died Oct'r 3 1807 Æt 80
There the wicked cease from troubling
and the weary are at rest

THE REV. HAWLEY'S REPORT

Heinrich Friedrich Karl, Baron vom und zum Stein became Minister of State of Prussia.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 3rd of 10th M / What shall I say? unfaithfulness (& may I not say rebellion) again compels me to say no improvement - my very Soul at this moment revolts at the Idea of remaining so long in a state of unfaithfulness & unwatchfulness, but I fear "the next gale of temptations will blow away my resolutions" at this time - -This eveng spent a little time at Thos Robisons very pleasantly as to the outward, but my mind was in so lean a condition that I could not feel much life

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 4, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1st day 4th of 10 M / In the forenoon our meeting was middlingly large & D Buffum - informed us that he that knew his Masters will & did it not Should be beaten with many stripes - In the afternoon we were Silent, & very small in numbers, owing to the heavy rain -In the evening with O W visited Wm Lee whose daughter Sarah deceased yesterday

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 5, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 5 of 10 M / I am a poor barran thing, but at the funeral of Sarah Lee my mind was in a degree Solemnized & a comfortable quiet experienced - Oh the want there is of my digging deep that access may be had to the fountain of life & Wisdom, - there is much rubbish to be removed before the waters of life can flow freely -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 6, Tuesday: 28-year-old Humphrey Davy first produced and discovered potassium, working in his own laboratory in the Royal Institution, London (by chance Davy had passed an electric current through molten potash, releasing potassium, which when it came into contact with air appeared as a lavender flame).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 6th of 10th M 1807 / Dry & barran as to religion - S Barker called at the Shop & was very agreeable, I was in hopes her weighty spirit would have helped mine, but I'm so unfaithful & keep defering application to duty so long that I am allmost ready to fear the acceptable time of Offering a heart wholly dedicated, will be over, before it is done -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 7, Wednesday: At Philadelphia, "a comet visible."

SKY EVENT

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 7 of 10 M / Saw the Corps of a child of JH the most singular circumstance that has come within my knowledge or the knowledge of a person present that said he had layed out more than and hundred persons - the child died on second day last & there Still appears heat in it Particularly about the neck & the boody in general, has not that deathly cold which other corps have, every limb & joint moves as easy as if it was living, I saw its hand taken & put to its head - & there is no smell about it not even the common smell that allways attends corpses

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 8, Thursday: Andrew Law received a US copyright for his Choice Collection of Church Music for the Methodist Church.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 8 of 10 M / At meeting the precious life & influence of the holy spirit was sweetly vouchsafed to my poor (allmost dead) mind-was it not that now & then this precious feeling was renewed I should be ready to fear that the day of my visitation was sorrowfully past & gone - soon after we took our seats I began to seek for help & felt it near, & was just breathing in secret supplication to the Lord Almighty for that bread which norisheth as none other can - when our dear S Barker knelt in prayer & seemed to take the very words from my mouth, & went on in such a manner as to refresh my spirit as I never remember to have



1807

1807

felt it by a similar appearance - I desire to be humbly thankful for this renewed favor & Oh Lord be pleased to enable me to dwell low that this may not be the last time - The Corps of the child mentioned yesterday was buried this afternoon, an alteration took place -

This evening called at J Earls where I found A A. M M. S B & several others waited on S B to D Ws - It seems as if I am in a rather & better State this eveng than at some times

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 9, Friday: An edict by King Friedrich Wilhelm III of Prussia ended serfdom in that nation.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6th day 9th of 10th M 1807 / I think not quite so much of that deserted deathly state of mind as some days, rather more feeling, or ability to strive for help. I esteem this a precious favor for which I desire to return thanks & Oh! that I may be enabled to render praise also to the Great Name - Spent most of the evening at Aunt M Goulds - & in my way home called a few minutes at C R's.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 10, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 10th of 10th M / Not the worst of days - In the evening took a pleasant walk to [Portsmouth](#) & lodged at cousin Z Chases After I went to bed my mind was ruminating on various subjects & became arrested with an exercise on behalf of one that is about to marry contrary to the order of Friends, -occurrences of that kind are allways affecting to me & raise sensations which I cannot well express -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 11, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day / Morning after breakfast went up to P L, & found my dear H well - then to meeting & enjoyed a pretty good state of mind & I thought it was a good meeting, tho' it passed in silence- Din'd at P L's & in the afternoon went to see our Ancient friend & my beloved cousin Elizabeth Mott tho' she is confind to her room & has been for several years, is very pleasant & interesting in conversation; it is all ways agreeable & am allways well paid for my visits too those that are older in experience than myself. took tea at P L spent the evening & lodged there & this 2 day morning rose early & walked home before breakfast was ready I seem to labor under a cold, which with my walk this mornng has so unhinged my system that I have done but little work or felt but little of the circulations of that spirit I was in some degree favord with yesterday - In the eveng called to see A H to consult with her in the affairs of her family, Poor thing she is so situated that it is hard to know what to advise her too -



1807

1807

of I ever have children I hope I shall keep my Authority over them longer than she has over hers -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 12, Monday: Louis Spohr was admitted to the newly reconstituted Masonic lodge "Ernst zum Kompass" in Gotha.



In [Bristol, Rhode Island](#), at the US Customs House, sale of [slaves](#) brought over in a voyage of the [negrero](#) brig *Three Sisters*.

TRIANGULAR TRADE

How was this possible under the federal Act of 1807, recently enacted?

W.E. Burghardt Du Bois: The dozen or more propositions on the question of the disposal of illegally imported Africans may be divided into two chief heads, representing two radically opposed parties: 1. That illegally imported Africans be free, although they might be indentured for a term of years or removed from the country. 2. That such Africans be sold as slaves.⁵⁸ The arguments on these two propositions, which were many and far-reaching, may be roughly divided into three classes, political, constitutional, and moral.

The political argument, reduced to its lowest terms, ran thus: those wishing to free the Negroes illegally imported declared that to enslave them would be to perpetrate the very evil which the law was designed to stop. "By the same law," they said, "we condemn the man-stealer and become the receivers of his stolen goods. We punish the criminal, and then step into his place, and complete the crime."⁵⁹ They said that the objection to free Negroes was no valid excuse; for if the Southern people really feared this class, they would consent to the imposing of such penalties on illicit traffic as would stop the importation of a single slave.⁶⁰ Moreover, "forfeiture" and sale of the Negroes implied a property right in them which did not exist.⁶¹ Waiving this technical point, and allowing them to be "forfeited" to the

58. There were at least twelve distinct propositions as to the disposal of the Africans imported: —

1. That they be forfeited and sold by the United States at auction (Early's bill, reported Dec. 15: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 167-8).
 2. That they be forfeited and left to the disposal of the States (proposed by Bidwell and Early: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 181, 221, 477. This was the final settlement.)
 3. That they be forfeited and sold, and that the proceeds go to charities, education, or internal improvements (Early, Holland, and Masters: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 273).
 4. That they be forfeited and indentured for life (Alston and Bidwell: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 170-1).
 5. That they be forfeited and indentured for 7, 8, or 10 years (Pitkin: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 186).
 6. That they be forfeited and given into the custody of the President, and by him indentured in free States for a term of years (bill reported from the Senate Jan. 28: HOUSE JOURNAL (reprinted 1826), 9th Congress 2d session, V. 575; ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 477. Cf. also ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 272).
 7. That the Secretary of the Treasury dispose of them, at his discretion, in service (Quincy: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 183).
 8. That those imported into slave States be returned to Africa or bound out in free States (Sloan: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 254).
 9. That all be sent back to Africa (Smilie: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 176).
 10. That those imported into free States be free, those imported into slave States be returned to Africa or indentured (Sloan: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 226).
 11. That they be forfeited but not sold (Sloan and others: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 270).
 12. That they be free (Sloan: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 168; Bidwell: HOUSE JOURNAL (reprinted 1826), 9th Congress 2d session, V. 515).
59. Bidwell, Cook, and others: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 201.
60. Bidwell: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 172.



government, then the government should either immediately set them free, or, at the most, indenture them for a term of years; otherwise, the law would be an encouragement to violators. "It certainly will be," said they, "if the importer can find means to evade the penalty of the act; for there he has all the advantage of a market enhanced by our ineffectual attempt to prohibit."⁶² They claimed that even the indenturing of the ignorant barbarian for life was better than slavery; and Sloan declared that the Northern States would receive the freed Negroes willingly rather than have them enslaved.⁶³

The argument of those who insisted that the Negroes should be sold was tersely put by Macon: "In adopting our measures on this subject, we must pass such a law as can be executed."⁶⁴ Early expanded this: "It is a principle in legislation, as correct as any which has ever prevailed, that to give effect to laws you must not make them repugnant to the passions and wishes of the people among whom they are to operate. How then, in this instance, stands the fact? Do not gentlemen from every quarter of the Union prove, on the discussion of every question that has ever arisen in the House, having the most remote bearing on the giving freedom to the Africans in the bosom of our country, that it has excited the deepest sensibility in the breasts of those where slavery exists? And why is this so? It is, because those who, from experience, know the extent of the evil, believe that the most formidable aspect in which it can present itself, is by making these people free among them. Yes, sir, though slavery is an evil, regretted by every man in the country, to have among us in any considerable quantity persons of this description, is an evil far greater than slavery itself. Does any gentleman want proof of this? I answer that all proof is useless; no fact can be more notorious. With this belief on the minds of the people where slavery exists, and where the importation will take place, if at all, we are about to turn loose in a state of freedom all persons brought in after the passage of this law. I ask gentlemen to reflect and say whether such a law, opposed to the ideas, the passions, the views, and the affections of the people of the Southern States, can be executed? I tell them, no; it is impossible – why? Because no man will inform – why? Because to inform will be to lead to an evil which will be deemed greater than the offence of which information is given, because it will be opposed to the principle of self-preservation, and to the love of family. No, no man will be disposed to jeopard his life, and the lives of his countrymen. And if no one dare inform, the whole authority of the Government cannot carry the law into effect. The whole people will rise up against it. Why? Because to enforce it would be to turn loose, in the bosom of the country, firebrands that would consume them."⁶⁵

This was the more tragic form of the argument; it also had a mercenary side, which was presented with equal emphasis. It was repeatedly said that the only way to enforce the law was to play off individual interests against each other. The profit from the sale of illegally imported Negroes was declared to be the only sufficient "inducement to give information of their

61. Fisk: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 224-5; Bidwell: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 221.

62. Quincy: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 184.

63. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 478; Bidwell: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 171.

64. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 172.

65. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 173-4.



importation."⁶⁶ "Give up the idea of forfeiture, and I challenge the gentleman to invent fines, penalties, or punishments of any sort, sufficient to restrain the slave trade."⁶⁷ If such Negroes be freed, "I tell you that slaves will continue to be imported as heretofore.... You cannot get hold of the ships employed in this traffic. Besides, slaves will be brought into Georgia from East Florida. They will be brought into the Mississippi Territory from the bay of Mobile. You cannot inflict any other penalty, or devise any other adequate means of prevention, than a forfeiture of the Africans in whose possession they may be found after importation."⁶⁸ Then, too, when foreigners smuggled in Negroes, "who then ... could be operated on, but the purchasers? There was the rub - it was their interest alone which, by being operated on, would produce a check. Snap their purse-strings, break open their strong box, deprive them of their slaves, and by destroying the temptation to buy, you put an end to the trade, ... nothing short of a forfeiture of the slave would afford an effectual remedy."⁶⁹ Again, it was argued that it was impossible to prevent imported Negroes from becoming slaves, or, what was just as bad, from being sold as vagabonds or indentured for life.⁷⁰ Even our own laws, it was said, recognize the title of the African slave factor in the transported Negroes; and if the importer have no title, why do we legislate? Why not let the African immigrant alone to get on as he may, just as we do the Irish immigrant?⁷¹ If he should be returned to Africa, his home could not be found, and he would in all probability be sold into slavery again.⁷²

The constitutional argument was not urged as seriously as the foregoing; but it had a considerable place. On the one hand, it was urged that if the Negroes were forfeited, they were forfeited to the United States government, which could dispose of them as it saw fit;⁷³ on the other hand, it was said that the United States, as owner, was subject to State laws, and could not free the Negroes contrary to such laws.⁷⁴ Some alleged that the freeing of such Negroes struck at the title to all slave property;⁷⁵ others thought that, as property in slaves was not recognized in the Constitution, it could not be in a statute.⁷⁶ The question also arose as to the source of the power of Congress over the slave-trade. Southern men derived it from the clause on commerce, and declared that it exceeded the power of Congress to declare Negroes imported into a slave State, free, against the laws of that State; that Congress could not determine what should or should not be property in a State.⁷⁷ Northern men replied that, according to this principle, forfeiture and sale in Massachusetts would be illegal; that the power of Congress

66. Alston: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 170.

67. D.R. Williams: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 183.

68. Early: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 184-5.

69. Lloyd, Early, and others: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 203.

70. Alston: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 170.

71. Quincy: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 222; Macon: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 225.

72. Macon: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 177.

73. Barker: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 171; Bidwell: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 172.

74. Clay, Alston, and Early: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 266.

75. Clay, Alston, and Early: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 266.

76. Bidwell: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 221.

77. Sloan and others: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 271; Early and Alston: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 168, 171.



over the trade was derived from the restraining clause, as a non-existent power could not be restrained; and that the United States could act under her general powers as executor of the Law of Nations.⁷⁸

The moral argument as to the disposal of illegally imported Negroes was interlarded with all the others. On the one side, it began with the "Rights of Man," and descended to a stickling for the decent appearance of the statute-book; on the other side, it began with the uplifting of the heathen, and descended to a denial of the applicability of moral principles to the question. Said Holland of North Carolina: "It is admitted that the condition of the slaves in the Southern States is much superior to that of those in Africa. Who, then, will say that the trade is immoral?"⁷⁹ But, in fact, "morality has nothing to do with this traffic,"⁸⁰ for, as Joseph Clay declared, "it must appear to every man of common sense, that the question could be considered in a commercial point of view only."⁸¹ The other side declared that, "by the laws of God and man," these captured Negroes are "entitled to their freedom as clearly and absolutely as we are;"⁸² nevertheless, some were willing to leave them to the tender mercies of the slave States, so long as the statute-book was disgraced by no explicit recognition of slavery.⁸³ Such arguments brought some sharp sarcasm on those who seemed anxious "to legislate for the honor and glory of the statute book;"⁸⁴ some desired "to know what honor you will derive from a law that will be broken every day of your lives."⁸⁵ They would rather boldly sell the Negroes and turn the proceeds over to charity. The final settlement of the question was as follows: -

"SECTION 4.... And neither the importer, nor any person or persons claiming from or under him, shall hold any right or title whatsoever to any negro, mulatto, or person of color, nor to the service or labor thereof, who may be imported or brought within the United States, or territories thereof, in violation of this law, but the same shall remain subject to any regulations not contravening the provisions of this act, which the Legislatures of the several States or Territories at any time hereafter may make, for disposing of any such negro, mulatto, or person of color."⁸⁶



October 13, Tuesday: Humphrey Davy repeated his experiment of October 6th using soda instead of potash. This produced Sodium.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 13th of 10th M / My heart is affected with the spirit of

78. Ely, Bidwell, and others: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 179, 181, 271; Smilie and Findley: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, pages 225, 226.

79. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 240. Cf. Lloyd: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 236.

80. Holland: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 241.

81. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 227; Macon: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 225.

82. Bidwell, Cook, and others: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 201.

83. Bidwell: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 221. Cf. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 202.

84. Early: ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 239.

85. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session

86. ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress 2d session, page 1267.



1807

1807

thankfulness to the Father of mercies for thus visiting me with favors daily, & the Sincere aspiration of my soul to God is, that I may yet experience the fullness of his Holy Spirit

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 14, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day of 14 of 10 M / Rather a lean day, so it is one day up & another down, yesterday Grace seemed to be at command, but today I can scarcely feel a livly sensation -- In the eveng went to Thos Robinsons on buisness with M Morton, & set a little w[h]ile very pleasantly with them

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 15, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 15 of 10 M / When I took my seat in meeting I was quite empty but after a little time, my Vessel became refreshed with a comfortable Portion of the good Spirit Our friends John Hull & wife & Comfort Upton from Oblong on a religious visit to this Quarterly Meeting were with us. They appear to be solid friends & the two women appear to be Sound in Word, but not so correct in words as some others, John gave us no Specimin of his Gift, but if a solid countenance is any thing to judge by, he has that in his favor

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 16, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 16 of 10 M / Our above mentioned friends staid in town last night & this mornng went to [Portsmouth](#) to attend a meeting which they appointed there his afternoon at Two OClock, From Er who was there I understand it was a favor'd time, they all preached & J Hull spoke from the words of the Apostle John "Faith is the substance of things, hoped for & the evidence of things not seen"

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 October 17, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 17 of 10 M / I have had of late to reflect much on the dander [danger?] of standing high the view of the World - I have both seen & heard of many who have been considered eminent as men & women of piety & been much Spoken of as such & doubtless in measure were so, but by having their minds filled with the praise of men have become spiritually proud, by not keeping down in the spirit of their minds, others have fallen into acts of immorality & brought disgrace on themselves & the Truth they were making profession of & some have fallen one way & some another, which hath at times raised a strong query [?] in my



1807

1807

soul to God that he would preserve me by his power from falling into the hands of the enemy -Oh Lord preserve me from falling

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 18, Sunday: French troops entered Spain, making for Portugal.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 18 of 10 M 1807 / Our meeting this mornng was a very favord one. O Williams spoke in a weighty manner, as did also Mary Morton from these words, Blessed are they that Hunger & thirst after Righteousness for they shall be filled - In the Afternoon we were Silent, but my mind was not in quite so good a frame as in the mornng - As I was disappointed of a visit to [Portsmouth](#) this afternoon by the rain - took a walk in the forepart of the eveng over to the Beech, & spend the latter in my shop at writing letters to Several of my dear friends. M M, S B & my dear H R.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 19, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2nd day 19th of 10th M / Much engaged at Trade, & but little time to think on Superior concerns, my mind however has Several times been turned towards them with desires that they may have more place with me than they have - It seems a comfort to me that they have not been forgotten

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

1807

1807



October 20, Tuesday: Civil engineer Loammi Baldwin –who had in the 1794-to-1804 timeframe built the ill-fated [Middlesex Canal](#)– died and was immortalized in our language as the person to have noticed, hanging on a wild apple tree near Woburn MA, the “Baldwin” apple, an excellent tasty tangy winter-keeping apple.



Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 20 of 10 M / As yesterday, much engaged in buisness, but it has not passed with entire forgetfulness of the right & all important Object, -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 21, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*4 day 21 of 10 M / The addition to our meeting house for the accomodation of the Y Meeting was this day Raised with out the least accident thro' the whole - towards the middle to the day I went up with an intention to render what service I could, but seeing the very dangerous situation the men was necessarily in, had such an effect on my system that I came home concluding it was impossible for me to be of use - but a while after went again & found by putting hand to that sense of fear vanished & I could perform to my own astonishment
I had today Some conversation with a friend who I apprehended had not borne a faithful testimony in respect to his militia fine, when he told me his conduct in the affair my mind was painfully affected with a fear that unless Friends are very watchful over their members, our testimony in that respect will be, (if it is not already) grievously wounded -*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



1807

1807



October 22, Thursday: Magnus Huss, a Swedish medical clinician, was born. Huss would be the 1st to recognize chronic [alcoholism](#) to constitute a medical syndrome (his "Alcoholismus chronicus eller kronisk alkoholssjukdom" would appear in 1849).⁸⁷

[PSYCHOLOGY](#)

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5th day 22nd of 10 M 1807 / At meeting my mind was exercised on acct of the many deficiencies that prevail among us as a society, but over all & above all on acct of my own Short coming & consequently Small Authority to put hand too to help remove those weaknesses which are Among us - O Williams Stood up & said his mind had been so impressed with the message which the prophet had to deliver formerly that he thought best to express it - "Oh Alter Alter hear the word of the Lord," he wished us to remember that there was to be but one Alter in Israel & that was to be at Jerusalem - M Morton stood up & preached very sweetly, encoraging us to "seek first the kingdom of heaven & the righteousness thereof & all things necessary shall be added unto us" - She said she had no doubt but there are in this particular meeting a livingly baptized remnant, & by faith & Patience she trusted they would see the desire of their Souls & be satisfied, notwithstanding the many clogs which retard the wheels of Society. She stood rather longer than I ever saw her before, & was very lively in her communication
In the preparative meeting the Queries were answered & the defective manner in which some of them were necessarily expressed, occasioned some close remarks & doubtless exercise to some feeling minds, & sorrowful to mention, the Overseers reported a Young man as a delinquent for attending a Militia training -*

[RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS](#)



October 23, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 23 of 10 M / This Afternoon my friend Sam Towle called to see me, tho' he is not called by my name in religion, yet he is one that I feel to be a brother in the truth & I am free to acknowledged that his company has often proved edifying to me as I think it did this Afternoon. When he first came in I felt my mind Stript of every feeling that was desirable, but on digging & waiting a little in silence life sprang into dominion & did not leave me but continnued to circulate thro' the evening & render'd my calls at J S's & O W's very pleasant - I desire to be thankful for all my favors & under due Acknowledgement to Him who is the Author of them All

[RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS](#)



October 24, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 24 of 10 M / The life has risen very sweetly in my mind this mornng & Oh may it continue tho' [thro'] the day to sweeten

87. Street, W.R. A CHRONOLOGY OF NOTEWORTHY EVENTS IN AMERICAN [PSYCHOLOGY](#). Washington DC: American Psychological Association, 1994



1807

1807

my outward labor
My morning experience & desire has been in measure continued thro' the day but Oh that I could dig to the "nethermost Spring" that the Spirit of my mind may be refreshed thereby -- Spent the eveng at C R's my endeared H is here & was a sweetner to the Circle -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 25, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1st day 25th of 10 M 1807 / At meeting my mind was rather unsettled. I strove to dig & now & then was favord to feel a little Strength vouchsafed - the meeting was pretty full & very still & I thought a favor'd time. D Buffum spoke a few words toward the close in a very lively & feeling manner, Desiring we might be proffited by our thus Assembling, & said if we were not the fault was our own, & in order to be proffited we must enter into a lively concern, & then we should feel a language or go away with a language like this "I am glad I have been there - In the Afternoon I thought my mind was in rather better state than in the morning. H Dennis was concern'd to remind us that "Salt was good but if the salt had lost its Savor wherewithall shall it be Salted," & advised those that had witnessed the preserving salt in their mind might be concern'd to retain its savor, lest by carelessness they loose it imperceptibly & think their Standing in the divine sight better than it really is - then A Robinson made a small addition to what H had expressed, & the meeting soon concluded - After tea I took Chase [chaise?] & rode to [Portsmouth](#) with my endeared H left her at P L's, & came back to Z Chases to see my endeared Aunt M Gould who has been there Several days on a visit Staid all night & the next morning rose early & came home

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 26, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2nd day / I'm rather unwell today, when the boody is out of order the mind generally is also - but lamentable to Say mine is continually so, if my mind could have enjoyed as perfect health & order as my boody has for Several months past, I could now have begun to hope the time would come when a redemption from Sin would commence - but Satan is allways buisy & every day renews his attacks, & Oh that there could be a more firm resolution maintained against his intreagues -- Old Ceasar Hazard discription of him was by no means unjust - when he said the Devil was like an old white horse, put him into a field & he would go all round the fence feeling for a weak place & when he found it would push harder there than any where else, & tho' he might as well have been compared to a black horse as a white one yet the comparison would hold better than some I have heard drawn by those who had much more of the worlds wisdom than he had, - I find it is the weak places that satan tries the hardest to gain the victory at, & I have so many of them that I Sometimes think the poets language quite descriptive of my mind "Some are

flau'd & some flau'd all o'er

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

October 27, Tuesday: President [Thomas Jefferson](#)'s 7th Annual Message.

France and Spain signed the Treaty of Fontainebleau. Spain agreed to cooperate with French troops in the conquest of Portugal and allow French garrisons along their supply route. In return France granted Spain the southern third of Portugal. Meanwhile, King Carlos IV and Queen María Luisa detained Prince Fernando in the royal palace and launched an investigation into his affairs, fearful he was leading a plot against them.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3rd day 27th of 10th M 1807 / I seem to have to bewail myself as seperated from the divine harmony, I can neither See hear of [OR] feel any thing of the precious influence, but am dead dry & allmost a burden to myself - however this afternoon I became acquainted with a young man from Pomfret in Connecticut whose name was Daniel Clapp Junr - his countenance seems remarkably solid & his company was very pleasant, & I thought was of some use to my lifeless mind

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

October 28, Wednesday: [Enoch Pratt](#), after studying theology with Dr. Kirkland in Boston, was ordained as pastor of the Congregational church in West Barnstable, Massachusetts (he would remain with this congregation until 1837).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4th day 28th of 10 M / Much engaged in my occupation, but notwithstanding that I have felt my mind enlivened with the precious influence of the holy spirit, not for many days have I felt so refreshed, So it is after a time of Poverty & leaness comes a time of Strength, & for this visitation of divine love, Oh my soul be thou thankful

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

October 29, Thursday: Denmark allied with France against Britain.

Friend [James Arnold](#) got married with Friend [Sarah Rotch](#). The couple would have one daughter, [Elizabeth Rotch Arnold](#), born during January 1809, who would get married with a Dr. Tuttle but without issue, and who would die during October 1860 just after the death of her mother his wife — leaving him entirely without a blood heir for his accumulated vast whale-oil gains.



"The whaler was a kind of pirate-miner – an excavator of oceanic oil, stoking the furnace of the Industrial Revolution as much as any man digging coal out of the earth."



– Philip Hoare, THE WHALE: IN SEARCH OF THE GIANTS OF THE SEA (NY: HarperCollins, March 2010)

MOBY-DICK, THE OIL SPILL



Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 29th of 10th M / Rode to [Portsmouth](#) with E R stopt at P L, & from there to the meeting house with my endeared H - In our first meeting soon after taking my seat my mind was very feelingly cloathed with the precious ownings of divine favor which so rejoiced my spirit that a song of thankfulness arose to the Lord for once more favoring me with the light of his countenance - Our friend O W Stood up & very feeling invited us in the language of "Come brother come sister let us go up to mountain of the Lord & to the House of the God of Jacob & he will teach us his ways & we will walk in his Paths" & said it was the desire of his mind that we might come out of the form & cleave to the Substance, come from the outward to the inner temple where his holyness dwells & he believed was this the case with us we should find in us "a well springing up unto eternal life" A Robinson soon rose & said she could say in sincerity that her Spirit Said Amen to the invitation but a query soon rose "Who shall go up this holy mountain without a preparatory exercise? even Moses that faithful servant of the Lord could not ascend without first putting off his Shoes for the Ground whereon he stood was holy," she very feelingly pointed out the way to prepare to ascend the holy mountain & encoraged all to begin that their days work may be completed the part of the meeting for discipline was pretty well conducted & for my own part I feel thankful I was there & it is the Secret prayer of my soul that the present favor may not vanish like the early dew - R T was appointed clerk of the mens & H R of the womens Meeting, I feel desirous strength may be given them in proportion to their trials & in proportion to their faith I trust help will be afforded unto them -6th day 30 of 10 M 1807 / If it was safe to boast I should be allmost ready too of this as a very favord day for me, Oh soul Dwell deep for it is in the deep & thro' the deep that we must travel 'ere we can become inheriters of the promised land of rest - In the eveng called a R T's & at Aunt M Gould -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



October 31, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 31 of 10 M / Except for giving way to a light disposition in one instance my mind has experienced a good degree of seriousness thro' the day, & this eveng has been much afflicted with various reflections, particularly that of the different views of mankind in general, & how much more we should assimilate with each other, were we to come more under the influence of spirit & truth, I can say that my hearts desire is that we may (or that mankind the world over) may submit to the benign spirit & principals inculcated by the Author of Christianity - And that those who have in measure witnessed this pure spirit to influence their minds may strive to deepen therein, for it is my sincere beleaf & has been for a long time, that were the professors of religion to be real possessors of it there would not be that gainsaying there now is, neither would there be that coolness towards one another but we should be brought into a Sweet harmony & love would more & more abound, our poor drooping

society would revive & that Ancient Zeal for the Truth which so conspicuously shone in the lives of our worthy prediccursors would again appear – at seasons all that is alive within me is roused into fervancey that this may be witnessed in our day, but when the many weaknesses & deficiencies are brought to view which prevail even alarmingly prevail among us, I am ready to adopt the query formerly "by whom shall Jacob arise for he is small" & conclude the Ancient warning is applicabile in this our day

"O ye children of Benjamin, gather your selves to flee out of the midst of Jerusalem, & blow the trumpet in Tekoa [an outlying fortress city on the edge of the wilderness]; & set up a sign of fire in Beth-haccirem [a city of Judah, and chief town of district with a beacon]: for evil appeareth out of the north & great destruction.

*C R & wife spent the evening with us, & tho' I am well acquainted with them yet as things are at present circumstances, I was subjected to a little embarrassment [from **C R & wife** to end crossed out with X]*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

NOVEMBER

 November: [Samuel Taylor Coleridge](#) was in [London](#).

 November 1, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1st day 1st of 11th M 1807 / This mornng walked to [Portsmouth](#) by the East road & stoped at H Almys & got some breakfast before meeting

At meeting my mind was favord to feel a degree of favor, but found it hard to keep settled as a roving disposition seemed to prevail We had no preaching but the meeting was uncommonly quiet & solid

*I dined & P L; & spent the Afternoon with my precious H who my soul loveth & at every interview is more & more entwined [from **I dined** to end crossed out with an X]*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 2, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 2 of 11 M / Lodged last night at P L; & this mornng rose early & walked home, - the weather was very pleasant & my ruminations by no means painful, but may I not add were peaceful, - The time hastens when I shall not have occasion to go so frequently to [Portsmouth](#) as for several months past which affords me a degree of comfort, but I can say of a truth that my visits there this summer have allways been pleasant & I have no doubt were useful to me many ways & a seal is fixed on my mind that it is right that my lot has been cast there as it has, not a single unpleasant reflection arises from it -- The day has



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passed as well as common, spent the eveng in writing a Marriage certificate for R S & L F - & a letter to D S -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 3, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3rd day 3rd of 11 M / It has been a day of precious favor, may my soul bow in humble thankfulness for this renewed visitation of heavenly love & tender regard, when I first laid my head on the pillow my mind was under much feeling on several accounts, but alas was soon exchanged to hardness & dimness of sight - In the corse of the day received a letter from Mary Collins. In the evening made several calls on my friends, one at C R, where I found O W & wife comfortably Seated

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 4, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 4 of 11 M / Another favord day - my mind seems this evening to be a little with our friends who have gone to Quarterly meeting, but from an apprehesion it is right for me to be at home, feel no regret that I am not with them may they have a good reward for going -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 5, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 5th of 11 M 1807 / After I went from the Shop last eveng I perceived the family had received affecting news from my brother David who hath arrived in Savannah & is very sick, desires soon arose in my mind that he might find friends among Strangers, & that should he be Summoned to his long home that he may previously be at peace with his maker, & be admitted to the blessed abode of the righteous - I'm now going to meeting & Oh Father be pleased to me my stay, help me, for I acknowledge my great need, & my unworthiness of thy favor. - Reuben Shove & Lydia Fish were married they spoke very audible & becomingly, & all things conducted in order. The meeting was silent & I believe not a minister present all were absent at Swansey to the Quarterly meeting which is this day held there - My mind was not in that State of favor I anticipated before I went, but on the whole it was a pretty good time

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 6, Friday: [Cornelius Conway Felton](#) was born in West [Newbury, Massachusetts](#) to Cornelius Conway Felton and Anna Morse Felton.⁸⁸

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

88. The elder Cornelius Conway Felton had been born on June 28, 1784 to Thomas Felton and Martha Conway Felton, and would die on July 23, 1849. He had gotten married first with Lucy Torrey Boyton and then with Anna Morse, daughter of Abigail Bridges. This 2d marriage produced not only Cornelius Conway Felton (Junior) on November 5, 1807 but also, on July 17, 1809, a younger son Samuel Morse Felton.



1807

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6 day 6 of 11 M / Our friends have generally return'd from Quarterly Meeting, I understand they had a very good meeting, & some of them refreshed in the best sense
Spent the eveng at O Ws & was rather humoursly entertaine'd by B H's storys the time passed pleasantly but I apprehend not so proffitably as it might have done. I hope no harm will come of it & if I had done nothing this eveng to be dissatisfied with, but that, I believe I should be better quallified to write than I am now

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 7, Saturday: Angered by the British attack on Copenhagen in September, and in accordance with the Treaty of Tilsit, [Russia](#) broke relations with Great Britain.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 7 of 11 M / In company with B Freborn a brother committe man, visit H Hadwin in consequence of his attending at the last Military Parade. The poor thing seemed sorry for what he had done, but we were ready to fear from his other conduct in life he will not be able to make suitable satisfaction for that violation of our christian testimony, we left him & I agree'd to see him again & he was willing to meet me in my Shop some evening -

Feeling a drift towards [Portsmouth](#) as it will be the last (probably) I shall see my beloved H there, in the evening would out, & lodged at cousin Z Chases whose affectionate care & attention to me thro' life & particularly this summer has been very manifest, & requires my grateful Acknowledgement & are to number'd among my temporal blessings -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 8, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day / Walked up to P L & from there with him to meeting -which was large & to me an uncommonly favor'd Season Our friend H Almy was largely concerned in testimony particularly addressed the youth on the subject of their future hapiness & warnd us in a Solemn manner of the dangers of delays & exorted us as a Monument of Gods mercy to close in with the day of visitation while it lasted - at a second & third standing he was concernd to prove & enforce the doctrine of perfection & addressed those who were placing too much dependance on those who teach for hire & divine for money, exorting such to leave the shadow & cleave to the substance for they could never find it among those dead worshipers who are ever learning & never Able to come to the knowledge of the truth - I thought while he was standing, If George Fox was living & was to hear him he would have unity with him, as something of that power which George so frequently spoke of, seemed to be among us, & several were much broken even to weeping

After meeting I dined with J Chase, then returned to P L & spent the afternoon & evening in true love & fellowship with my endeared H - then return'd to Z C', & lodged, & this morning

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 9, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*2nd day walked home in about an hour & three quarters, my walks this summer have been very pleasant as to the outward & I apprehend no loss of inward strength has been experienced from them - I am glad the time has come when my dear H will be nearer than for six months past, & tho' it has cost me some exercise of boody, & given the world an opportunity to make some unfriendly remarks at her going out there, yet I trust there has been no just occasion of offence, & for our own part we are perfectly well satisfied that it was right for her to be there - [from **I am glad** to end has been crossed out with an X]*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 10, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3rd day 10th of 11 M 1807 / The day has passed with but little religious sensibility

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 11, Wednesday: East Frisia, Knyphausen and Jever were attached to the Kingdom of Holland.

The British government forbade all trade with France and ordered a blockade of French ports and the ports of any nations allied with France.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*4th day 11th of 11th M / The forepart of the day my mind was rather light & of an airy turn, but by the company & conversation of my beloved Philip Dunham [?] was rather helped to feel something of the covering of truth
Towards evening Simeon Martin the owner of the Ship of which my brother David is mate received a letter which mentioned that the second mate & two of the hands were dead, & the mate very low of a fever - A report is also in circulation that all the hands on board are dead except the Captain it appears to come so correst that most people believe it - the report involves us in much doubt & fear, & is very afflicting to dear father & Mother*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 12, Thursday: French troops reached Salamanca.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 12th of 11 M 1807 / The report of last night so operated on the minds of Father & Mother that they thought best to keep our Shops shut today & owing to Some indisposition & the effects of a portion of physic I did not go to meeting, but was not otherways so affected but that I could have attended pretty well



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especially as there is some doubt of the correctness of the report of last night, but should the poor thing be living it is most probable his Situation is very distressing, being far from friends & connections or any that he is particularly acquainted with in a county not noted for its humanity & kindness to poor suffering humanity, the secret prayer of my heart is that if he is living he may be favor'd with some kind friend that will afford the balm of comfort on a sick bed & more particularly, that friend who can make a sick bed easy by the effusions of his holy spirit in the mind - & if he is no More, Oh Saith my Soul that he might have been so favord before the final Solemn change as to be at peace with Our God & now at rest in the bosom of the blessed Saviour - When he was at home the last time he drempt a dream which he told mother the next day he could not get rid of, but thinking of it, & if he has been favord with his Senses I think he must have thought of it in this sickness - He said he thought he was coming from meeting & an old grave looking friend met him, & said to him David thou must go up to the meeting house field (meaning the burying place) & pray - & he went & knelt down & prayed fervantly, & as he prayed he got flat upon his face & the tears flowed so copiously that they seemed to run in a Stream - When this was told me today it affected my mind very much -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 13, Friday: The Emperor Napoléon ordered his reserves at Bayonne (25,000 men) to march into Spain.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 13 of 11 M 1807 / This eveng while setting at C R's, I felt the covering or mantle of Truth spread over my mind in a very precious manner Oh how I love to feel it - but Alass my mind is so fluctuating that it is easily shifted from one thing to another & by giving way to the lightness - I miss of many precious moments & in their place find a Sting of remorse

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 14, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*7 day 14 of 11 M / Could I allways feel that precious tenderness & seriousness with which my mind is now clothed, I should not so often stray from the path which leads to peace, & inflict a wound which needs the purifying fire of truth to heal
The desire of my mind is very fervant that this may continue, as the time I apprehend is approaching when we shall stand in need of all the christian fortitude that we can attain to, as the times are very allarming, our Political world is very much convulsed, & this land is threatened with the horrors of war - & preparations are Making to draft men as Soldiers for the carnal warfare, that those young men members of our society that may chance to be drawn will do I know not, whether we shall be favord with a Sufficient of the Lambs Spirit to resist with propper firmness the requisition made by government in that respect or not is yet unknown - but the desire yea prayer of my Spirit is*



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that the Lord will not be wanting to invest us with a portions of his power & spirit to carry us thro' all to his honor -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 15, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 15 of 11 M / Our meeting both in the forenoon & afternoon were Silent As to my own Situation I may acknowledge it was much better than I deserved, being thro' unmerited mercy favord to feel the Stirring of truth in my mind, tho' mixed with conviction, & was helped to gain a good degree of ascendancy over Some thoughts which require unceasing watchfulness & prayer to Subdue - Spent the evening with my beloved H in a very solid manner & the greater part of the time in silence, both our spirits being under the baptizing influence & Oh Saith my soul may all that is within us bow & surrender to the requisitions of the spirit of truth in our hearts

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 16, Monday: [Mary Tyler Peabody](#) (Mann) was born to the dentist [Nathanael Peabody](#) and the Unitarian [Elizabeth Palmer Peabody](#) in Billerica, Massachusetts.

She would attend the 2d (soon to be Unitarian) Church in Salem, Massachusetts.

A British fleet arrived at the mouth of the River Tejo, Portugal.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2nd day 16th of 11 M 1807 / This evenings Mail has confirmed the melancholy report of my dear Brother David's decease. He departed this life the 22nd of 10th M last About 9 OClock in the evening at Savannah in Georgia after twelve days illness of a fever, the particulars of his sickness we have not yet learnt whether he was favord with his reason to the last, or reconciled to the Solemn final change, we wish very much to hear but as he was so far from us & no particular friend & acquaintance near, it is most likely we Shall not very soon if ever learn how it was with him - The circumstance of his change at so great a distance from us is a very close tryal, & since the news reached us I have had to take an home view of death. The agonies attendant at that Awful moment must be very great. Oh that when the pale messenger may assail my tabernacle, I may be in readiness to go with him -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 17, Tuesday: 50,000 French troops invaded Portugal from Spain.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3rd day 17 of 11 M 1807 / A day of seriousness, but even in the midst of Seriousness, the tempter has been present & in a Small degree prevailed against me, but I hope he will be put to flight yet -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 18, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4th day 18th of 11 M / It hath been a favor'd day, for which my Soul desires to be thankful. I have felt more of the precious covering Spirit & Power of Truth than for a long time -- The Militia Companys have this day mustered in order [sic] to draft their men P[er] order of the President - whether my name was among the number that were drawn out, or not, I have not heard, nor do I feel much concern'd about it, having felt this day an uncommon Zeal to bear faithful testimony in that respect

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 19, Thursday: Local councils were instituted in Prussia.

Invading French troops arrived at Lisbon.

Humphrey Davy read his paper announcing the discovery of potassium and sodium before the Royal Society in London.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 19th of 11 M / Our Meeting was Silent, & to me a pretty good one; the preparative meeting but small & no buisness - After having got through the manual labor of the day in the latter part of the evening called at C Rs & set an hour very sweetly, & I trust to some proffit -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 20, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6th day 20 of 11 M / My Dear Aunt Martha Stanton sail'd from Newyork yesterday mornng at 10 OClock & arrived here this mornng at 5 OClock. When I first saw her my mind was bowed with the Spirit of thanksgiving & prayer to God for his many favors, & a sweet spirit of that kind pervaid me at this moment. Oh Lord be pleased to preserve me in this tender frame This evening called at J T's shop & met a coupple of men whose conversation turnd on the present gloomy prospect of War, & in such a case what Friends would do. They said we must all fight. - My reply was, that I should think it an hanious crime for me to fight & kill an Englishman for they had done me no hurt & I felt no animosity against them. My replys was short but were Such as has afforded me very peacefull feelings, & I thought struck them with some weight - Soon after I fell in with a member of society with whom I had a little conversation on the Same Subject which has given me much pain as I verily believe he is not as Sound in the faith as he ought to be

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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 November 21, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 21 of 11 M 1807 / The day has passed rather better than common My mind has been possessed with an livly Zeal for the Testimony - [?] received a clever letter from a female friend & relative in Nine Partners which was very agreeable - In the eveng gave way to a peace of folly which left a testimony of remorse.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 22, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1st day 22 of 11 M / Our meetings were Silent, large & in a good degree favor'd times. In the morng my mind was feelingly arrested with the subject of the Babylonish garment & wedge of gold that hinderd the progress of Israel formerly, attended with a conciousness of there being something of the accursed thing retained in my mind which so retards my progress in the work of religion. may I me [be] zealously engaged to exterminate every thing which stands as a barrier to my peace with God - In the Afternoon the same subject was renew'd, but not with so much force as in the morng - Spent the eveng with my endear'd H

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 23, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2nd day 23 of 11 M / This morng the young man (member of society) with whom I mentioned having conversation on Military subjects on sixth day evening last, came to the shop & said his mind had been troubled about what he said on the subject, & thought he should feel most easy to say something further upon it, & satisfactorily condemned what he then said as believing it right in case of personal insult, rather than be killed or suffer those under our protection to be killed, to kill the offender, on this doctrine I opposed him & stood my ground, zealously supporting that it would be better to die ourselves, that we should stand a greater chance of mercy from the Lord, than to Kill him whose mind was so far reduced to the brute condition, & the probability would be must be consigned to endless misery, & in my opinion the destroying of such an one would subject our own souls to the same punishment. Whereas was he to live he might by unfeigned repentance obtain pardon from the most high & we be clear of the blood of all men -In this frank acknowledgement of the young man my mind has received an additional confirmation that it is best for us zealously to support our religious principals & if we are sometimes overcome by the eloquence of mans wisdom, or rather if we do not allway find sufficient matter to advance against those who has a little more of gift of speach than ourelves, that is no reason to think our cause is bad, if we can but feel an evidence of what we say to be right & as coming from the right spring, we need not fear, for sometimes a few words spoken in the symplicity will do more good & have a more convincing effect on the mind of an opposer than many words



1807

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couched in the nicest manner.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 24, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3rd day 24th of 11 M 1807 / Busily occupied at Trade. I've nothing to boast of in any sense, my purse is low, but thro' favor, not so streightened as I have been - That life which I wish above all other considerations to cherish & support is but weak. I pray it may not die, for my soul is well satisfied that the enjoyment of it is all that can render us wise & happy in this life whether rich or poor -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 25, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 25 of 11 M / Nothing material to insert. My friend A Barker spent then evening with me in the shop hos company was very plesant

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 26, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 26 of 11 M / Monthly meeting held in town The first was a good favord time to me. Our friend Holder Almy was helped with a good degree of Authority to preach to the people concerning the things which belong to their present & future wellbeaing, & particularly that of the love of the world he mentioned as one of the greatest hindrances to our religious growth, he urged the necessity of obeying the commandments of God, that no Wedge of God or Baybalonish garments be retained in the camp, but that all that God requires must be done. the best of the sheep & oxen must not be kept but slain if he requires it, the pretence of sacrifice will not do -

In the last part for discipline I thought we were much favord in the traransacting [transacting] the concerns that came before us. Our new Clerk R T perform'd well for the first time -I know not the time when my mind has been more favord in any meeting than to day - I felt the precious incomes of divine life to arise in the first & was uncommonly continued in the last, & feel well satisfied with the few remarks that I apprehended was right for me to make to the buisness before us

In the eveng called at Aunt M Gs, R Ts, C R, & set the remainder at O W's in very pleasant circle

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



1807

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November 27, Friday: The federal Congress returned, on this day, to the hard task of considering the possibility of the issuance of a clarification to Section 8 of their recent "Act to prohibit the importation of Slaves into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, from and after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight." This section had given permission for the continued buying and selling of slaves inside the borders of this nation. Nothing would come of their attempt at a clarification of this section.

STATUTES AT LARGE, II. 426. For proceedings in Senate, see SENATE JOURNAL (reprint of 1821), 9th Congress, 1-2d session, IV. 11, 112, 123, 124, 132, 133, 150, 158, 164, 165, 167, 168; ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress, 2d session, pages 16, 19, 23, 33, 36, 45, 47, 68, 69, 70, 71, 79, 87, 93. For proceedings in House, see HOUSE JOURNAL (reprint of 1826), 9th Congress, 2d session, V. 470, 482, 488, 490, 491, 496, 500, 504, 510, 513-6, 517, 540, 557, 575, 579, 581, 583-4, 585, 592, 594, 610, 613-4, 616, 623, 638, 640; 10th Congress, 1st session, VI. 27, 50; ANNALS OF CONGRESS, 9th Congress, 2d session, pages 167, 180, 200, 220, 231, 254, 264, 270.

SLAVERY

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 27 of 11 M 1807 / Much engaged, in the Morning with T H visited Eleazer Trevets Charity School for the purpose of selecting proper objects to bestow some old cloaths put into our hands & \$5 in money to purchase new shoes for the most necesitous scholars in the School we selected twelve of this discription, with the money in our care we purchased Six pair of good shoes & gave those that needed most, & the old clothes we distributed according to the best of our judgement - When I see those that are poor it excites in my mind a desire to be more in a capacity to help them than I am but may I be content with my lot & not aspire after things beyond my reach, for riches in this world will never be in my possession -but a disposition to do all the good I can is my sincere wish

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



November 28, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 28 of 11 M / My endeared friend Joseph Austin is here from [Nantucket](#) & has spent much of his time with me today I love him as a brother & do sincerely sympathise with him in his very tried state of mind respecting his Fathers situation - I hardly know of a young man with whom I feel so nearly united in the best sense. Oh that we may continue to Strive for best help thro' life & be favord when the thread of life shall be cut to receive the blessed sentence of "Well Done"

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



1807

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 November 29, Sunday: The Portuguese royal family, court, and government left Lisbon for Brazil under British escort. They took with them most of the national treasury and national archives.

Miguel Pereira Forjaz, conde de Feira became acting head of government in Lisbon.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1st day 29th of 11th M 1807 / Last night Aunt M Stanton was violently attacked with the Bilious Cholic, which kept me up very late, & this mornng rose early & went with R T to dig some narrow dock root for a complaint which my Mother has in her breast, all which so fatigued me that I thought it best to omit meeting this forenoon - I understood those that attended were favor'd with a good time & D Buffum was uncommonly favor'ed in testimony In the Afternoon I went but to me it was but a poor dry time tho' I thought there was a degree of favor vouchsafed - Spent the evening as usual of late on first days -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 November 30, Monday: After a forced march of 14 days and with less than 10% of their original number, French forces entered Lisbon and proceeded to ransack the town.

Kunst und Liebe, a liederspiel by Johann Friedrich Reichardt to his own words, was performed for the initial time, at the Nationaltheater, Berlin.

WINTER 1807/1808

DECEMBER

 December: Robert Fulton attempted again to interest President [Thomas Jefferson](#) and the Secretary of the Navy in using his torpedoes to destroy British shipping. He left [Washington DC](#) for New-York.

 December: [George Gordon, Lord Byron](#) left Cambridge for good.

 December 1, Tuesday: [Horatio Wood](#) was born, son of John Wood and Elizabeth Smith Wood, in Newburyport, Massachusetts (the father was for half a century a prominent merchant of [Newbury](#) port, and for several years president of its Mechanics Bank).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3rd day 1st of 12th M 1807 / Again much engaged, & nothing material to insert The spirit truly is willing, but the flesh is weak

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 2, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4th day 2nd of 12 M / Tho' much engaged at Trade, my mind is touched with the precious spirit of Truth, & feel disposed to stop & say "Thy ways are ways of pleasantness & all thy paths O God are peace, enable me Oh Father to keep in thy ways & to walk in thy paths.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 3, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 3 of 12 M / Times & seasons are assuredly in the hand of the Lord. When I took my seat in meeting I was entirely unqualified, & saw nothing but a poor dry barren meeting before me - but was very soon agreeably disappointed. I hardly know when my spirit has been in a better frame - Spent the forepart of the eveng in calling on several of my friends & among the rest M Williams for the first time since her confinement - The latter part in the shop writing to a friend

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 4, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 4 of 12 M / An agreeable visit from my friend P.D. I believe our strength was mutually renewed by the company & conversation of each other, for my own I was much refreshed with his company -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 5, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 5 of 12 M 1807 / Buisy at trade, but not with out an evidence of the continued regard & mercy of divine providence

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 6, Sunday: Obed Baker of West Dedham (now Westwood), Massachusetts got married with local schoolteacher [Betsey Metcalf](#).

According to church records as investigated by Judy Fichtenbaum of the Concord Museum, on this day Mrs. [Sophia Lapham](#), wife of Mr [Luther Lapham](#) & daughter of the Reverend A. Dunbar, received communion as a member of the congregation of the West Church in [Boston](#).

SOPHIA DUNBAR

ASA DUNBAR

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 6 of 12 M / Our meetings were silent & to me favor'd opportunitys, feeling the sweet springing up of life & a little renewal of my spiritual strength may I be duly thankful therefor - Spent the eveng as usual on first days

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



1807

1807



December 7, Monday: [Jérôme Bonaparte](#) ascended the throne of Westphalia.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2nd day 7 of 12 / Accompanied Our friend D Buffum in a visit to Rodman Gardner occasioned by some unjust unfounded & malicious aspersions which Rodman had utterd against David in presence of Joseph Briggs & John Price who went with us - Rodman accused David of having officiously [meddled with, crossed out] advised his father Anthony in the making of his Last Will, but when called upon to specify wherein, or what David had done worthy of blame declined offering any thing as accusation, whereupon David rehersed in the presence of J B, J P & myself all the conversation he ever had with his father on the subject, which amounted to no more than, that he visited him sometime before his death & was speaking with him on various subjects, & of necessity of leaving our outward concerns in such manner as to feel peaceful in the trying moment on which he said, Elisha immedeatly reply'd "mine are not" & wished David to call on C Rodman & ask him to call at his House the next day which he accordingly did, & when the will was rote David was one of witnesses, & with a little conversation on the subject of the Executors was all that ever passed between them - So David clearly satisfactorily cleared up his character before the witnesses without any grounded accusation from Rodman who only asserted things without proving them as he went - I was very desirous that the conference might end well, which it did, to David & myself but poor R was left in an hard unrelenting state & without any ground of hard thinking

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



December 8, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 8 of 12 M / Occupied as usual thro' the day, my mind in rather better state than common - In the eveng rote a friend & acquaintance in Salem

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



December 9, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*4 day 9 of 12 M / After I went home last eveng I was called to watch with a Sick man. My mind was often in the corse of the night brought feelingly & deeply to reflect on the Awfulness of death -The circumstances of my poor brother David's decease was brought close home to my feelings. I longed to hear the state of his mind at the final change, & thought how thankful I should have been to have had the favor to set with him as I was then with that sick man. But alass he is removed from time - & that in a land where he would not receive the assistance of near relatives. My souls prays that he had some near sympathiser where he was -
This Afternoon recevied a letter from my Beloved friend Micajah Collins which did my soul good - for When I received it my*

feelings were upon a low key - I'm sure I have not been so refreshed by a communication in a long time, if ever -

 December 10, Thursday: The Kingdom of Etruria (Tuscany) was annexed by France.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 10th of 12th M 1807 / Our meeting was silent. I tried to have a good one, & thought I should in the beginning, but found it hard to keep to the center before it concluded, however it was not the worst of times

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 11, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6th day 11th of 12th M / Much perplexed with old stoping Watches insomuch that I almost was ready to wish that I had never learnt the trade - but thro' favor made out to get the better of them, & by striving for patience & resignation, became reconciled, & experienced a favor state of mind. Spent the eveng in replying to dear Micajahs favor receivd the day before yesterday -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 12, Saturday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 12 of 12 M / A very poor thing

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 13, Sunday: Spanish troops occupied Oporto.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

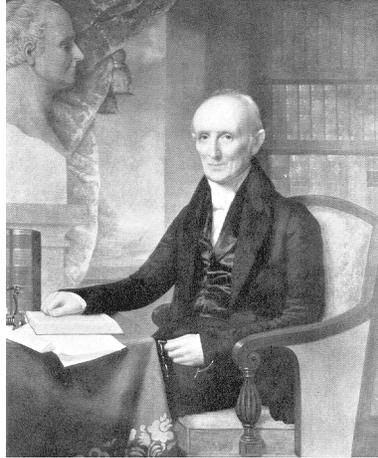
1 day 13 of 12 M / Silent meetings, & I am a poor scatterd thing

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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→ December 14, Monday: In the early morning hours, a huge fireball streaked from north to south over New England at a speed of three miles per second and an altitude of some 18 miles, exploding with the noise of a small cannon above Weston, Connecticut. Remnants would be collected and studied by Yale College. Shown a rocky fragment that weighed nearly 200 pounds, President [Thomas Jefferson](#) remained skeptical of the supposition that stony matter might be originating anywhere else than from down here upon the surface of the earth (like extinct dinosaurs, this was something that just didn't fit into his mental universe). We owe the calculations of the speed and altitude of this [meteor](#) to Nathaniel Bowditch, who throughout his life was in constant search for instances which would succumb to the tools of mathematical analysis.



SKY EVENT

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2nd day 14 of 12 M / A severe struggle between flesh & spirit. I never more sensibly felt that truth of the assertion that there is no temptation so great but that with the temptation there, was, or is a way made for an escape. -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

→ December 15, Tuesday: La vestale, a tragédie lyrique by Gaspere Spontini to words of Jouy, was performed for the initial time, at the Paris Opéra. The performance came to fruition only through the patronage of Empress Josephine. It was an enormous success and would run 200 performances.

→ December 16, Wednesday: Panama Railroad financier William Henry Aspinwall was born in New-York.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 16 of 12 M / The state of my mind was such yesterday that I thought best not to attempt to insert any thing in my journal, it resembled that of poor Cain when every man that met him slew him, every one that looked at me accused me of having departed from that principal which will save to the very uttermost, or having known a death to that precious life which is of all things the most precious, I am abundantly satisfied in the belief of the doctrine that the spirit does not allways strive with man, but will faithfully strive for a Season & if there is not a compliance with the terms, which is nothing short of a death to the will & passions of the natural man, we are by degrees left



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to fullfill our own lusts untill we become hardened & can commit them, without feeling the checks of conscience, & thus witness our spiritual life to decay & we left but poor dry & dead creatures.

I have felt in rather better condition than yesterday, & hope I shall yet do better, so as to feel more of the power of divine life in my mind -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



December 17, Thursday: The [Emperor Napoléon](#) issued the Milan Decrees: all neutral shipping which submitted to British search or visited British ports would be banned from continental ports.

In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5th day 17 of 12 M 1807 / It was a silent meeting, & to me a close searching season but I trust not the worst of times - Just now heard my brother James had arrived in NewYork after a passage of 29 days from Liverpool In the eveng walked out to D Buffums to wait on my H & sister A [?] home -

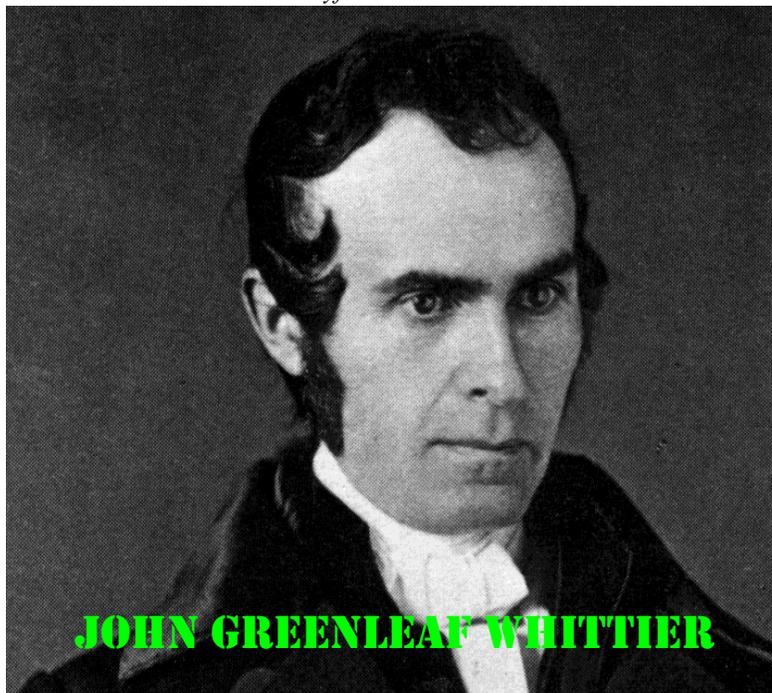
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

NEVER READ AHEAD! TO APPRECIATE DECEMBER 17TH, 1807 AT ALL ONE MUST APPRECIATE IT AS A TODAY IN WHICH THE EMPEROR NAPOLÉON WAS UNDEFEATED AND JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER MERELY ANOTHER QUAKER INFANT RATHER THAN AN ELDER POET (THE FOLLOWING DAY, TOMORROW, IS BUT A PORTION OF THE UNREALIZED FUTURE AND IFFY AT BEST).

[John Greenleaf Whittier](#) was born to a [Quaker](#) family of [Huguenot](#) ancestry (John and Abigail Hussey Whittier)⁸⁹ living in an old hand-hewn oak cabin near Haverhill north of Boston. He was their 2d child, the 1st having been Mary, born in the previous year.



This was one family that would not be claiming, like some, to be blond-haired and blue-eyed and hereditarily privileged and to have come over in the *Mayflower*.⁹⁰



JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER

[WIKIPEDIA'S LIST OF HUGUENOTS](#)

89.Using statistical methods, Abraham D. Lavender has calculated in his FRENCH HUGUENOTS: FROM MEDITERRANEAN CATHOLICS TO WHITE ANGLO-SAXON PROTESTANTS (New York: Peter Lang, 1990, page 171) that as of the middle of the 19th Century there were perhaps a million people in the US who had credentials similar to Thoreau's and Whittier's for descent, with considerable outmarriage, from French [Huguenot](#) religious refugees.

[WIKIPEDIA'S LIST OF HUGUENOTS](#)



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When Friend John would belatedly enroll at the Haverhill Academy, he would need to support himself by odd jobs and by crafting slippers for other students at \$0.²⁵ per pair. Due to poor health, as well as to lack of financial backing and to being quite a bit older than the other students, he would be quite unable to proceed

90. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow had been born on February 27th of that year in the Massachusetts town of Portland (Portland not yet having been assigned to Maine), to parents who did claim such distinction. According to the [American Methodist Monthly](#), Volume II, page 229, [John Greenleaf Whittier](#) was descended from a religious refugee named Fouillevert who had fled from Brittagne in the early states of the persecution by the French government. [John Greenleaf Whittier](#) was distantly related to [Benjamin Franklin](#), Friend [Lucretia Mott](#), Octavius Brooks Frothingham, and Henry Adams.



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from the academy to college.

I was born on the 17th of December, 1807, in the easterly part of Haverhill, Mass., in the house built by my first American ancestor, two hundred years ago. My father was a farmer, in moderate circumstances,—a man of good natural ability, and sound judgment. For a great many years he was one of the Selectmen of the town, and was often called upon to act as arbitrator in matters at issue between neighbors. My mother was Abigail Hussey, of Rollinsford, N.H. A bachelor uncle and a maiden aunt, both of whom I remember with much affection, lived in the family. The farm was not a very profitable one; it was burdened with debt and we had no spare money; but with strict economy we lived comfortably and respectably. Both my parents were members of the Society of Friends. I had a brother and two sisters. Our home was somewhat lonely, half hidden in oak woods, with no house in sight, and we had few companions of our age, and few occasions of recreation. Our school was only for twelve weeks in a year,—in the depth of winter, and half a mile distant. At an early age I was set at work on the farm, and doing errands for my mother, who, in addition to her ordinary house duties, was busy in spinning and weaving the linen and woolen cloth needed in the family. On First-days. father and mother, and sometimes one of the children, rode down to the Friends' Meeting-house in Amesbury, eight miles distant. I think I rather enjoyed staying at home and wandering in the woods, or climbing Job's hill, which rose abruptly from the brook which rippled down at the foot of our garden. From the top of the hill I could see the blue outline of the Deerfield mountains in New Hampshire, and the solitary peak of Agamenticus on the coast of Maine. A curving line of morning mist marked the course of the Merrimac, and Great Pond, or Kenoza, stretched away from the foot of the hill towards the village of Haverhill hidden from sight by intervening hills and woods, but which sent to us the sound of its two church bells. We had only about twenty volumes of books, most of them the journals of pioneer ministers in our society. Our only annual was an almanac. I was early fond of reading, and now and then heard of a book of biography or travel, and walked miles to borrow it. When I was fourteen years old my first school-master, Joshua Coffin, the able, eccentric historian of Newbury, brought with him to our house a volume of Burns' poems, from which he read, greatly to my delight. I begged him to leave the book with me; and set myself at once to the task of mastering the glossary of the Scottish dialect at its close. This was about the first poetry I had ever read, (with the exception of that of the Bible, of which I had been a close student,) and it had a lasting influence upon me I began to make rhymes myself, and to imagine stories and adventures. In fact I lived a sort of dual life, and in a world of fancy, as well as in the world of plain matter-of-fact about me.



December 18, Friday: In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

6 day 18 of 12 M / I was at O Williams this eveng. He & wife have just returnd from a visit to Bedford —

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 19, Saturday: In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 19 of 12 M / Much as usual of late, rather a going behind hand

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 20, Sunday: In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

1 day 20 of 12 M / Silent meetings - Alass for my backslidings - I was but a poor scattered creature, but in the afternoon fared rather better than in the morning - Spent the evening as usual of late -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 21, Monday: [John Newton](#) died in London.

In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2 day 21 of 12 M / Alass! Alass! I really believe every moment of my life is retrograde from the path to holiness - A little after Sunset, brother James arrived from NewYork, spent the evening at work & towards the latter part of it called at a friends house & set a little while -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 22, Tuesday: The US Congress passed President Jefferson's Embargo Act of 1807 halting commercial shipping to any other nation without the specific authority of the president. His embargo on foreign trade instantly shut down the port of New-York (American ships would be forbidden from leaving American waters, until 1809).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3 day 22 of 12 M / Owing to repeated revoltings & rebellions to the saving Principal, my mind is in a very depressed state, & almost ready to conclude it is impossible for the heavenly presence to be vouchsafed but nevertheless am favor'd to feel an encouraging hope that by a deep indwelling with the spirit of divine life that I may yet witness light to arise out of darkness, & tho' depression is more my experience today than for a long time, I am not willing to consider it a bad omen, but rather as a good one, for I have allways found when my mind can come to a feeling sense of my backslidings that it is more comfortable & hopeful than is a dead unfeeling state, having a sense that things are not right, but not able to do the least thing to extricate myself from the thraldom of Sin. This State I have experienced hundreds & I dont know but thousands of times, & find it, of all that I have ever experienced the most unpleasant - It is the sincere prayer of my spirit, that I may that I may be more watchful to guard against the cunning intreagues of the Enemy that all that is of a Babylonish nature may be removed even if it be as near as a right hand or a right eye. Oh Lord it is under a feeling sense of my great unworthiness



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*that I presume to ask thy help in removing those hindering & obstructing things.
Was favor'd this evening, (notwithstanding my depression in the day time to treat with H Hadwen in consequence of his attending a Military training,) much beyond my expectation & tho' the Spring of life appear'd low in his mind & he manifested but little disposition to satisfy friends for his transgression, Yet the circumstance of his Youth & the little advantage he has had in society claimed my affectionate feelings & sympathy, & according to the ability afforded, endeavor'd to do what I could for his restoration*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



December 23, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 23 of 12 M 1807 / Again feel an emptiness, but am not so much depressed as Yesterday, or so sinful as for many days past -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



December 24, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*24 of 12 M / When I went to meeting I felt but little prospect of having a good meeting, feeling very barren & destitute of life, but very soon after taking my seat, felt the flowings of that precious Stream which refresheth as none other can - & at the conclusion could readily adopt the Language "It is Good for me to be here" Our friend Abigail Robinson was fervently engaged in supplication that we might be favored to overcome the enemys of our own house-hold, & that those whose hands were ready to hang down, under the depressing prospect of things in our poor society, might be strengthened to hold on their way, & also was engaged to return hearty thanks to the Lord for his many favors bestowed upon us acknowledging in deep humility our great unworthiness - We had no buisness at the preparative meeting, except to appoint representatives who were directed to confer with some friend suitable to serve as Clerke -
This evening I went to the Moravian Meeting it being the time of their love feast which curiosity lead me to see performed, the house was so full that I could not get in so as to hear what was said, or see all that was done, however they gave me half a rusk, & would have given me a mug of Chocolate if there had been any left, I took the will for the deed & in compensation gave them six cents. I felt a little reluctance at giving money for any thing at a Meeting house, but when I considerd it was not to pay for preaching but mearly to defray the expence of what was eaten, I made a little stertch of conscience & conformd to what I could not fully approve of was that they only thing that I had ever done that was wrong, or if I was not in the daily practice of doing things much more offensive, than I have any reason to believe that was, I believe my path to happiness would not be at all obstructed to what it now is*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 25, Friday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*6th day 25 of 12 M / It has been a day peradventure of some little improvement, having felt a good degree of Seriousness to cover my mind. In the evening walked to Saml Thurstons to come home with H & E R
This afternoon received another very acceptable letter from my beloved friend Micajah*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 26, Saturday: British forces occupied Madeira.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

7 day 26 of 12 M / Nothing material has occur'd in my own mind save some little cogitations respecting the political convulsions of our nation - we seem on the brink of a war, & a report has currently circulated that an embargo is laid on all Vessels in the united states, but notwithstanding the present calamitous appearance of things, a little secret Small Still voice has frequently been sounded in my mind, like "Be ye bot troubled" -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 27, Sunday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*1 day 27 of 12th M / It has been a comfortable day to me, our meetings were favor'd seasons. In the forenoon our friend D Buffum stood up & endeavored to impress in our minds the necessity of our being concern'd in good earnest for our own peace & said it would not do for us to Say that we have Abraham to our fathers for our connection with good people would do nothing for us but we must be good our selves - when he first rose he mentioned the text "Ye have no longer need of this proverb in Israel the children have eaten sour grapes & the children s teeth are set on edge, which he clearly proved to be of no use in these days as we were not accoutable for the sins of one another. --
In the afternoon we were silent but very quiet & solid -Spent the eveng as usual of late*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

 December 28, Monday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

2nd day 28th of 12th M 1807 / It has been a day of feeling, & this evening a precious sweetness covers my mind Oh that my soul may be humbly thankful for this favor

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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December 29, Tuesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

3rd day 29 of 12 M / A pretty good day, much engaged in buisness

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



December 30, Wednesday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

4 day 30 of 12 M / This day I am 26 years of age. the relfection that I have advanced no further in religious experience is very humbling

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



December 31, Thursday: Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

5 day 31 of 12 M 1807 / This morning rode to [Portsmouth](#) with my H to attend our Monthly Meeting which was large & but a low time. The seed seem'd to be under suffering both in the first & last meetings. Our friend S Barker however was favord with Strength to remind us of the words of the Royal Psalmist "Behold how good & how pleasant it is for bretheren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Arons beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that desended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessings, even life forever more. - The buisness of Society went on pretty well considering the dullness that prevailed among us. & our friend O Williams made a few lively remarks in the line of testimony - we dined at P Lawtons & rode home on the edge of the evening. Thus ends the Year. Oh that the conclusion of another may be more propitious, my mind is often humbled under the very gloomy prospect of things in our poor society & my inability to contribute towards rebuilding the waste places of Zion -

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



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"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



Prepared: June 14, 2015

ARRGH AUTOMATED RESEARCH REPORT

GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.

Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in



the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.

General Events of 1807

SPRING	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
SUMMER	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
FALL	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
WINTER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER

Following the death of [Jesus Christ](#) there was a period of readjustment that lasted for approximately one million years.

-Kurt Vonnegut, THE SIRENS OF TITAN



GO ON TO EVENTS OF 1808