

**JAMES FRANKLIN, WIDOW FRANKLIN,  
AND THEIR SON JAMES FRANKLIN THE YOUNGER<sup>1</sup>**



JAMES FRANKLIN  
WIDOW FRANKLIN  
JAMES FRANKLIN

1. [James Franklin](#) was an elder half-brother to [Benjamin Franklin](#).



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1696**

Ann Smith was born, who would marry [James Franklin](#), elder half-brother to [Benjamin Franklin](#), and eventually take over their printing business in [Newport, Rhode Island](#).

**ESSENCE IS BLUR. SPECIFICITY,  
THE OPPOSITE OF ESSENCE,  
IS OF THE NATURE OF TRUTH.**



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1697**

February 4, Thursday (1696, Old Style): [James Franklin](#) was born in [Boston](#), son of [Josiah Franklin](#) and [Abiah Folger Franklin](#). He would learn the printing trade in London.

**ESSENCES ARE FUZZY, GENERIC, CONCEPTUAL;  
ARISTOTLE WAS RIGHT WHEN HE INSISTED THAT ALL TRUTH IS  
SPECIFIC AND PARTICULAR (AND WRONG WHEN HE CHARACTERIZED  
TRUTH AS A GENERALIZATION).**



WIDOW FRANKLIN

JAMES FRANKLIN

1707

September 12, Friday (Old Style): The Reverend [Samuel Willard](#) died at the age of 67.

[Samuel Willard](#) one of the most eminent ministers in New England was son of Major [Simon Willard](#) and was born in [Concord](#) January 31, 1640. He was graduated in 1659 and ordained at Groton, Mass., in 1662, from whence he removed to [Boston](#) when that town was destroyed by the Indians in March, 1676, and was installed as colleague pastor with the Rev. Mr. Thacher, over the Old South Church, April 10, 1678. He officiated as Vice President of Harvard College, from September 6, 1701, till his death. He died September 12, 1707 aged 67. His son was Secretary of the province 39 years, and his grandson, Joseph Willard, D.D., LL.D., was President of [Harvard College](#). The notices in "History of the Old South Church," and other works, are so copious, that any further account here is unnecessary.<sup>2</sup>

It was this Reverend Willard who had baptized [Benjamin Franklin](#). His exposition of New England theology, A COMPLEAT BODY OF DIVINITY (Boston: Green and Kneeland, 1726), which was so very compleat that it arrived at a total of 927 pages, would become the largest tome printed in colonial America. [Josiah Franklin](#) would subscribe for two copies of this, and [James Franklin](#), Printer, for one copy. The [Boston News Letter](#) would report:

On Fryday the 12th. Instant Dyed here in the 68 year of his Age, the very Worthy and Reverend Mr. SAMUEL WILLARD, Pastor of the South Church, and Vice President of [Harvard College](#) in Cambridge, unto the Just Grief, not only of the Church and Town, but of all New-England.

**“HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE” BEING A VIEW FROM A PARTICULAR POINT IN TIME (JUST AS THE PERSPECTIVE IN A PAINTING IS A VIEW FROM A PARTICULAR POINT IN SPACE), TO “LOOK AT THE COURSE OF HISTORY MORE GENERALLY” WOULD BE TO SACRIFICE PERSPECTIVE ALTOGETHER. THIS IS FANTASY-LAND, YOU’RE FOOLING YOURSELF. THERE CANNOT BE ANY SUCH THINGIE, AS SUCH A PERSPECTIVE.**

2. [Lemuel Shattuck](#)’s 1835 [A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF CONCORD;....](#) Boston: Russell, Odiorne, and Company; Concord MA: [John Stacy](#)



## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

1712

January 25, Friday (1711, Old Style): The Franklins moved from their rented home on Milk Street in [Boston](#) when they negotiated the purchase of a house from Peter Sargeant for £320, at the southwest corner of Union Street and Hanover Street. The lot was over 3,500 square feet, about five times as large as the approximately 600 square feet of the Milk Street lot. Although the location was almost equidistant between the Old North and the Old South churches, and although the Brattle Street church was the closest, [Josiah and Abiah Franklin](#) would continue as members of the Old South church. [Benjamin Franklin](#) would reside here with his parents (except for a brief stay with his cousin Samuel in 1717, at the age of 11) until about 1720, when he would move to the family with whom his brother [James Franklin](#) lived. The house and lot were “at the front or Eastward end by Union street so called, measuring there in breadth thirty-eight feet or thereabout; on the Northward side by Hanover street so called, measuring there in length ninety-three feet or thereabout; on the rear or Westward end by land formerly of Josiah Cobham, dec[ease]d, in the present tenure & occupation of Joseph Smith, saddler, where it measureth in breadth twenty-three feet five inches or thereabout; and on the Southward side by land formerly the said Cobham’s, and the house of and land formerly appertaining to John Cotta, now wholly on this side the inheritance of the heirs of Thomas Bridge, late of Boston, aforesaid, marriner, dece[ase]d, where it measureth in length about eight-seven feet or thereabout.” The property contained four structures. A Boston [Evening Post](#) advertisement of July 23, 1753 would describe these four structures:

To be sold by publick Vendue, On Tuesday the 21st of August next, Four Lots of Ground, with the Buildings thereon, fronting on Hanover and Union-Street, at the Blue Ball, viz. one Lot (No. 1) of Seventeen Feet four Inches Front on Hanover-Street, and twenty-five Feet deep. One Ditto (No. 2) Twenty-one and an half Feet Front on said Street, and Twenty-five and an half Feet deep. (No. 3) Twenty-seven Feet Front on said Street, and Thirty Feet deep. (No. 4) a Corner Lot, Twenty-eight Feet Front on Hanover Street, and Thirty-eight Feet front on Union Street, very well situated for Tradesmen or Shopkeepers, being in the Heart of the Town, and the Buildings conveniently divided as above, having originally been different Tenements. The Title is indisputable, the Sale to begin at four o’Clock in the Afternoon, on the Premises, one quarter Part of the Money, to be paid at the signing of the Deeds. Twelve Months Credit will be given, if required, on Security and paying Interest for the Remainder, by John Franklin and William Homes.

Josiah and Abiah probably lived in the corner house, renting out the other structures. When Josiah would make his will on October 20, 1744, he would give “to my loving wife Abiah Franklin all the income or rents of my whole estate and goods, and the use of the two rooms we now live in, allowing the lodgers to be in as it is used, she allowing out of it the interest that will be due to my creditors while she lives.” Josiah would die on January 16, 1744/1745, but his will would not be proved until five years later, on August 7, 1750. Two years after the decease of his wife Abiah in 1752, an inventory of his estate would be taken and his house and land in Union Street would appraise at £253.6s.8d. The lots would be advertised on November 6, 1752 and on July 23, 1753 by John Franklin and William Homes. John Franklin would sell his portion on April 15, 1754, to William Homes for £188 13s. 4d. On June 2, 1757 Homes would resell the property to Jonathan Dakin for £266 13s. 4d. When Jane (Franklin) Mecom would write Benjamin Franklin on August 16, 1787, she would hark back to their childhood home:

It was Indeed a Lowly Dwelling we were brought up in but we were fed Plentifully, made comfortable with Fire and cloathing, had seldom any contention among us, but all was Harmony: Especially between the Heads – and they were Universally Respected, & the



## WIDOW FRANKLIN

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most of the Family in good Reputation, this is still happier  
living than multitudes Enjoy.

Despite her nostalgic recollection of the concord between the parents and happiness of the children, she was of courses aware that these premises of your had been rather skudgy-looking, and would conclude with “Blessed be God that you & I by your means have the Addition of more Pleasing appearance in our Dwellings.”

**NEVER READ AHEAD! TO APPRECIATE JANUARY 25TH, 1712 AT ALL  
ONE MUST APPRECIATE IT AS A TODAY (THE FOLLOWING DAY,  
TOMORROW, IS BUT A PORTION OF THE UNREALIZED FUTURE AND IFFY  
AT BEST).**



## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

1717

March: On [St. Helena](#), after five days of heavy surf, the crane had been broken and the newly built wharf entirely ruined.

Wrote Isaiah Thomas: “I have been informed that [James Franklin](#) served an apprenticeship with a printer in England, where his father was born, and had connections. In March 1716/1717, J. Franklin came from London with a [press](#) and types, and began business in [Boston](#).” This may have been inferred by Thomas on the basis of [Benjamin Franklin](#)’s personal memoir (now known as his “Autobiography”), in which James “return’d from England with a Press and Letters to set up his Business in Boston.” However, it seems that James actually did not serve his apprenticeship in London itself, for his name is not to be found in D.F. McKenzie’s authoritative STATIONERS’ COMPANY APPRENTICES, 1701-1800 (Oxford: Bibliographical Society, 1978), and in addition there are no surviving James Franklin imprints to be found, from 1717. It has been the suggestion of Lawrence C. Wroth that “he could well have been employed by Benjamin Eliot, the publisher, to make cuts for the books printed for Eliot by Bartholomew Green in 1717 and 1718, and later for those printed for Eliot by Franklin himself in 1719,” but such an employment would’t have amounted to a living. Instead, it seems likely that when James Franklin came back from England he initially engaged himself as a journeyman printer — probably for Bartholomew Green (1666-1732), then Boston’s most prolific printer and a member of the Old South Church. James had in fact known Bartholomew Green all his life. A cancelled reference in [Franklin](#)’s holograph suggests that James Franklin needed to borrow money from his father to start his Boston press, and presumably this would indicate that he borrowed this money after returning from England. James Franklin made the relief woodcut of Hugh Peter for A DYING FATHER’S LAST LEGACY TO AN ONLY CHILD: OR, MR. HUGH PETER’S ADVICE TO HIS DAUGHTER (Boston: B. Green for Benjamin Eliot, 1717). Wroth and Adams have written that “the Franklin cuts were made on metal with a graver and not on the long grain, or plank surface, of wood with a knife. Because of the difficulty of being absolutely sure of this fact, we have felt that whatever our own conviction might be, it was better to admit the uncertainty and describe productions of this sort entered in the Catalogue as ‘relief cuts’ rather than be dogmatic and call them ‘metal cuts.’” But in the imprint for A CATALOGUE OF CURIOUS AND VALUABLE BOOKS . . . REVEREND MR. GEORGE CURWIN (Boston: J. Franklin for S. Gerrish, 1718), James Franklin specifically advertised that he did “engraving on wood.” Lawrence C. Wroth also pointed out that the undated broadside DIVINE EXAMPLES OF GOD’S SEVERE JUDGMENTS UPON SABBATH BREAKERS ... COLLECTED OUT OF SEVERAL DIVINE SUBJECTS, MR. H.B. MR. BEARD, AND THE PRACTICE OF PIETY ... BOSTON IN NEW ENGLAND: RE-PRINTED [BY B. GREEN] AND SOLD IN NEWBURY-STREET, which Samuel Abbott Green dated at 1708 simply because that was the when Newbury Street received that name, could also have been printed anytime after 1708 (because in fact Bartholomew Green, printer, continued to be located in Newbury Street). Wroth suggested that James Franklin made the relief cuts and that the work should be dated “about 1718.”

**“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,  
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY**



## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

1718

In Pennsylvania, Adam Ramage fashioned the 1st printing [press](#) to be made in America.

The gazette of [Boston](#), known as the [News Letter](#), was being put out of course by that town's postmaster, John Campbell, for only the postmaster could read all the mail and thus know what the news was! –But in this year Campbell lost his postmastership and refused to turn over the gazette to this successor. William Brooker, the new postmaster, was thus forced to begin a separate publication. He titled this new 2d paper the [Boston Gazette](#), and arranged for it to be issued through the printshop of [James Franklin](#).

Late Spring or Early Summer: Sometime in the late spring or early summer of 1718, [James Franklin](#) opened his shop and set up his press and laid out his boxes of type from England at the corner of Queen (now Court) Street and Dasset Alley (now Franklin Avenue) in [Boston](#). [Benjamin Franklin](#)'s was probably apprenticed to his elder half-brother James about the time that shop was being opened, “when I was yet but 12 years old.” At this shop they would not only print words on paper, but would also impress calico designs upon cloth.

### NOBODY COULD GUESS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT



Early June: Anonymous publication of A SATYRICAL DESCRIPTION OF COMMENCEMENT, CALCULATED TO THE MERIDIAN OF CAMBRIDGE IN NEW ENGLAND. This broadside poem, prepared evidently to be sold incident to the commencement ceremonies at Harvard College in June, possibly was printed at their new printing shop in [Boston](#) by [James Franklin](#) with the assistance of his apprentice [Benjamin Franklin](#).

After November 7: In [Boston](#), an anonymous broadside poem written by Nathaniel Pitcher was published, WORDS OF CONSOLATION TO MR. ROBERT STETSON & MRS. MARY STETSON, HIS WIFE, ON THE DEATH OF THEIR SON ISAAC STETSON, WHO PERISHED IN THE MIGHTY WATERS, NOV 7TH, 1718. The woodcut on this broadside, at least, was by [James Franklin](#) (although he may have made this woodcut for another printer rather than printing this broadside himself at his new shop).

During this year, also, the printing shop prepared also THEOPHILUS DORRINGTON, A FAMILIAR GUIDE TO THE RIGHT AND PROFITABLE RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER ([Boston](#): [James Franklin](#) For Eleazer Phillips, 1718), and Franklin made woodcut engravings of a bull, a horse, a ram, and a hog for John Allen, the printer of John Smith's anonymous [The Husbandman's Magazine](#) (Boston: Allen for Boone, 1718). The engravings that Franklin prepared are not original renditions from nature but rather are stylized copies from the productions of other artists, which would indicate that James Franklin had access to materials containing such woodcuts and engravings.

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1719

August 7, Friday (Old Style): The publication situation in [Boston](#) got even stickier. There were two local gazettes, the [News Letter](#) put out by the replaced postmaster and the [Gazette](#) put out by the current postmaster, and then the current postmaster got replaced by a third postmaster, Philip Musgrave, and Musgrave took the contract for the Boston [Gazette](#) away from the printing shop of [James Franklin](#). Whereupon [Benjamin Franklin](#) himself began to put out a local gazette, which he named the [New England Courant](#). The particular opportunity for this was that there had just been an episode of the small pox, and there was a great scandal about inoculation, a practice which was being sponsored by such members of the clergy as the Reverend Cotton Mather. The [Courant](#) dedicated itself to undermining this “doubtful and dangerous practice” of inoculation and the clergy who were supporting it. To this end they secured the writerly services of Dr. William Douglass, a Scottish physician who had studied in Edinburgh, Leyden, and Paris. Dr. Douglass was the first physician in America to hold a medical degree and he saw in this unscientific practice of inoculation<sup>3</sup> nothing more than the overactive imaginations of “Greek old women.”

Actually what we are talking about here in the year 1719 was not happening merely in Boston, this [Gazette](#) being matched in this same year in Philadelphia by the [American Weekly Mercury](#). —Where Franklin says in his memoirs that his brother’s paper in Boston “was the second,” actually it was like the 5th.<sup>4</sup>



3. “Unscientific” in such an early context merely meaning untheoretical — one may be forgiven for supposing that the basis for this was that it was something that hadn’t been taught to him in Med School.

4. Bragging was soooooo uncharacteristic of Ben!

HDT

WHAT?

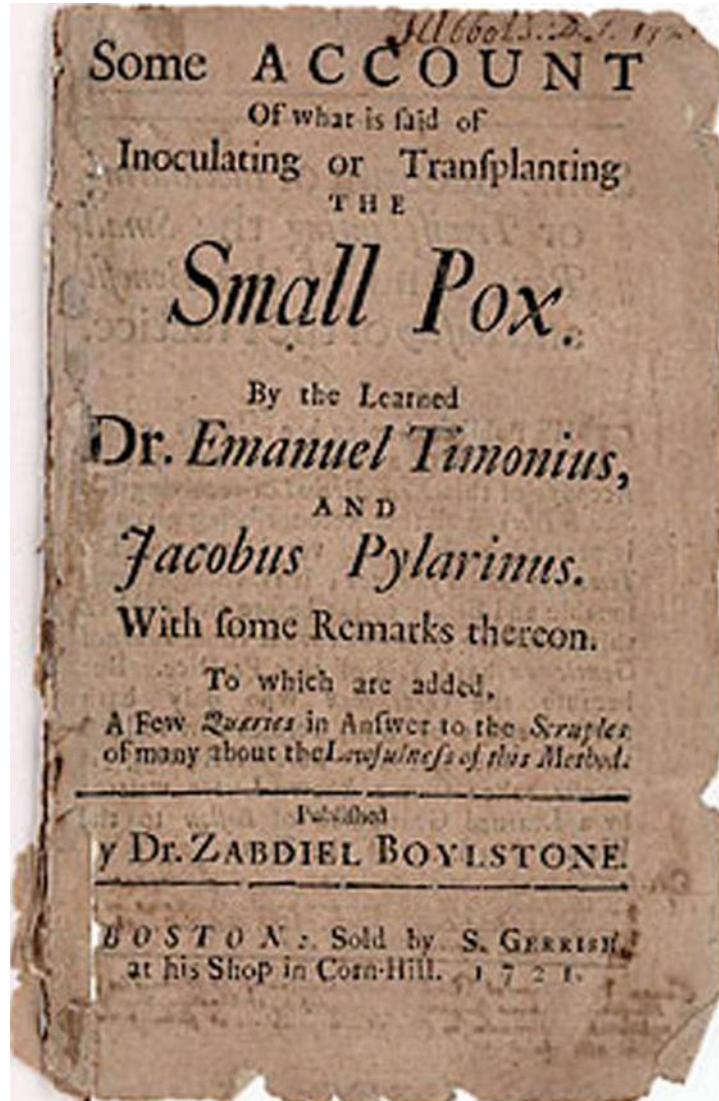
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1721

June 26, Monday (Old Style): Inoculation was being introduced to [Boston](#) by Dr. Zabdiel Boylston.



His home besieged by a Boston mob, he would spend the following two weeks hiding in a secret compartment in the structure.<sup>5</sup>



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The Reverend [Cotton Mather](#) had heard of inoculation from his slave Onesimus or Onesimes, who had been procured for his use by parishioners. Onesimus or Onesimes had been inoculated while still in Africa. The Reverend Mather inoculated two of his other black slaves, as well as his young son Thomas. Although the Reverend Mather had written to Dr. William Douglass, a Scottish physician practicing in Boston who had studied in Edinburgh, Leyden, and Paris, in advance, Dr. Douglass protested in the Franklin paper, the [New England Courant](#), that Dr. Boylston had no physician’s license but was merely “a certain cutter for the stone,” and that in order to prevent qualified physicians from being able effectively to register their objections, this procedure had been undertaken in haste without allowing them an opportunity to consult.<sup>6</sup> The Reverend Mather spoke out from the pulpit in favor of such experimentation, referring to this inoculation procedure as “transplantation.” A “grenado” was then pitched into the Reverend Mather’s parsonage with a note tied to it which read:

**COTTON MATHER, YOU DOG. DAM YOU! I’LL INOCULATE YOU WITH THIS, WITH A POX TO YOU.**

The bomb was a dud and the General Court would offer a reward of £50 for information leading to the conviction of the person who had heaved it.

Judge [Samuel Sewall](#) would be inoculated, and with him his family, whereupon the selectmen, fearing



[infection](#), would require them to relocate to Spectacle Island in Boston Harbor, where there was being maintained in those times a quarantine station referred to as “Province Hospital.”

VARIOLA

## DIARY OF SAMUEL SEWALL

5. We may note that his home was firebombed by white people not because he was advocating that native Americans be inoculated against the [small pox](#), but because he was advocating that white people be inoculated. (Refer to letter by Jeffrey Amherst in 1732, recommending that native Americans be deliberately inoculated with the small pox. Dr. Douglass also suggested this.) Also, I don’t know whether either the Reverend’s firebombed home, or the home of Dr. Boylston, was on the street that would eventually be named in the doctor’s honor, Boylston Street.

6. Inoculation was being determinedly opposed by [Benjamin Franklin](#) and his elder half-brother [James Franklin](#).

# WIDOW FRANKLIN

# JAMES FRANKLIN



August 17, Thursday (Old Style): [James Franklin](#) began to issue the New England Courant.



**“MAGISTERIAL HISTORY” IS FANTASIZING: HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY**



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1722**

Benjamin Franklin's THE DOGOOD PAPERS were published before he was 17 years of age, in James Franklin's New England Courant:

WALDEN: But all this is very selfish, I have heard some of my townsmen say. I confess that I have hitherto indulged very little in philanthropic enterprises. I have made some sacrifices to a sense of duty, and among others have sacrificed this pleasure also. There are those who have used all their arts to persuade me to undertake the support of some poor family in town; and if I had nothing to do, -for the devil finds employment for the idle,- I might try my hand at some such pastime as that. However, when I have thought to indulge myself in this respect, and lay their Heaven under an obligation by maintaining certain poor persons in all respects as comfortably as I maintain myself, and have even ventured so far as to make them the offer, they have one and all unhesitatingly preferred to remain poor. While my townsmen and women are devoted in so many ways to the good of their fellows, I trust that one at least may be spared to other and less humane pursuits. You must have a genius for charity as well as for any thing else. As for Doing-good, that is one of the professions which are full. Moreover, I have tried it fairly, and, strange as it may seem, am satisfied that it does not agree with my constitution. Probably I should not consciously and deliberately forsake my particular calling to do the good which society demands of me, to save the universe from annihilation; and I believe that a like but infinitely greater steadfastness elsewhere is all that now preserves it. But I would not stand between any man and his genius; and to him who does this work, which I decline, with his whole heart and soul and life, I would say, Persevere, even if the world call it doing evil, as it is most likely they will.

**PEOPLE OF  
WALDEN**

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN**



WIDOW FRANKLIN

JAMES FRANKLIN

T H E  
New-England Courant.

[Henry Thoreau](#) would take issue not only with Franklin's prudentialism here but also with the Reverend [Cotton Mather](#)'s ESSAYS TO DO GOOD. He would be saying that their prudential attitude, which they had put forward as an expression of one's personal ethical responsibility, amounted instead to a direct and deliberate **evasion** of such ethical responsibility. —Strong stuff! Thoreau would don moral blinders. He would recognize that the Franklineque personality, because so desirous of gain, would become *ipso facto* foolishly fearful of loss. His agenda in "Economy" would be to directly confront such fearfulness of loss, and such nostalgia for past losses, and reduce these to the absurdity which they are. In life, unlike on Franklin's ledger sheet, there is no



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possibility of red ink. Consider Franklin's prudentialism and its blinders:

Franklin never wrote the definitive handbook he projected on "the art of virtue." Instead, he left his (incomplete) AUTOBIOGRAPHY, in which his own life story is related as a sequence of parables, each with its moral lesson. The book shows how to shape one's personality through fostering some impulses and restraining others. The rhetorical posture of the detached, self-controlled observer, like the postulated model of human faculties, is quintessential eighteenth-century moral philosophy and can be traced back to The Spectator. Overall, the lesson is that by shaping and controlling one's self, one can shape and control one's destiny, even in an uncaring world. Self-discipline is the key to success. The author Franklin is necessarily detached from the character Franklin in the book, since the character is meant to stand for Everyman, to be a model for universal imitation. (The postulated universal desire for success is part of the security for the system. A person who has constructed himself in accordance with Franklin's maxims will be of use to society because he will want a good reputation, and the way to gain that is by being useful to others.) Franklin would have found the opposition between public and private virtue, supposedly characteristic of eighteenth-century American republicans, quite incomprehensible. For him, there was no conflict between virtue and commerce, or between the individual and the collective welfare. The prudential virtues that made one a good tradesman or a good housewife also characterized the good citizen. Indeed, his AUTOBIOGRAPHY points out, the good reputation that one earns by private virtue can be put to use in politics. Far from there being a conflict between virtue and self-interest, self-interest should be a motive to virtue and virtue should be practically useful. It is a cliché, though not less true for being such, that Franklin was more interested in means than ends, in practice than theory. This does not mean he was unsophisticated; the choice was quite deliberate on his part. He accepted the prevailing model of the human faculties and addressed himself with shrewdness to the practical problems that model posed. He assumed that the autonomous, rational self would be socially useful and that society would appropriately reward, with fame, those who served it. He devoted little thought to the nature of virtue in and of itself. Once, when Franklin was planning the agenda for coming Junto meetings, he considered discussing "whether men ought to be denominated good or ill men from their actions or their inclinations." But then he crossed it off the list. Very likely the question seemed too abstract to be interesting. It seemed quite otherwise to Jonathan Edwards.

**LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARD?  
— NO, THAT'S GIVING TOO MUCH TO THE HISTORIAN'S STORIES.  
LIFE ISN'T TO BE UNDERSTOOD EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.**

## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

June 11, Monday (Old Style): The Reverend James McSparran wrote in English to [Gabriel Bernon](#). (On the reverse of this letter is a response from Bernon, undated.)

[James Franklin](#)'s [New England Courant](#) published an article that would be considered offensive by the [Boston](#) powers that be. The printer would be summoned before the council but would refuse to provide the name of the author of the article, and would be jailed for a month for contempt.



# THE New-England Courant.

THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT



1723

January (1722, Old Style): The New England Courant began to appear under the name of the youth [Benjamin Franklin](#) rather than under the name of his elder half-brother in trouble with the law, [James Franklin](#).




**FIGURING OUT WHAT AMOUNTS TO A “HISTORICAL CONTEXT” IS WHAT THE CRAFT OF HISTORICIZING AMOUNTS TO, AND THIS NECESSITATES DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN THE SET OF EVENTS THAT MUST HAVE TAKEN PLACE BEFORE EVENT E COULD BECOME POSSIBLE, AND MOST CAREFULLY DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM ANOTHER SET OF EVENTS THAT COULD NOT POSSIBLY OCCUR UNTIL SUBSEQUENT TO EVENT E.**



## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

 October: The indentured apprentice [Benjamin Franklin](#), beginning a lifetime of free thinking and of thinly disguised or quite blatant opportunism, walked away from his obligations to his elder half-brother [James Franklin](#) in [Boston](#), moving to the city where brothers love one another, called Philadelphia. (In this year he also abandoned his vegetarian principles.)

Thus it was that in the pages of the [New England Courant](#) there appeared the following famous advertisement:



James Franklin, printer in Queen's Street,  
wants a likely lad for an apprentice.

Along the way, the ship stopped off in [Newport, Rhode Island](#) and picked up more passengers, some of whom were [Quakers](#) who would proffer to young Ben some gratis but valuable counsel.

### Ben Franklin's "Autobiography"

*At Newport we took in a number of passengers for New York, among which were two young women, companions, and a grave, sensible, matron-like Quaker woman, with her attendants. I had shown an obliging readiness to do her some little services, which impress'd her I suppose with a degree of good will toward me; therefore, when she saw a daily growing familiarity between me and the two young women, which they appear'd to encourage, she took me aside, and said: "Young man, I am concern'd for thee, as thou has no friend with thee, and seems not to know much of the world, or of the snares youth is expos'd to; depend upon it, those are very bad women; I can see it in all their actions; and if thee art not upon thy guard, they will draw thee into some danger; they are strangers to thee, and I advise thee, in a friendly concern for thy welfare, to have no acquaintance with them." As I seem'd at first not to think so ill of them as she did, she mentioned some things she had observ'd and heard that had escap'd my notice, but now convinc'd me she was right. I thank'd her for her kind advice, and promis'd to follow it. When we arriv'd at New York, they told me where they liv'd, and invited me to come and see them; but I avoided it, and it was well I did; for the next day the captain miss'd a silver spoon and some other things, that had been taken out of his cabbins, and, knowing that these were a couple of strumpets, he got a warrant to search their lodgings, found the stolen goods, and had the thieves punish'd. So, tho' we had escap'd a sunken rock, which we scrap'd upon in the passage, I thought this escape of rather more importance to me.*

Since Ben was only dealing with women during this period of his life for the purposes known as health and hygiene (otherwise known as purposes of venery), he confessed, of course this was the sort of advice he was prepared to pay attention to. Just use them, Ben, don't let them use you!

In Philadelphia he obtaining remunerative employment in a Mr. Keimer's printing-office, after encountering



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some local [Quakers](#) whom, he noticed, also behaved considerately toward him:

### Ben Franklin's "Autobiography"

*Then I walked up the street, gazing about till near the market-house I met a boy with bread. I had made many a meal on bread, and, inquiring where he got it, I went immediately to the baker's he directed me to, in Second-street, and ask'd for bisket, intending such as we had in Boston; but they, it seems, were not made in Philadelphia. Then I asked for a three-penny loaf, and was told they had none such. So not considering or knowing the difference of money, and the greater cheapness nor the names of his bread, I made him give me three-penny worth of any sort. He gave me, accordingly, three great puffy rolls. I was surpriz'd at the quantity, but took it, and, having no room in my pockets, walk'd off with a roll under each arm, and eating the other. Thus I went up Market-street as far as Fourth-street, passing by the door of Mr. Read, my future wife's father; when she, standing at the door, saw me, and thought I made, as I certainly did, a most awkward, ridiculous appearance. Then I turned and went down Chestnut-street and part of Walnut-street, eating my roll all the way, and, corning round, found myself again at Market-street wharf, near the boat I came in, to which I went for a draught of the river water; and, being filled with one of my rolls, gave the other two to a woman and her child that came down the river in the boat with us, and were waiting to go farther.*

*Thus refreshed, I walked again up the street, which by this time had many clean-dressed people in it, who were all walking the same way. I joined them, and thereby was led into the great meeting-house of the Quakers near the market. I sat down among them, and, after looking round awhile and hearing nothing said, being very drowsy thro' labor and want of rest the preceding night, I fell fast asleep, and continued so till the meeting broke up, when one was kind enough to rouse me. This was, therefore, the first house I was in, or slept in, in Philadelphia.*

*Walking down again toward the river, and, looking in the faces of people, I met a young Quaker man, whose countenance I lik'd, and, accosting him, requested he would tell me where a stranger could get lodging. We were then near the sign of the Three Mariners. "Here," says he, "is one place that entertains strangers, but it is not a reputable house; if thee wilt walk with me, I'll show thee a better." He brought me to the Crooked Billet in Water-street. Here I got a dinner; and, while I was eating it, several sly questions were asked me, as it seemed to be suspected from my youth and appearance, that I might be some runaway.*

Yeah, Quaker, don't try to out-sly young Ben the runaway, you're playing that game with an expert here!

**THE TASK OF THE HISTORIAN IS TO CREATE HINDSIGHT WHILE  
INTERCEPTING ANY ILLUSION OF FORESIGHT. NOTHING A HUMAN CAN  
SEE CAN EVER BE SEEN AS IF THROUGH THE EYE OF GOD.**



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1727**

The New England Courant ceased publication. With his Boston printing press relocated to Newport, Rhode Island, James Franklin produced a 17-page pamphlet entitled JOHN HAMMETT'S VINDICATION AND RELATION, and a 574-page volume entitled AN APOLOGY FOR THE TRUE CHRISTIAN DIVINITY, AS THE SAME IS HELD FORTH, AND PREACHED, BY THE PEOPLES CALLED IN SCORN QUAKERS: &C. BY ROBERT BARCLAY. THE SIXTH EDITION IN ENGLISH.

**READ EDWARD FIELD TEXT**

**NO-ONE'S LIFE IS EVER NOT DRIVEN PRIMARILY BY HAPPENSTANCE**





## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

1728

The initial series of [James Franklin](#)'s [almanacs](#) in [Newport, Rhode Island](#)—up to James Senior's death in 1735 and the assumption of control of the shop by the Widow Franklin and Joseph Stafford's relocation from Newport to Boston— would be being written by Stafford.

These early [almanacs](#) competed with each other on the basis of the accuracy of their calendrical calculations, but Franklin, and then a number of years later Nathaniel Ames, in [Newport](#), would change the name of the game when they began to include short paragraphs on current events and on morality, and when Franklin coined a character "Poor Robin" who might offer to his readership various humorous comments (nowadays we find this sort of added material used as brief column-filler paragraphs by the [Reader's Digest](#) and [The New Yorker](#) magazines). [Benjamin Franklin](#) would then go one better on his elder half-brother, when he would alter "Poor Robin" into "Poor Richard" and in addition predicted the death of his prime competitor, Philadelphia almanac maker Titan Leeds.<sup>7</sup>

MDCCXXVIII. THE RHODE-ISLAND ALMANACK, FOR THE YEAR, 1728. By "Poor Robin."

In 1911 a facsimile reprint of this almanac would be issued at Providence by George Parker Winship on the basis of the only copy known still to be extant. There would be 2 editions of this fac-simile with notes and additions, the one "without the Sensible Alteration," being limited to sixty copies. The only items of local interest that are given are the Baptist and Quaker meetings.

7. [Franklin](#), in doing this, was repeating a jokish trick that Jonathan Swift had played at the expense of his chief competitor in almanac-making in London, John Partridge, in 1708.



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1729**

THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1729. By "Poor Robin." [Newport, Rhode Island: James Franklin.](#)

A copy recently sold by Dodd, Mead & Co. has not been located.  
A statement in the almanac of 1730 seems to show that this one  
was not by Poor Robin.

**IT IS NO COINCIDENCE THAT IT IS MORTALS WHO CONSUME OUR  
HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS, FOR WHAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO DO IS  
EVADE THE RESTRICTIONS OF THE HUMAN LIFESPAN. (IMMORTALS,  
WITH NOTHING TO LIVE FOR, TAKE NO HEED OF OUR STORIES.)**



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1730**

MDCCXXX. THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1730. By "Poor Robin." [Newport, Rhode Island: James Franklin.](#)



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1731**

AN [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, 1731. By Samuel Maxwell, [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [James Franklin](#).

This is the first Rhode Island almanac to add the court sessions to its local items.

This Samuel Maxwell was 22 years of age, something we know by virtue of an entry he made in the almanack under the date of May 30, 1731: "The Author's Birthday 1708." In the preface he wrote "Although I be young in Years, yet I give not my Pen a Latitude beyond my Beard; for I always keep one parallel with the other: And my Almanack is in such an easy plain Form, and regular Method, that I hope there will be no Fault found by any of my Antagonists."

1732

MDCCXXXII. THE RHODE-ISLAND ALMANACK FOR THE YEAR, 1732. By Poor Robin. Newport, Rhode Island: James Franklin.

September 27, Wednesday (Old Style): James Franklin had brought a Ramage press and a small quantity of type over from England and had established himself in Boston, with as apprentice his younger half-brother Benjamin Franklin. He had, however, made some criticisms of the conduct of public affairs that had brought him into disfavor with the Massachusetts authorities, and young Ben had run away to Philadelphia. Finally, in constant fear of arrest, James had allowed himself to be persuaded by another Franklin brother, John, a resident of Newport, Rhode Island, to remove thither. He had been publishing books and pamphlets. On this day the first issue of his new newspaper appeared, the Rhode Island Gazette, 4th newspaper in New England but the 1st in Rhode Island. It was on 8 1/2 by 12 inch sheets and the logo stated that it was "Newport, Rhode-Island: Printed and sold by James Franklin at his Printing-House under the Town-School-House, where Advertisements and Letters to the Author are taken in." The last issue would be dated May 24, 1733, and there would be interruptions within that seven months.



READ EDWARD FIELD TEXT

CONTINGENCY

ALTHOUGH VERY MANY OUTCOMES ARE OVERDETERMINED, WE TRUST

WIDOW FRANKLIN

JAMES FRANKLIN

THAT SOMETIMES WE ACTUALLY MAKE REAL CHOICES.

December: In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), [James Franklin](#)'s [Rhode Island Gazette](#) ceased publication.





**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1733**

MDCCXXXIII. THE RHODE ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1733. By "Poor Robin." [Newport, Rhode Island: James Franklin](#). Sold also by T. Fleet, Boston.



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1734**

MDCCLXXXIV. THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1734. By Poor Robin. [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [James Franklin](#).



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1735**

February 4, Monday (1734, Old Style): James [Franklin](#), elder half-brother of [Benjamin Franklin](#), died. No almanac would be issued for the year 1736. The printing business in [Newport, Rhode Island](#) would be carried on by Ann Smith Franklin as “Widow Franklin,” aided by two daughters and her son [James Franklin](#). For 1737 and 1738 she would rely on Joseph Stafford to prepare the [almanacs](#), but then he would move to Boston to put out his own almanac and she would herself prepare the materials from 1737 to 1741.

MDCCXXXV. THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1735. By Poor Robin. [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [James Franklin](#). Sold also by T. Fleet, Boston.

The copy in the Library of Congress is interleaved with manuscript notes. It belonged to Daniel Rogers, a tutor at Harvard in 1732.



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1737**

MDCCLXXXVII. THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1737, BY POOR ROBIN. By Joseph Stafford, [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [Widow Franklin](#).



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1738**

MDCCLXXXVIII. THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1738, BY POOR ROBIN. By Joseph Stafford. [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [Widow Franklin](#).

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## WIDOW FRANKLIN

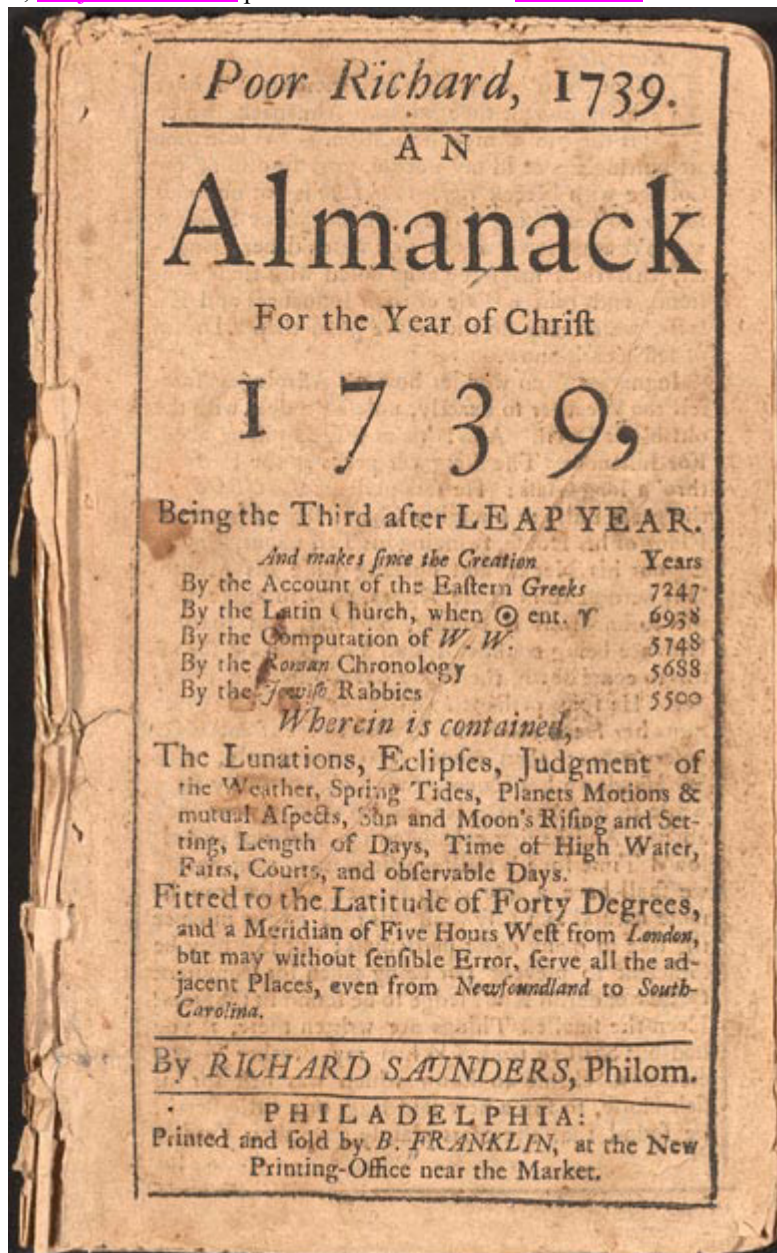
## JAMES FRANKLIN

1739

MDCCLXXXIX. THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1739. By "Poor Robin." [Newport, Rhode Island: Widow Franklin](#)

James Franklin having died in 1735, and Stafford having moved to Boston, Widow Franklin issued the almanac this year and subsequently, under the pseudonym formerly used by her husband.

In Philadelphia, [Benjamin Franklin](#) put out a "Poor Richard" [ALMANACK](#):





**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1740**

MDCCXL. 1740. THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, BY POOR ROBIN. [Newport, Rhode Island:](#)  
[Widow Franklin.](#)



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1741**

MDCCXLI. THE RHODE-ISLAND [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR, 1741. By "Poor Robin." [Newport: Widow Franklin.](#)

There would be a gap in the issuance of [Rhode Island](#) almanacs until 1750 when [James Franklin](#)'s son [James Franklin](#), rejoining his mother after serving an apprenticeship in Philadelphia with his uncle [Benjamin Franklin](#), would begin to publish "Poor Job's almanac."



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1748**

In [Newport, Rhode Island](#), the printer Widow Franklin (Ann Smith Franklin) took as her partner her son [James Franklin](#), who had served a printing apprenticeship with his uncle Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia.

### **James Franklin's Indenture**

Witnessth, That James Franklin late of Newport in Rhode island, And now of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania Hath put himself, and by these Presents, doth voluntarily, and of his own Will and Accord, put himself Apprentice to Benjamin Franklin of the City of Philadelphia, Printer ——to learn his Art, Trade, and Mystery, and after the Manner of an Apprentice to serve the said Benjamin Franklin from the Day of the Date herof, for, and during, and unto the full End and Term of Seven Years —next ensuing. During all which Term, the said Apprentice his said Master faithfully shall serve, his Secrets keep, his lawfull Commands everywhere readily obey. He shall do no Damage to his said Master, nor see it to be done by others without letting or giving Notice thereof to his said Master. He shall not waste his said Master's Goods, nor lend them unlawfully to any. He shall not commit Fornication, nor contract Matrimony within the said Term. At Cards, Dice, or any other unlawful Game, he shall not play, whereby his said Master may have Damage. With his own Goods, nor the Goods of others, without Licence from his said Master, he shall neither buy nor sell. He shall not absent himself Day nor Night from his said Master's Service, without his Leave: Nor haunt Ale-houses, Taverns, or Play-houses; but in all Things behave himself as a faithful Apprentice ought to do, during the said Term. And the said Master shall use the utmost of his Endeavour to teach or cause to be taught or instructed the said Apprentice in the Trade or Mystery of Printing and procure and provide for him sufficient Meat, Drink, Cloaths— Lodging and Washing fitting to an Apprentice, during the said Term of Seven Years and at the Expiration thereof shall give him one good new Suit of Cloaths, besides his common Apparel.

AND for the true Performance of all and singular the Covenants and Agreements aforesaid, the said Parties bind themselves each unto the other firmly by these Pretents. IN WITNESS whereof, the said Parties have interchangeably set their Hands and Seals hereunto. Dated the Fifth Day of November in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the second King o Great-Britain, &c. Annoque Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty.

Sealed and delivered in  
the presence of us

[Signatures of Christopher Thompson, James Franklin, and Richard Ferguson]

Beginning at about this point, [Henry Marchant](#) of [Martha's Vineyard](#) would have been attending school in [Newport, Rhode Island](#).



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1750**

[POOR JOB, 1750. AN [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1750. By “Job Shepherd.” [Newport, Rhode Island: James Franklin.](#)]

This is the first of the second series of Franklin's almanacs. They were issued by James Franklin's son James under the pen name of Job Shepherd. The only known copy lacks six leaves.

In the preface to his 1751 almanac this pseudonymous “Job Shepherd” would write “And now, Reader, after having made this Publick Appearance, it must, on mature Consideration, appear very odd, what some think, and others affirm, that there is not, nor ever was, such a Person as I am living.”

1751

POOR JOB, 1751. AN [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1751. By "Job Shepherd." [Newport, Rhode Island: James Franklin.](#)

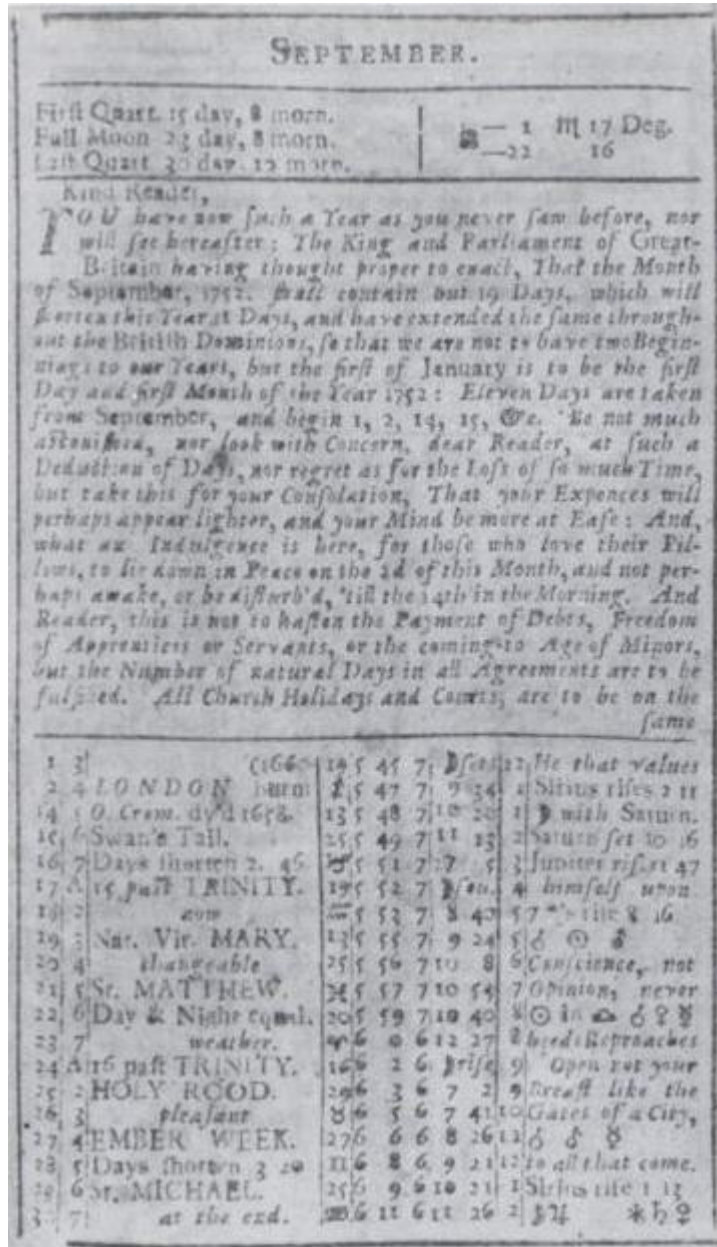
This almanac contains a cut of the man of signs, a geographical description of the world, a list of the Kings of England, and an ephemeris. This is the first almanac printed in Rhode Island that contains these things as far as we actually know, but it is probable that they were on the missing pages of the 1750 almanac which has only come down to us in a mutilated condition.



In the preface this pseudonymous "Job Shepherd" wrote "And now, Reader, after having made this Publick Appearance, it must, on mature Consideration, appear very odd, what some think, and others affirm, that there is not, nor ever was, such a Person as I am living."

1752

POOR JOB, 1752. AN [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1752. By Job Shepherd, Philom. [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [James Franklin](#). This was the almanac that had the unenviable task of explaining to the people at large, that in this year the month of September was going to have only 19 days — but no, nobody was going to get cheated:



Nathaniel Ames's AN ASTRONOMICAL DIARY; OR [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD CHRIST, 1753 was in this year prepared for printing in Boston by J. Draper for the Booksellers. At the foot of the second page was a diagram and explanation of the transit of Mercury across the sun: "On Sunday, May 6, the Sun will rise with Mercury making a black Spot in his Body..." The ending was an explanation of the correction of the calendar that had just occurred: "striking off the Eleven Days between the 2d and 14th of September, A.D.



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

1752 ... to produce an Uniformity in the Computation of Time throughout the christian Part of the World....”



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1753**

POOR JOB, 1753. AN [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1753 by Job Shepherd, Philom. [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [James Franklin](#).

[Benjamin West](#) moved to [Providence](#) and opened a school. Unable to make enough money this way, he would open a dry-goods store and bookstore.



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1754**

POOR JOB, 1754. AN [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1754. By Job Shepherd, Philom. [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [James Franklin](#).

Many local items appear as for instance against May 2.  
"G. Elect. Newport."



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

**1755**

POOR JOB, 1755. AN [ALMANACK](#) FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1755. By Job Shepherd, Philom. [Newport, Rhode Island](#): [James Franklin](#).

This almanac contains a curious tide table calculated for Rhode Island, but with variations given for other places, sailing directions for entering the harbor of Newport and the bearing of the Rhode Island Lighthouse on Beaver-Tail.

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## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

1758

POOR JOB'S COUNTRY AND TOWNSMAN'S [ALMANACK](#) FOR 1758. By Job Shepherd. [Newport, Rhode Island: James Franklin.](#)

June 12, Monday: The firm of [Widow Franklin](#) and journeyman printer son [James Franklin](#) began to publish the [Newport Mercury](#) (in addition to the many legal documents and the paper currency of the [Rhode Island](#) colony).

# Newport Mercury

The initial frontispiece of this newspaper was an illustration of a ship leaving the harbor where a fortification displayed the British flag, with a speeding figure of Mercury holding a package in hand.

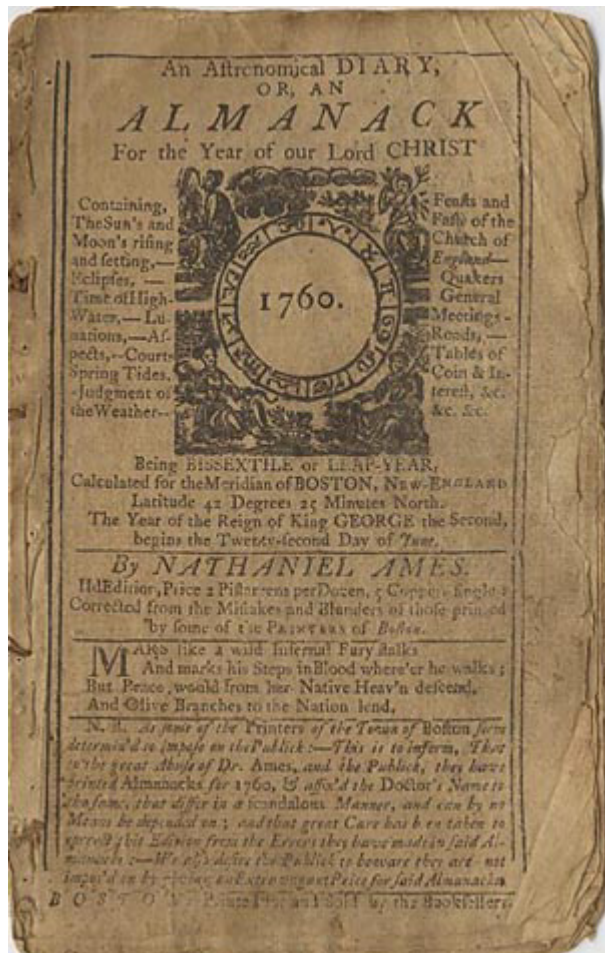


1760

At the press of Kneeland and Green in Boston, Nathaniel Ames's [ALMANACK](#) FOR 1760 (for fifty years [George Washington](#) would keep a daily dairy in a succession of interleaved almanacs such as this).

HISTORY OF THE PRESS

A pirated edition of Ames's AN ASTRONOMICAL DIARY, OR, AN [ALMANACK](#) FOR...1760...IID EDITION... was also being retailed in Boston. A bold note on the title page of this pirated edition created verisimilitude by warning its purchaser that unauthorized almanacs were being sold bearing Dr. Ames's name "that differ in a scandalous manner, and can by no means be depended on...." The title-page woodcut was of the four seasons surrounding the signs of the Zodiac. The last three pages provided the reader with a heroic poem "On the Reduction of QUEBEC, Sept. 18. 1759. by General Wolfe and brave Troops under his Command, &c."



At the press of [James Franklin](#) in [Newport, Rhode Island](#), WHITEFIELD'S [ALMANACK](#) FOR 1760 by Nathaniel Whitefield:

This almanac is of larger size than the earlier Franklin almanacs, being over 6" x 3 1/2". It contains a table for calculating interest upon the Lawful Money of the Colonies of Rhode-Island and Connecticut, and many medical remedies. This is the last almanac published by the Franklins.



## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

In the preface this Whitefield writes, “It is expected, and the Public is never satisfied, ’till they receive an Account of the Life and Writings of an Author, when and where he was born, and who was his Patron, with many other Particulars. I shall only say in general, that I was born in the Reign of George King of England, and am a near relative of George Whitefield.” The vagueness of this, combined with the fact that we have no other record of the existence of such a person, would appear to indicate that “Nathaniel Whitefield,” like “Job Shepherd” before him, had been a fiction.



## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

1762

August 22, Sunday: When her printer son [James Franklin](#) died, Ann Smith Franklin, the [Widow Franklin](#), became overtly what she had presumably been all along, the 1st woman editor of an American newspaper, [The Mercury](#) of [Newport, Rhode Island](#).



"The modern man's daily prayer is reading the daily newspaper."

— [G.W.F. Hegel](#)



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## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

1763

In [Rhode Island](#) politics in this year, [Stephen Hopkins](#) was in charge.



Ann Smith Franklin, sister-in-law of Benjamin Franklin, died.

The Sabin tavern, at South Main and Planet Streets in [Providence](#) very near to the governor's residence, was constructed. (On June 9, 1772 a group of local men would meet there to determine the fate of the British revenue schooner *Gaspee* that had run aground at Namquit Point.)



WIDOW FRANKLIN

JAMES FRANKLIN

1858

John B. Murray purchased the wooden [press](#) used by [James Franklin](#) and [Benjamin Franklin](#).



[George William Curtis](#)'s novel TRUMPS was serialized in [Harper's Weekly](#).

IT GOES ON AND ON AND ON

# WIDOW FRANKLIN

# JAMES FRANKLIN

1864

January: At a 158th-birthday celebration in honor of [Benjamin Franklin](#), the wooden [press](#) used by him as an apprentice and by [James Franklin](#) in [Boston](#) and [Newport](#) was presented by John B. Murray to the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics' Association.





## WIDOW FRANKLIN

## JAMES FRANKLIN

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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: March 25, 2016

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.



**WIDOW FRANKLIN**

**JAMES FRANKLIN**

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.