

# virginia

FALL 2026

A historical painting of a harbor scene. In the foreground, a man in a striped shirt and dark pants is pushing a large, light-colored object, possibly a barrel or a piece of equipment, on a wooden platform. The middle ground shows several large sailing ships with multiple masts and rigging, docked at a pier. In the background, there are several buildings, including a prominent white building with a dome, and a large, light-colored structure that could be a ship's hull or a large building. The sky is a pale, hazy blue, and the water is calm, reflecting the ships and buildings. The overall style is that of a 19th-century historical painting.

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*Sydney Cove from Dawes Point, Frederick Garling, 1839.* (Dixson Galleries, State Library of New South Wales)  
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# Prizefighter

## Yankee Sullivan and the Hands That Built the Modern World

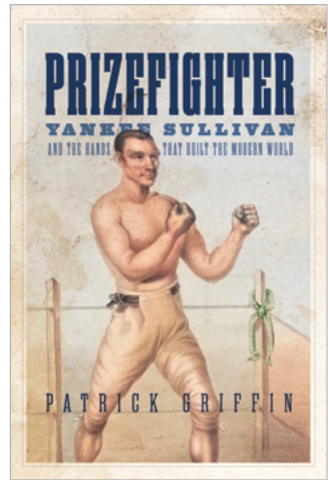
PATRICK GRIFFIN

The globetrotting champion of the oppressed who shook his fist at the world in an era of profound change

*PRIZEFIGHTER* IS THE EXTRAORDINARY saga of James “Yankee” Sullivan, who, in the first half of the nineteenth century, traveled the globe as a refugee, convict, laborer, and pugilist—and helped bring our modern world into being. Sullivan was born as Francis Ambrose in Ireland in 1813, ventured to London as a boy, was arrested for thieving and shipped to Australia (where he learned to box), escaped from New Zealand on a whaler, won his first match out of Liverpool, reigned as a prizefighter and leading political figure in New York City in the 1840s, moved to Gold Rush California, coached the king of Hawaii in boxing, and spent his last days in a jail cell in San Francisco in 1856. But Sullivan’s life story is much more than a tale of adventure. He helped tie together a world being redefined by free trade, mass migration, industrialization, and democracy, becoming both a champion in the ring and a champion of the people. In this first era of globalization, as the life of Yankee Sullivan attests, prizefighters were world-makers.

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**Patrick Griffin** is the Madden-Hennebry Family Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame, Bye-Fellow of St Edmund’s College, University of Cambridge, and the author of six previous books, most recently *The Age of Atlantic Revolution: The Fall and Rise of a Connected World*.



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# Reconcilable Differences

The Unlikely Political Alliance of John F. Kennedy and Eleanor Roosevelt

BARBARA A. PERRY

The remarkable partnership that united the two great political dynasties of the twentieth century

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“WHY DOESN’T MRS. ROOSEVELT like me?” asked the uncommonly likable John F. Kennedy. Since FDR’s passing in 1945, Eleanor Roosevelt had been the Democratic Party’s grande dame, and as he set his sights on the highest office in the land, Kennedy was determined to win her support. His famed youthful charm, however, had long failed to capture her. Into the late 1950s she had disparaged him as “my dear boy,” and she remained suspicious of his inexperience, opportunism, Catholicism, fragile health, and play-boy reputation. Their legendary family dynasties had sometimes allied in the political arena but more often clashed. Would they bury their political hatchets in the bucolic grounds surrounding Eleanor’s home at Val-Kill—or in each other?

*Reconcilable Differences* tells the remarkable story of how John F. Kennedy ultimately succeeded in bringing Eleanor Roosevelt into his camp—and how she, in turn, used his support to advance policies she had advocated her entire adult life, especially women’s rights. To this day, theirs is a model for bridging generational, religious, gender, racial, and family chasms in a polarized world.

MILLER CENTER STUDIES ON THE PRESIDENCY



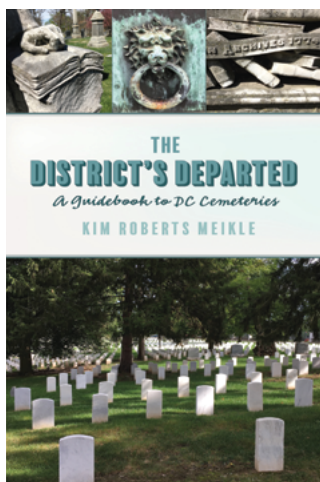
“With a political insider’s acumen, a novelist’s narrative aplomb, and the scholar’s diligence, Dr. Barbara A. Perry analyzes the quietly volatile relationship between two Democratic Party titans. *Reconcilable Differences* is a compelling illumination of two powerful Cold War American icons whose intellectual disagreements still reverberate through Democratic and national politics today.”

**STACY A. CORDERY**, Iowa State University, author of *Alice: Alice Roosevelt Longworth, from White House Princess to Washington Power Broker*

**Barbara A. Perry** is J. Wilson Newman Professor of Governance and Co-Chair of the Presidential Oral History Program at the University of Virginia’s Miller Center and the author and editor of numerous books, including *Rose Kennedy: The Life and Times of a Political Matriarch*.

“The animosity that became an improbable partnership is brought to life in Barbara Perry’s deeply researched and engaging exploration of the relationship between John F. Kennedy and Eleanor Roosevelt. Perry sheds new light not only on the legacies of two monumental political dynasties but on the ideological and political tensions of a pivot point in history.”

**KAREN TUMULTY**, Chief Political Correspondent, the *Washington Post*



# The District's Departed

A Guidebook to DC Cemeteries

KIM ROBERTS MEIKLE

The definitive guidebook to celebrated and obscure cemeteries in and around the nation's capital

“A well-researched resource and a fascinating read for residents, scholars, and visitors alike.”

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Superintendent of the Oak Hill Cemetery in Georgetown and author of *Lost Washington, D.C.*

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PERFECT FOR THE “tombstone tourist,” this guidebook to eleven cemeteries in and around the District of Columbia offers informative walking tours of these places of repose and reflection, mapping each cemetery’s distinct character derived from the landscape, the local community, and the historical era in which it was established, and showcasing exquisite artistic and architectural styles.

Kim Roberts Meikle notes how the purposes these cemeteries were designed to serve are interwoven with our histories of race, class, religion, and military service. Tours include Arlington National Cemetery, with its rigid formats for design reflective of a shifting understanding of public memorialization after the ravages of the Civil War; historically Black cemeteries such as Mt. Zion Methodist, where those frequently excluded from municipal or private cemeteries were laid to rest and lovingly remembered; and cemeteries notable for their magnificent funerary art such as Oak Hill and Rock Creek. With these engagingly written walking tours, Meikle vividly shows what the living can learn from the dead

**RIVANNA BOOKS**

**Kim Roberts Meikle** is a freelance literary historian, writer, and editor. She is the author of *A Literary Guide to Washington, DC.*

# Lincoln's March

## The Daring Journey to a Fallen Richmond

TOM SHOOP

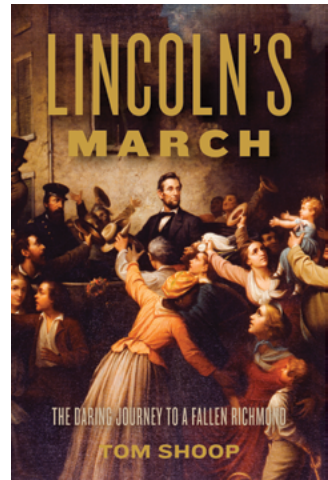
**Abraham Lincoln's dramatic visit to the defeated Confederate capital in 1865, and how it has been remembered and reinterpreted since**

"I WANT TO SEE RICHMOND." In April 1865, after four long years of civil war, the Confederate capital—less than one hundred miles from Washington, DC—finally fell to Union forces. Abraham Lincoln quickly declared his intention to go there, to stand in the epicenter of the rebellion, amid the still-smoldering ruins, and to greet its residents—white and Black—as the president of a soon-to-be reunited nation.

This book is the first dedicated to telling the story of his visit, but it goes well beyond narrating that remarkable day. Almost immediately, embellished accounts of Lincoln's journey emerged, and the truth quickly fell victim to the needs of competing political agendas. Tom Shoop shows how ultimately Lincoln's remarkable visit to a defeated Richmond would feed both the Lost Cause narrative and the mythology that Lincoln was uniquely capable of bringing North and South back together. Even as the story has faded from national memory, *Lincoln's March* explains why it continues to resurface among those still arguing over the causes, consequences, and ongoing effects of the Civil War.

### A NATION DIVIDED: STUDIES IN THE CIVIL WAR ERA

**Tom Shoop** is an independent writer and historian. He is the author of *A Place Called Ilda: Race and Resilience at a Northern Virginia Crossroads*.



"Even in a positive sea of books on Lincoln, this is an original. Exceedingly well written and accessible, it also makes a substantial contribution to studies of Lincoln, the Civil War, and Civil War memory."

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# Making Rounds

Love, Loss, and Lessons Learned  
from an Indomitable Woman in  
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SHARON L. HOSTLER, MD

How one young woman survived  
personal loss, sexism, and her own  
misogyny to become a trailblazer in  
academic medicine

“Sharon’s tale is a triumph song. It deserves to be read by anyone who cares about the making of great doctors for our time, and after.”

**JOHN T. CASTEEN III**, seventh president of the University of Virginia

## OCTOBER

320 pages

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IN 1961, WHEN SHARON HOSTLER enrolled in medical school, just 6 percent of physicians were women. Against these inauspicious odds, she succeeded not only in becoming a medical doctor—she rose to the very top of the medical profession.

*Making Rounds* is Hostler’s deeply personal reflection on a lifetime of remarkable experiences—from growing up in difficult circumstances in Vermont through the fascinating journey that ultimately brought her to the McMomore Birdsong Professorship of Pediatrics at the University of Virginia. Hostler vividly and honestly documents how she navigated professional opportunities, family responsibilities, personal loss and grief, and a sexist and elitist Southern medical culture. She offers unique insight into the social, political, and cultural factors that shaped UVA, Charlottesville, and academic medicine during the 1960s and 1970s. Enlivened by personal and professional insights into the ways that race, gender, and class shape people’s access to and experiences of health care, Hostler’s memoir will appeal to a wide variety of readers interested in the past, present, and future of women in medicine.

**Sharon L. Hostler** is former Vice Provost for Faculty Development and McMomore Birdsong Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Virginia.

# Where Love Leads

## Leadership and the Liberal Arts

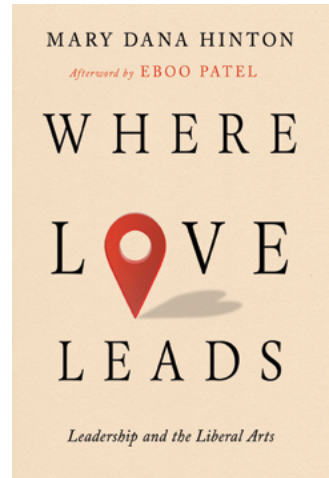
MARY DANA HINTON

**A higher education innovator identifies a surprising element missing in today's leadership**

OVER THE COURSE of her remarkable career in American higher education, Mary Dana Hinton has accumulated a great store of wisdom, applicable not just to her own field but to all walks of life. Hinton's unexpected contention in this accessible and uplifting book is that the essential component of all effective leadership is, of all things, love. Part memoir and part leadership theory, *Where Love Leads* reveals how Hinton's lived experience as a person from the margins led her to explore and implement love as her guiding principle in leadership practice. Assessing the challenges currently facing higher education, Hinton shows that it is only within a framework of love that one can effectively forge ahead, and she contends that effective leaders of the future will embrace love as their chief compass. For those seeking encouragement, inspiration, and honesty as they struggle to lead in uncertain times, this book offers a practical way forward.

**THE MALCOLM LESTER PHI BETA KAPPA LECTURES ON THE LIBERAL ARTS AND PUBLIC LIFE**

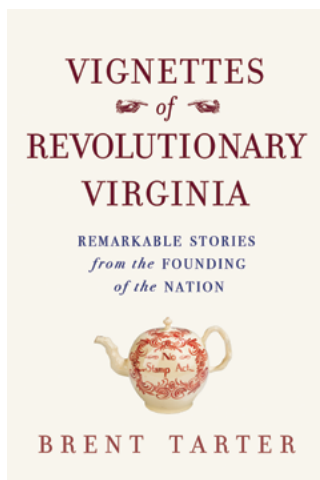
**Mary Dana Hinton** is President of Hollins University, President Emerita of the College of Saint Benedict, and the author of *Leading from the Margins: College Leadership from Unexpected Places*.



“At a time of burgeoning moral distress among higher education leaders, this book offers a road map for the courageous and values-based leadership necessary for confronting increasingly complex challenges.”

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# Vignettes of Revolutionary Virginia

Remarkable Stories from the Founding of the Nation

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BRENT TARTER KNOWS how to make history come alive. Drawing on a celebrated career’s worth of experience in the archive, producing scholarship aimed not at the ivory tower but at the general reader, *Vignettes of Revolutionary Virginia* gathers together the most dramatic, poignant, and compelling tales of ordinary people who lived through the extraordinary days of the American Revolution.

As in *Vignettes of Colonial Virginia*, Tarter relates the incredible stories of his subjects in their own words. They show how life for everyone in Virginia then was radically different from life for anyone in Virginia now. They illuminate the differences that emerged between the struggle for independence and the revolution that it set in motion, and they illustrate the consequences of the disconnect between the Revolutionary language of liberty of 1776 and the continuing existence of slavery and of the hierarchical society of the colonial period. The past may be a foreign country, but Tarter is a handy, engaging guide.

#### RIVANNA BOOKS

**Brent Tarter**, retired historian and a founding editor of the Library of Virginia’s *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* project, is the author of many books, including *Virginians and Their Histories* and *Vignettes of Colonial Virginia*.

# A Sea of Possibilities

The Revolutionary Atlantic World of Captain Thomas Allen

KENNETH J. BANKS

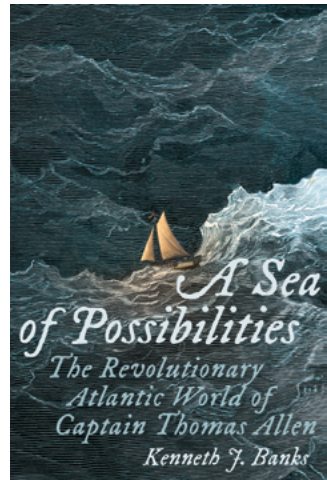
The story of a cunning sea captain whose tempestuous life charts new dimensions of the American Revolution

THIS IS THE GRIPPING tale of how ambitious sea captain Thomas Allen and his family navigated the gales of the American Revolution. Starting as a rogue and smuggler, Allen won and lost several fortunes before eventually establishing himself as a wealthy merchant with Loyalist leanings in Connecticut. Then, imprisoned by the Patriots during the War for Independence, Allen lost nearly everything and everyone. Rather than fleeing, he stayed and rebuilt, emerging from the crucible of revolution as an outspoken and influential champion of the new Constitution and new nation.

This telling of Allen's experience captures the everyday lives, material circumstances, and values of a middling settler family working hard and scheming harder to gain respectability and wealth in the colonial Atlantic World. In vivid detail, Kenneth Banks shows that maritime life is as crucial to our understanding of the Revolutionary era as the debates over taxation in colonial legislatures, migration and violent agitation in the backcountry, or the rise of a market-driven society. Like the Revolution itself, Allen's story is one of reinvention in a rapidly changing world.

## THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

**Kenneth J. Banks** is Professor of Atlantic World History at Wofford College and the author of the award-winning *Chasing Empire Across the Sea: Communications and the State in the French Atlantic, 1713–1763*.



“A well-told, entertaining, and important biography of a fascinating character. Shifting focus from major port cities, farmers, and revolutionary politics to the water and wharfside helps us understand the broader effects of a changing British empire.”

**CHRISTIAN J. KOOT**, Towson University, author of *A Biography of a Map in Motion: Augustine Herrman's Chesapeake*

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# Best New Poets 2026

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“A reminder that contemporary poetry is not only alive and well but continuing to grow.”

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NOW IN ITS THIRD decade, *Best New Poets* has established itself as a crucial venue for rising poets and a valuable resource for poetry lovers. The only publication of its kind, this annual anthology is made up exclusively of work by writers who have not yet published a full-length book. The poems included in this eclectic sampling represent the best from the many that have been nominated by the country’s top literary magazines and writing programs, as well as some two thousand additional poems submitted through an open online competition. The work of the fifty writers represented here provides the best perspective available on the continuing vitality of poetry as it is being practiced today.

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# Bunny Matthews

## His Life, Art, and Obsessions

ALISON FENSTERSTOCK AND MICHAEL  
TISSERAND

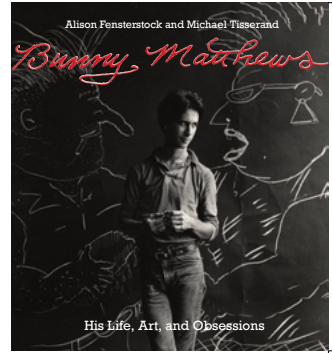
FIENDISHLY CREATIVE, sharply observant, and deeply devoted to his city, Bunny Matthews was among the most influential cartoonists and writers in New Orleans. Matthews obsessed over his native city, and throughout the four decades during which his art and writing appeared in almost every local magazine and newspaper, he revealed that city through his work, teaching New Orleans new ways to listen to itself and laugh at itself.

Matthews is best known for his cartoon characters Vic and Nat'ly, two irreverent bar owners from the "Nint' Ward" who rank alongside Ignatius J. Reilly and Blanche DuBois in the pantheon of fictional New Orleanians. Matthews was also a musician, arts journalist, and promoter who helped create the visual culture of the 1970s music scene in New Orleans through posters, calendars, and fliers for clubs like Tipitina's and Jimmy's.

As a critic, Matthews earnestly pursued authenticity. In his later years, he spilled thousands of words articulating what he saw as the depreciation and corruption of New Orleans's cultural capital. He once wrote, "Be witty. Be nasty. Be silly. Don't be boring." That ethos animates the pages of this first book-length study of his work.

### DISTRIBUTED FOR THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION

**Alison Fensterstock** is a former music critic for the *Times-Picayune* whose writing has also appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *Pitchfork*, *MOJO*, and the *Oxford American*. She is a coauthor of *The Definition of Bounce* and editor of *How Women Made Music: A Revolutionary History from NPR Music*. **Michael Tisserand** is the author of *Krazy: George Herriman, a Life in Black and White*, *The Kingdom of Zydeco*, and *Sugarcane Academy* and editor of *My Father When Young*.



### SEPTEMBER

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# Confluence

## Rivers and Streams in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

SCOTT JOST

**The diversity, beauty, and complexity of the Chesapeake Bay watershed through amazing photos**

CHESAPEAKE BAY IS THE LARGEST estuary in the United States and the third-largest in the world. Its watershed extends some 64,000 square miles into six states (West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, and Delaware) and the District of Columbia and is home to more than 18 million people. The Bay's watershed is also home to one-third of the Atlantic migratory bird population, some 2,700 plant species, and more than 500 finfish and shellfish species. Chesapeake Bay and its watershed are quite simply a national and regional natural treasure. Yet it is threatened.

Scott Jost has traversed nearly every corner of the Bay and its watershed since 2008, focusing on the notable confluences of rivers, streams, and creeks that comprise the watershed. Using multiframe panoramas, Jost presents an incredible array of scenes, all of which capture the “confluence” and “interface” between the natural and cultural landscapes that define the Bay and our place in it. No artist has rendered a region so thoroughly or so artfully.

*Confluence* is more than a book of art. It features ten essays and ten commentaries by some of the Bay's most notable scientists, curators, scholars, writers, activists, river keepers, and political and spiritual leaders, integrating photographs and text.

**DISTRIBUTED FOR GEORGE F. THOMPSON PUBLISHING**

**Scott Jost** is Professor of Art and Art Department Chair at Bridgewater College and author of *Shenandoah Valley Apples and Blacks Run: An American Stream*.

# The Great Experiment

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# The Papers of Benjamin Franklin Digital Edition

EDITED BY ELLEN R. COHN

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BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LOOMS SO LARGE as a global figure in the Enlightenment that his status as a founding father is but one of the many roles through which he helped change the course of history. If only for his long list of discoveries and inventions, this self-taught scientist would be an Edison-like legend, but his talents and indefatigable energy took him into the highest levels of civic administration and statesmanship.

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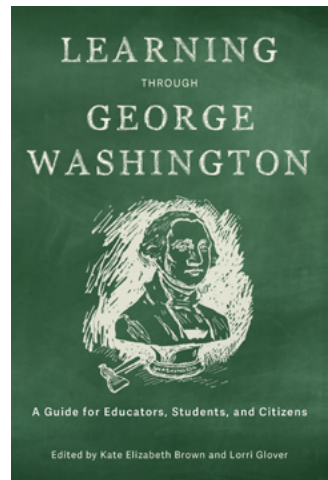
EDITED BY KATE ELIZABETH BROWN AND LORRI GLOVER

**A handbook for teaching Washington's legacy, the American founding era, and responsible engagement in contemporary civic life**

Crafted by a diverse group of expert historians, museum professionals, and K–12 teachers, *Learning Through George Washington* is an engaging, multifaceted exploration of how to teach and learn about the American Revolutionary era. By emphasizing primary source–based inquiry, material culture, and effective pedagogical methods, this collection invites readers to explore Washington's legacy and its continued relevance today. Perfect for history enthusiasts, educators, and students, *Learning Through George Washington* not only deepens our historical understanding of the founding era but also provides valuable resources for further study, ensuring that Washington's call for the “general diffusion of knowledge” remains alive and well into the twenty-first century.

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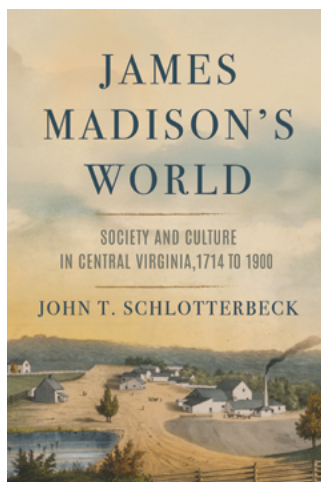
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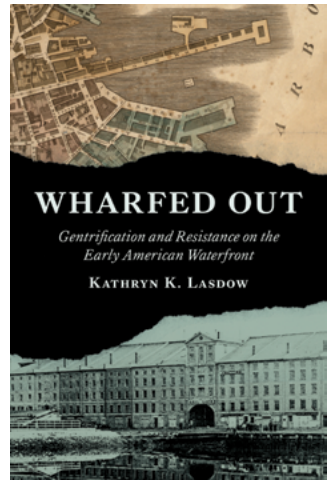
**John T. Schlotterbeck** is A. W. Crandall Professor Emeritus of History at DePauw University and the author of *Daily Life in the Colonial South*.

# Wharfed Out

## Gentrification and Resistance on the Early American Waterfront

KATHRYN K. LASDOW

How urban waterfront development in the early republic displaced working-class communities, creating lasting patterns of inequality and resistance



IN THE EARLY YEARS of American nationhood, civic leaders undertook the construction of thousands of acres of man-made land along urban coastlines—a process known colloquially as “wharfing out,” in which landfilled blocks increased a city’s surface area by pushing outward into deep water. Workers cleared wetlands and dredged harbors in service of ever-expanding ports and waterfront workspace in cities such as Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston. But not everyone shared in the benefits of these so-called improvements. Poor and working-class people, many of whom had done the hard labor, became physically displaced and economically dispossessed. Many pushed back against this gentrification, organizing protests and launching reclamation efforts.

Drawing on an innovative combination of architectural, social historical, and material culture methods, Kathryn Lasdow is the first scholar to delineate both the gentrification and the contestation of American waterfront landscapes in the early republic. In so doing, she reveals how conflicts over design, development, and access — and over who gets to tell the story of these places today — represent just the latest iteration of a centuries-old struggle over who should control the future of urban space in America.

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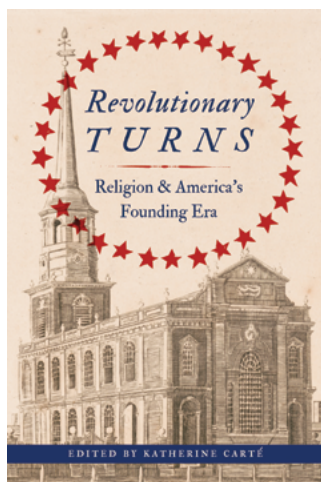
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RELIGION LIES AT THE HEART of how many Americans understand the birth of their nation, giving rise to passionate calls for national unity and principled struggles for religious freedom. For the first time in thirty years, scholars of the founding era have joined together to reassess this central topic for our present moment. From fast-day proclamations to wartime crises of conscience, from Americans caught between multiple political interests to citizens of the new republic trying to reconcile revivalistic faith with the voices of the Enlightenment, the historians gathered here address timeless topics and open new terrain. Together, they present a world in which Americans of many faiths responded to new challenges and unprecedented situations.

This fascinating portrait of religion in the Revolutionary era takes readers through topics as varied as the circulation of radical theological manuscripts in New England to the ways that the Revolutionary generation demanded more religious protections in their new governing documents. It examines the complex relationship between freedom, emancipation, and religion within and across new borders, elucidating the complex relationship between religion, revolution, and the new United States.

**Katherine Carté** is Professor of History at Southern Methodist University and the author of *Religion and the American Revolution: An Imperial History*.

# A Great Revolution in Church and State

Religion, Government, and  
Property in the Chesapeake,  
1700–1830

ALYSSA PENICK

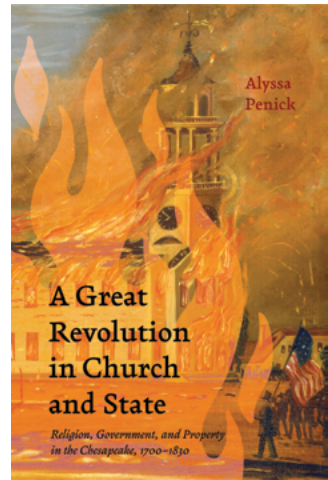
The untold story of how church and state  
were remade in Revolutionary America

*A GREAT REVOLUTION IN CHURCH AND STATE* rewrites the history of American religious freedom in the founding era. In colonial Virginia and Maryland, the established Church of England was a powerful arm of royal authority that enforced the law, collected taxes, amassed considerable wealth, and enslaved men, women, and children. During the American Revolution, reformers began demolishing this regime without a blueprint for replacing it. Because the Anglican establishment had rested on property, legal privilege, and racial slavery, dismantling it became a material struggle as much as an ideological one. While both Maryland and Virginia claimed to have established religious freedom, the two states adopted radically different policies in practice.

Alyssa Penick ultimately shows that Americans expanded rights of conscience and replaced orthodoxy with popular sovereignty even while entrenching racial slavery and consolidating state power, marrying the Revolution's most conservative commitments to its most radical promises.

## THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

**Alyssa Penick** was a Senior Fellow at the Jefferson Scholars Foundation at the University of Virginia. She is currently a J.D. Candidate at Yale Law School.



“Penick skillfully interrogates the relationship between church and state not as abstractions but rather as church and state actually existed, intertwined local institutions with substantial responsibilities that were embedded in local communities.”

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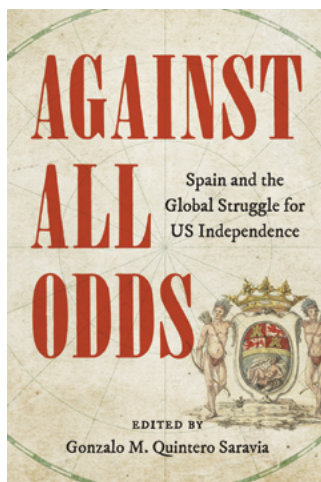
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HISTORIANS INCREASINGLY RECOGNIZE the global dimensions of the American Revolutionary War, and the essays in this indispensable collection highlight the pivotal role played by Spain in the US bid for independence. Together, they cover the unheralded role of Native Americans and Spanish Black militias in the conflict, reveal new insights into the war’s naval and military engagements, and assess the subsequent impact of the new United States on the Spanish American empire. In this volume, Spain emerges as a decisive rather than a declining power in a late eighteenth-century world of revolutions, one whose impact on the American Revolution is only now fully coming to light.

**Contributors:** José María Blanco Núñez • Douglas Bradburn • Kathleen DuVal • Larrie D. Ferreiro • Eliga H. Gould • José Manuel Guerrero Acosta • Agustín Guimerá Ravina • Sylvia L. Hilton • Richard L. Kagan • Jane Landers • Manuel Lucena Giraldo • Gabriel Paquette • Gonzalo M. Quintero Saravia • Juan Luis Simal

**Gonzalo M. Quintero Saravia**, a senior Spanish diplomat, is the author of *Bernardo de Gálvez: Spanish Hero of the American Revolution* and *El enemigo de mi enemigo: España en la Guerra de Independencia de los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica (1775–1783)*.

# Echoes of a Distant Republic

## Italian Perspectives on the American and French Revolutions

ANNA VINCENZI

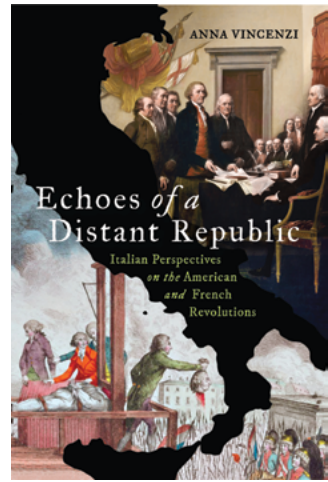
**How the American and French Revolutions were interpreted in the Italian states and how that understanding helped redefine the concept of revolution itself**

IN *ECHOES OF A DISTANT REPUBLIC*, Anna Vincenzi explores the evolving meaning of “revolution” in the eighteenth century by surveying the reactions in Italy to the upheavals in America and later France. Drawing on a wide range of sources—from periodicals and gazettes to diplomatic correspondence, ecclesiastical documents, and private letters—Vincenzi reveals how observers in Venice, Florence, Rome, and Naples made sense of events across the Atlantic from the 1770s to the 1790s.

Italian political thinkers at first did not treat the American experience as a revolution in the modern sense—a radical break with the past meant to establish an egalitarian society—but rather as the culmination of a long age of reform. It was the French Revolution, Vincenzi shows, that made the American Revolution appear, only in retrospect, as the beginning of a new age. What had once seemed a circumscribed, reformist movement within the anglophone world came to be understood as an epoch-making event—an invitation to revolution in Europe against the monarchies of the Old Regime.

### THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

**Anna Vincenzi** is Assistant Professor of Modern European History at Hillsdale College.



“Vincenzi not only introduces readers to Italian observations on and participation in the American and French Revolutions; she shifts the definition of revolution. A compelling addition to the geographically diversifying corpus of Atlantic Revolutionary histories.”

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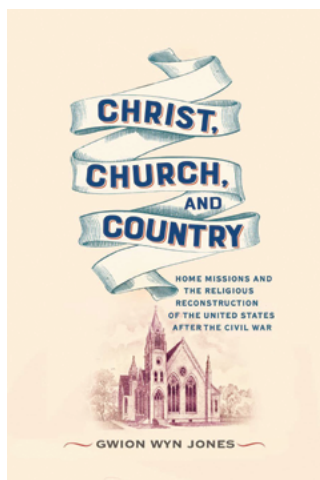
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# Christ, Church, and Country

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“With rich archival detail and sweeping interpretive power, Jones reveals how religion helped construct the moral, material, and political architecture of modern America.”

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IN THE DECADES AFTER the American Civil War, men, women, and children across the Northern United States bankrolled a continental effort to create a homogenous Protestant republic through the home mission movement—a domestic counterpart to foreign missions abroad. This book provides the first multidenominational account of post-Civil War home missions by focusing on the thousands of ordinary Americans who supported them spiritually, emotionally, and—above all—financially. These benefactors believed that through subsidizing the soul saving of their fellow countrymen, they would receive spiritual blessings of their own. Millions of dollars’ worth of this so-called moral capital crisscrossed the nation, creating a “spiritual economy” that Northern Protestants hoped would reunite the republic and bind it for all time.

*Christ, Church, and Country* tells the story of a nation still reeling from the shock of the Civil War embarking upon a period of unprecedented economic growth and demographic transformation—convulsions that encouraged many Americans to use religious benevolence as a tool to bring greater coherence not only to the republic but also to their own disordered selves.

**A NATION DIVIDED: STUDIES IN THE CIVIL WAR ERA**

**Gwion Wyn Jones** is a Leverhulme Research Fellow at the Rothermere American Institute, University of Oxford.

# Willful Listeners

## Reading Aloud and the Politics of Attention from Austen to Audiobooks

KATE NESBIT

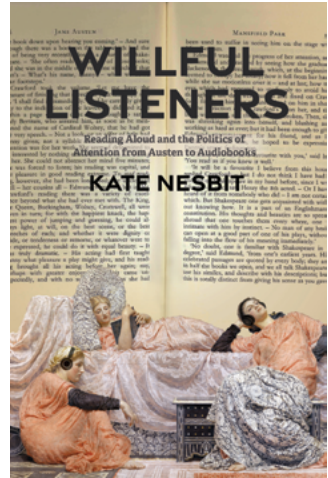
### A cultural and literary history of domestic reading aloud

“LISTENING,” A RECENT Audible advertising campaign proclaimed, “is the new reading.” But this is no new phenomenon. In the nineteenth century, reading aloud was one of the most popular evening entertainments and one of the primary ways people consumed fiction. In *Willful Listeners*, Kate Nesbit considers the Victorian practice of reading aloud from the perspective of listeners—especially the rowdy and disobedient ones.

A counternarrative to more nostalgic portraits, this book spotlights fiction’s unruly audience: tired laborers who zone out while listening to the Bible, women who fall asleep to their husbands’ Shakespeare delivery, and children who eavesdrop on their parents reading the newspaper’s sex scandals. Nesbit analyzes the ritual of reading aloud not merely as an idealized form of domestic intimacy or a method of moral improvement but rather as a praxis enmeshed in the period’s contentious politics of attention. These scenes are about more than reading and reading aloud, Nesbit argues—they speak to attention’s ties to social hierarchy. These are moments that call into question assumptions about who needs to pay attention to whom, about whose voices were deemed worth a listen, and whose voices required amplification. This is a history of both the audiobook and its audience before sound recording.

### VICTORIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE SERIES

**Kate Nesbit** is Associate Professor of English at Central College.



“One of the most engaging books I’ve read in years. This study exemplifies how the rise of new media in our own time, such as audiobooks, can spur us to look back on previous media from a different perspective.”

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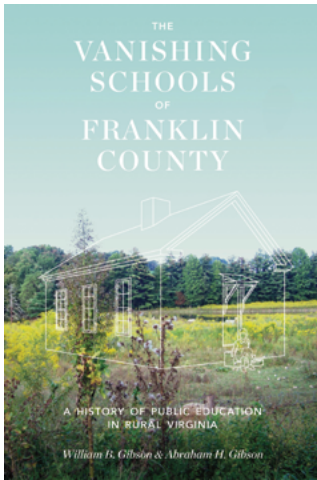
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# The Vanishing Schools of Franklin County

A History of Public Education in Rural Virginia

WILLIAM B. GIBSON AND ABRAHAM H. GIBSON

An in-depth history that assesses the price of progress and the legacy of lost rural American communities

“This book arrives at a timely moment in our state’s and nation’s history, just as a battle for hearts and minds is being fought in and for school districts all across America.”

**CHARLES D. THOMPSON JR.**,  
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NESTLED AMONG THE FOOTHILLS of the Blue Ridge Mountains in southwestern Virginia, Franklin County is the undisputed “Moonshine Capital of the World.” But Franklin County was not as lawless as its reputation would suggest. In addition to making moonshine, the citizens of Franklin County also made a monumental effort to educate their children. In the early twentieth century, Franklin County had more schools than any other locality in the state, per capita. Today, they have all but vanished.

Most of these schools were simple one-room buildings located in abandoned fields. Their foundations were built with local stones, and their walls were built with local timber. Most did not have electricity, running water, or indoor bathrooms. These schools were once vital to life in Franklin County. In this book, a father and son with deep roots in the community set out to recover the history of these long-forgotten schools.

**William B. Gibson** is the retired Principal of Franklin County High School in Rocky Mount, Virginia, and the author of *A History of Franklin County High School*. **Abraham H. Gibson** is Associate Professor of History at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and the author of *Feral Animals in the American South: An Evolutionary History*.

# Gardens and Parks of Historic House Museums

Grounds for Authenticity, Sustainability, and Reconciliation

EDITED BY DENISE MAIOR-BARRON AND EDWARD R. BOSLEY

**On the importance, and economic survival, of historic houses and their gardens and parks**

FROM ROYAL ESTATES TO IMMIGRANT KITCHEN gardens, the case studies presented here speak to the importance of gardens and parks of historic house museums in illuminating the past, navigating the present, and preparing for the future. In this premier volume, site managers, owners, gardeners, scholars, and researchers explore landscape conservation and interpretation models that creatively address cultural, social, political, and climate change. Situated at the intersection of landscape, art, architecture, and heritage and cultural tourism, this book fills a scholarly gap in the critically important areas of authenticity, sustainability, and reconciliation. Whether focusing on the grounds of a whimsical Italian villa once home to a famous clown, those of a medieval-inspired castle in Cornwall, or the sculpture garden of an Outsider artist in South Africa, to note a few, the extensive international selections reveal how gardens and parks of house museums—increasingly relevant to diverse audiences with evolving expectations—have become crucial to the educational, cultural, and economic success of their sites.

**Denise Maior-Barron** is an Adjunct Professor at Claremont Graduate University and a former Reader at the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California. **Edward R. Bosley** is Emeritus Director of the Gamble House, Pasadena, California.



“This volume will cause a rethinking of core assumptions in the world of house museums. It brings together gardens, landscapes, house museums, interpretation, authenticity, preservation, and sustainability—on a global scale—all in one book.”

**MAX A. VAN BALGOOY**,  
George Washington University,  
coeditor of *Reimagining Historic House Museums: New Approaches and Proven Solutions*

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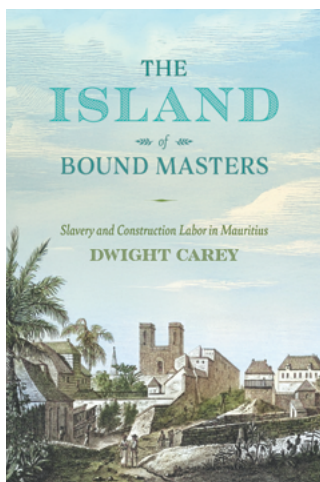
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# The Island of Bound Masters

Slavery and Construction Labor in Mauritius

DWIGHT CAREY

How enslaved workers provided the labor as well as the architectural expertise needed to build and sustain Mauritius

“This thoughtful interdisciplinary study is like no other in its depth and serves as a model for the study of the scientific and architectural achievements of Black people across the globe in the making of the modern world.”

**OMAR H. ALI**, UNC

Greensboro, author of *Malik Ambar: Power and Slavery Across the Indian Ocean*

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UNLIKE MOST OTHER SITES of European colonialism, the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius had no indigenous population when the French set out to incorporate it into their imperial network. How, then, did its development differ from other colonial enterprises? And what lessons does that story hold? *The Island of Bound Masters* is an innovative and multifaceted history of the enslaved Africans and Indians who turned local basalt, coral, earth, and wood into economically viable built environments on Mauritius in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Dwight Carey shows how the labor and the ecological building knowledge of enslaved workers from overseas transformed the island's terrestrial resources into functional domestic infrastructure and a commercial architecture that ensured the subsequent rise of a successful multicultural society. This groundbreaking book draws upon laboratory analyses of structural and ecological remnants, archival research, and insights from geological and botanical science. Its interdisciplinary approach captures the essence of the intangible heritage of Mauritius and reveals how the enslaved sustained life through the strength of their ecological knowledge and the force of their labor.

**RACE, PLACE, AND JUSTICE**

**Dwight Carey** is Assistant Professor of Art and Art History at Amherst College.

# Perpetual Foreigners

Stigma, Citizenship, and Anti-Haitianism in The Bahamas

CHARMANE M. PERRY

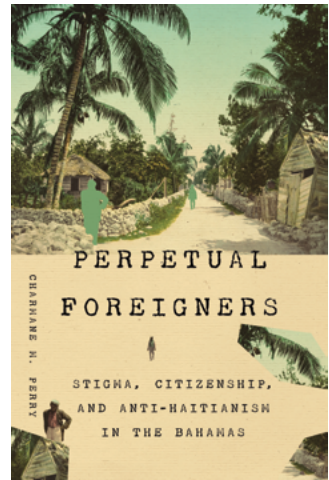
The historical roots and contemporary experience of anti-Haitian discrimination in The Bahamas

ANTI-HAITIANISM IS DEEPLY INGRAINED in The Bahamas—a multifaceted web of exclusion and hostility that bars the descendants of Haitian migrants from belonging and inclusion in the country of their birth. Tracing the legacy of anti-Black and anti-French British colonialism, *Perpetual Foreigners* argues that this entrenched antipathy pervades Bahamian institutions and has resulted in multiple generations' worth of de facto statelessness for Haitian migrants and their children.

After The Bahamas achieved independence from Great Britain in 1973, resident Haitians served as a cultural foil, representing the antithesis of what it means to be Bahamian. Examining the everyday acts of discrimination, xenophobia, and social stigmatization suffered by these “perpetual foreigners,” Perry argues that anti-Haitianism has come to function as a form of Bahamian nationalism. This study offers critical insight into the ways anti-Haitian discrimination operates in Black-made spaces populated by majority Black people within a Black nation.

## NEW WORLD STUDIES

**Charmane M. Perry** is Associate Professor of Africana Studies at San Diego State University.

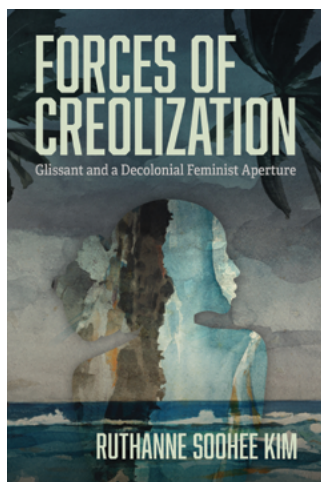


“A striking exploration of Bahamian national identity and an important book. Perry deftly centers the experiences of Bahamians of Haitian descent to make an original and substantial contribution to the field and paint a powerful portrait of their efforts to claim a place for themselves within the imagined nation.”

**LLANA BARBER**, University of Minnesota, author of *Latino City: Immigration and Urban Crisis in Lawrence, Massachusetts, 1945–2000*

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# Forces of Creolization

## Glissant and a Decolonial Feminist Aperture

RUTHANNE SOOHEE KIM

### A groundbreaking feminist and decolonial reading of Édouard Glissant

*FORCES OF CREOLIZATION* READS Édouard Glissant’s poetic and philosophical work through a feminist, decolonial lens, foregrounding creolization as a force of resistance, relationality, and submerged becoming. Drawing on Caribbean poststructuralism, Black feminist thought, and Global South epistemologies, Ruthanne Soohee Kim unveils a method of reading Glissant that centers diffraction, opacity, and errantry—not merely as metaphors but as political and poetic strategies.

Reading Glissant alongside Luce Irigaray, Sylvia Wynter, Saidiya Hartman, and Kamau Brathwaite, Kim shows how creolization resists colonial genealogies, racial essentialism, and patriarchal closure. With her close readings of Glissant’s novels, essays, and theoretical writings, Kim theorizes the abyss, the open boat, and the Medusing shoreline as sites where historical trauma becomes creative insurgency. Here, chaos, revolt, and carnival emerge as generative forces of world-making. *Forces of Creolization* offers an interdisciplinary framework for rethinking kinship, identity, and futurity, and contributes a necessary feminist aperture to Caribbean thought.

### NEW WORLD STUDIES

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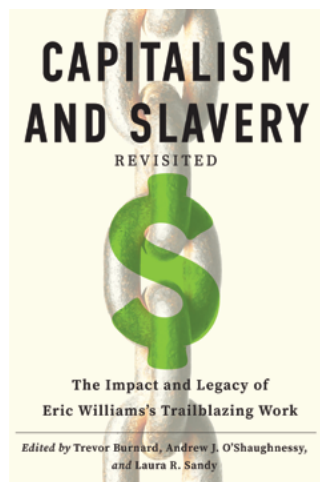
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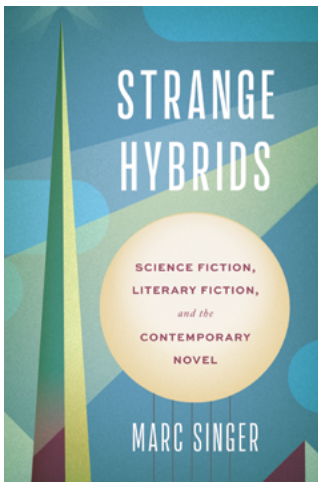
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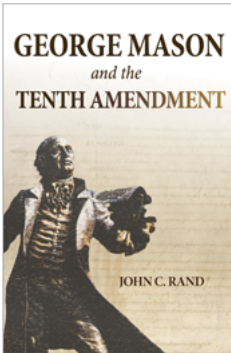
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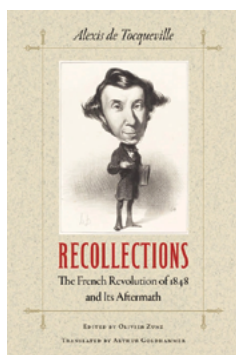
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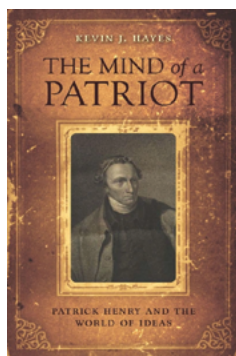
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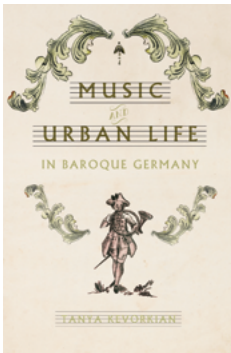
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