



# Notes

from the desk of  
POOR RICHARD'S JUNTO

*the Graduate History Club of  
Rutgers University-Camden*

READ, OR DIE.

Historical  
Happenings

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&  
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January &  
February  
2018  
ISSUE 1





## FEB 20: EVENT

*Museum of the American Revolution:  
5 - 8 p.m., \$10 admission*

### History After Hours: Love Letters

Follow this link for more info: <http://www.amrevmuseum.org/events/history-after-hours-love-letters>

## FEB 3 - SEP 9

*Opening at the Philadelphia Museum of Art:*

### Design in Revolution: A 1960s Odyssey

The art of counterculture. We only have one thing to say to convince you that this exhibit is worth seeing: vintage rock 'n' roll posters.

Follow this link for more info:  
<https://www.philamuseum.org/exhibitions/868.html>

## JAN 19 - JUL 12

*Opening at the Mütter Museum:*

### Woven Strands: The Art of Human Hair Work

"An exquisite group of hair art and jewelry, as well as accompanying materials that discuss the social expectations of Victorian-era mourning rituals."

Follow this link for more info:  
<http://muttermuseum.org/exhibitions/upcoming-exhibitions/>

## JAN 13 - FEB 19

*Opening at the Museum of the American Revolution for a limited time:*

### Among His Troops: Washington's War Tent in a Newly Discovered Watercolor

"...the museum will present a newly discovered 235-year-old, seven-foot panoramic painting that...contains the only known wartime depiction of General Washington's headquarters tent."

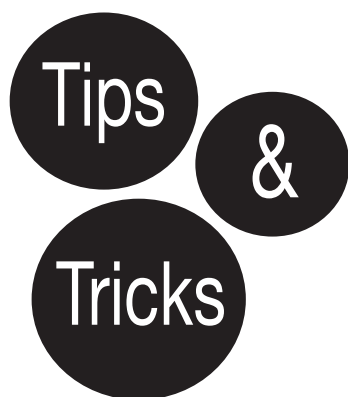
Follow this link for more info: <http://www.amrevmuseum.org/exhibits-events/among-his-troops>

## FEB 1: EVENT

*Museum of the American Revolution  
6:30 - 8 p.m., \$15 admission*

**Judith L. Van Buskirk, Ph. D.,** discusses the lives and stories of African Americans who served the patriot cause - a topic which she dives into in her latest book.

Follow this link for more info: <http://www.amrevmuseum.org/events/illustrated-lecture-judith-l-van-buskirk-ph-d>



# WORDS OF WISDOM

*for the struggling  
student*

## **STUDY HABITS**

The clock struck midnight on December 31st and we were all ushered into a brand new year, gleaming and sparkling with possibility. But, upon waking up that next morning, we found ourselves affronted by the concept of goals and resolutions - "New Year, New Me!" were the cries of many. While you may be shaking your head at the idea of a clean slate and a "better" you with the coming of the new year, maybe you shouldn't fully unsubscribe from the notions of resolutions just yet. Instead of looking with disdain upon New Years Resolutions, focus on a few that could benefit you in your educational life - like to creation of some sturdy study habits. Here are 3 tips to instituting more efficient study habits for the Spring 2018 semester. After all, it seems that for the student the slogan shouldn't be, "New Year, New Me," but rather, "New Year, New Required Reading List."

### **1. STUDY SCHEDULE**

At the beginning of the week, I like to sit myself down and lay out all of the work required of me over the course of the next 168 hours. I then take into account what my commitments are every individual day of the week, and work to fit in study time and homework time in between those commitments. Essentially, I create a timetable to hold myself accountable, and to ensure that I have given myself enough time throughout the week to finish what I need to. You can write it out in your planner, or plug it into your Google Calendar - whatever works for you.

### **2. KNOW YOUR BODY**

Are you more alert in the morning, right when you roll out of bed, coffee in hand - or are you more able to focus and get stuff done in the evening, before rolling back into bed at the end of the day? Feel out the times that you are most energetic and alert, and try to schedule your days so that your study hours fall during that time slot. For me, I work best in the morning, typing and sipping my coffee. I know that in the evening, right before bed, I am liable to get almost nothing done - that's just how my brain functions. Listen to your brain and your body!

### **3. REWARD YOURSELF**

This one comes with a warning: make sure to hold yourself accountable when incorporating a reward system into your studies. My reward-oriented thoughts usually go like this: "Once I've read 50 pages of this novel, I will have a snack. Then, after I read another 100 pages, I will give myself an hour long break to do what I please!" I start with tiny rewards, and, once I see that I am working hard to complete my studies, I allot myself a larger reward. You've just got to make sure you don't fall completely off track during your rewarded time - don't take a snack break, and then a nap break, and then a T.V. break, etc.

Here's to hoping these three tips help you out a bit this semester, reader. Stay focused, work hard, and remember that your crew at Poor Richard's Junto is rooting for you. But now we have to go work on our own study habits - you remember the slogan: "New year, new required reading list," don't you? Good luck!



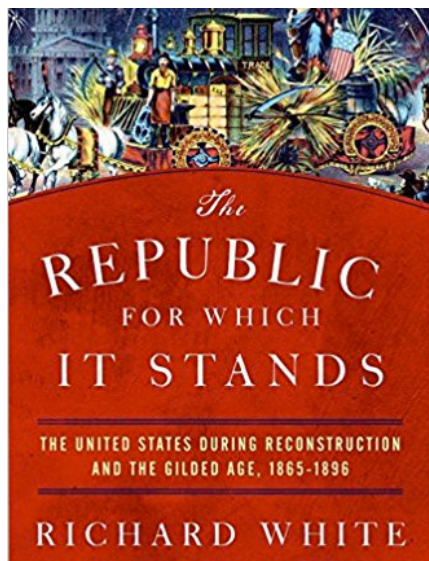
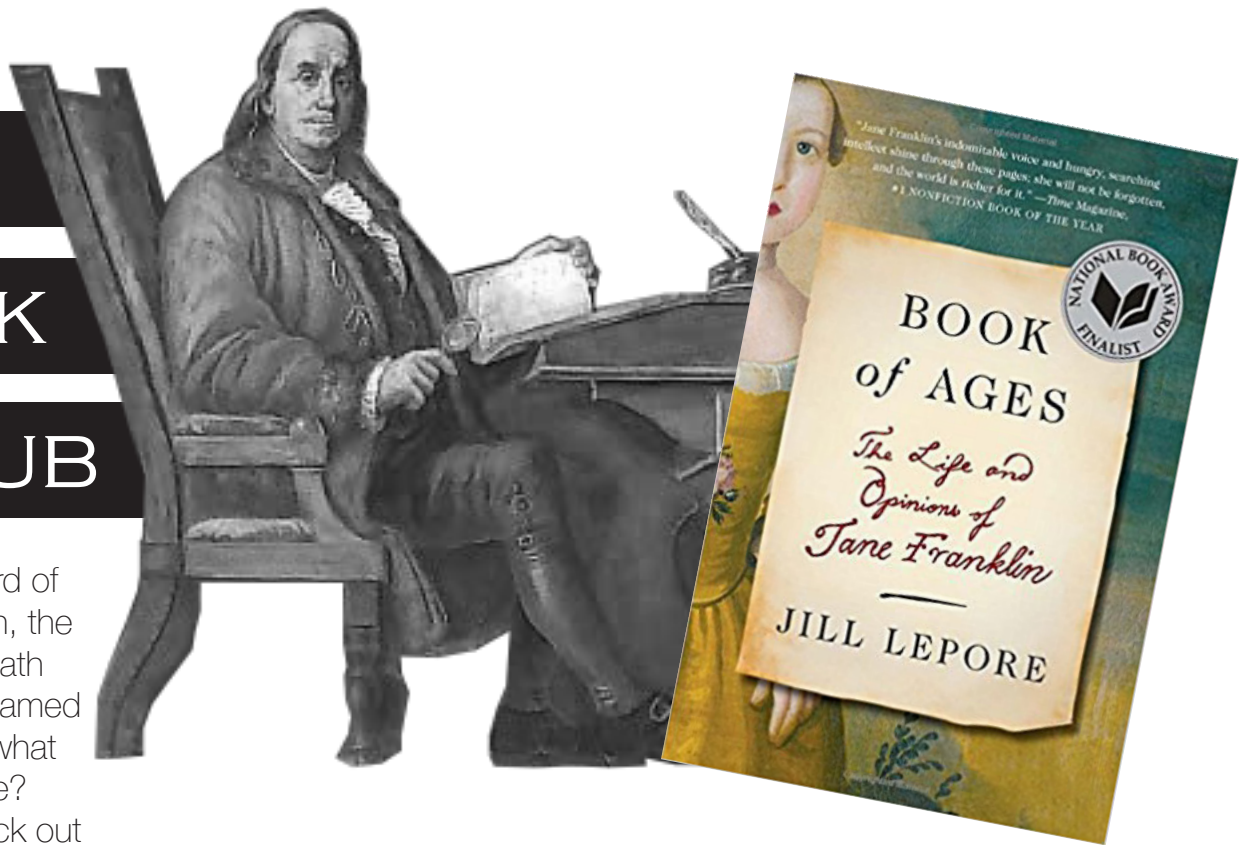
# BEN'S BOOK CLUB

We all have heard of Benjamin Franklin, the renowned polymath that our club is named in honor of, but what of his sister, Jane?

This month, check out

*Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin,*

a contemporary text by Jill Lepore that discusses Ben's little-known sister, who was very dear to him and was equally as passionate about reading, writing, and politics as he was. Lepore's stunning and rather distinctive style of writing - you'll encounter prose that is rather uncommon in historically-minded texts, short sentences that pack a punch - is evocative and telling as she works to create a vivid portrait of Jane Franklin. Jane kept a record of the births and deaths of her family members, calling this register her "Book of Ages" - hence the title of Lepore's work. This text is not only a historical portrait of Jane Franklin, but it also serves as a study in gender history, as Lepore analyzes the various ways both Jane and Ben's lives were shaped by their being of two different genders. Through her study of Jane, Lepore also inevitably provides commentary on Ben throughout her novel, as well. All in all, the text is a wonderful example of the possibilities of historical writing and analysis; the prose-like writing that accentuates the historical evidence brought forward by Lepore is unique and striking, and rather unlike many mundane history textbooks you read throughout high school.



Looking for a more traditional read to add to your bookshelf?



*The Republic for Which It Stands* is the newest volume in *The Oxford History of the United States*. In this text, Richard White discusses the Reconstruction Era as well as the Gilded Age, analyzing the two and their overall influence in the modernity of American society.

PSSST!  
The next volume in this history of the U.S. will be released in the next 2 or 3 years!

# CONTACT US!

## POOR RICHARD'S JUNTO

Have any questions, comments, or concerns?

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Send an e-mail to:

**prjrutgerscamden@gmail.com**

P.S. we're on Facebook!  
**facebook.com/PRJRUC**

SEE YOU  
IN MARCH!



### *Links for Images Used*

Cover Page, and following pages: "Join, or Die" snake image: <https://www.ebay.com/itm/3x5-Flag-Join-Or-Die-Snake-Benjamin-Franklin-Huge-Cut-Up-Colonies-United-3x5-/380163568440>

Cover Page: Ben Franklin (image used was edited in Adobe Photoshop): <http://www.living-historyprodco.com/current-projects/>

Ben's Book Club page: Ben at his desk (image was edited in Adobe Photoshop): <http://all-that-is-interesting.com/benjamin-franklin-facts>

Image of *Book of Ages* book cover: <https://www.csmonitor.com/Books/Book-Reviews/2013/1009/Book-of-Ages>

Image of *The Republic for Which It Stands* book cover:  
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34379310-the-republic-for-which-it-stands>