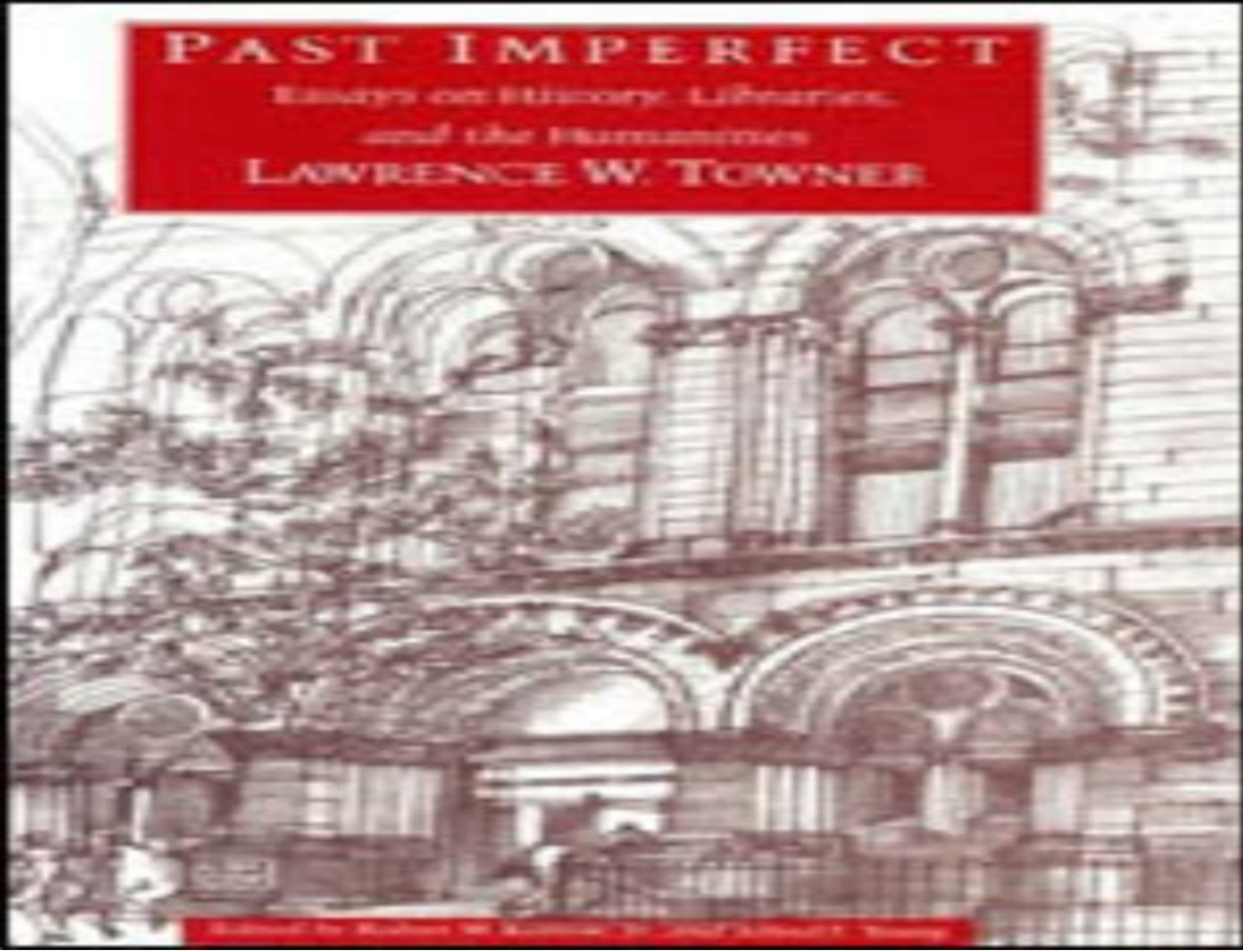


PAST IMPERFECT

Essays on History, Literature,
and the Humanities
LAWRENCE W. TOWNER



Edited by Andrew W. Ross and David A. Thelen

Past Imperfect Essays On History Libraries And The Humanities

Carl E. Van Horn, Herbert A. Schaffner



Past Imperfect Essays On History Libraries And The Humanities:

Past Imperfect Lawrence W. Towner, 1993-06-15 The essays and talks gathered in *Past Imperfect* cover a broad range of topics of continuing relevance to the humanities and to scholarship in general Part I collects Towner's historical essays on the indentured servants apprentices and slaves of colonial New England that are standards of the new social history The pieces in Part II express his vision of the library as an institution for research and education here he discusses the rationale for the creation of research centers the Newberry's pioneering policies for conservation and preservation and the ways in which collections were built In Part III Towner writes revealingly of his co workers and mentors Part IV assembles his statements as spokesman for the humanities addressing questions of national priorities in funding and of so called elitist scholarship versus public programs

The Evolution of Library and Museum Partnerships Lisa Gottlieb, 2004-11-30 These authors examine the unique social roles of libraries and museums review historical precedents as well as library museum partnerships funded in recent years through IMLS grants and forge an exciting vision of a new library museum hybrid The juxtaposition of library collections and museum artifacts they assert has the potential to create authentic interactive experiences for community members and it can help establish a distinct meaningful and sustainable role for libraries In the authors words libraries can then reassert themselves as places devoted to contemplation wonder knowledge acquisition and critical inquiry Commercialization edutainment and the library as a learning community are just some of the fascinating topics addressed as the authors explore the future's terrain and suggest how libraries might situate themselves upon it Libraries museums and the ways in which they are used by patrons have drastically changed in past decades Digitization projects infotainment and the Internet are redefining the library's and the museum's roles in the community What are the implications for the future of these institutions These authors examine the unique social roles of libraries and museums review historical precedents as well as library museum partnerships funded in recent years through IMLS grants and forge an exciting vision of a new library museum hybrid The juxtaposition of library collections and museum artifacts they assert has the potential to create authentic interactive experiences for community members and it can help establish a distinct meaningful and sustainable role for libraries In the authors words libraries can then reassert themselves as places devoted to contemplation wonder knowledge acquisition and critical inquiry Commercialization edutainment and the library as a learning community are just some of the fascinating topics addressed as the authors explore the future's terrain and suggest how libraries might situate themselves upon it

A Good Master Well Served Lawrence William Towner, 2019-07-12 First published in 1998 Early American historians are finding connections between the bonded status of African American slaves European indentured servants convicts and sailors An excellent starting point for this inquiry is this neglected classic by Lawrence Towner former head of the Newberry Library in Chicago and editor of the *William and Mary Quarterly* This comprehensive study of the lives and experiences of bonded laborers in colonial Massachusetts demonstrates the full sweep

of their work and aspirations Towner analyzes the legal status of all varieties of black and white bonded laborers He explores their living and working conditions and discusses the cultural significance of work in their lives The book also address gender issues in bonded labor The author s approach provides a new understanding of the experiences of black and white workers in early America and corrects a long standing neglect of blacks in previous research This edition makes this important work available in print for the first time and includes an introductory essay by Alfred F Young

Dissertations and Gatekeepers Why it took 45 Years for a Ph D Thesis to be Published Ph D dissertation Northwestern University 1954 International Dictionary of Library Histories David H. Stam, 2001-11-01 Following the format of Fitzroy Dearborn s highly successful International Dictionary of Historic Places and International Dictionary of University Histories the International Dictionary of Library Histories provides basic information for each institution location and holdings followed by an extensive 1 000 5 000 word essay on its history as well as a Further Reading list In addition the dictionary includes introductory articles on the history of various types of libraries and a library history in various regions of the world The dictionary profiles more than 200 institutions from around the world including the world s most important research libraries and other libraries with globally or regionally notable collections innovative traditions and significant and interesting histories The essays take advantage of the growing scholarship of library history to provide insightful overviews of each institution including not only the traditional values of these libraries but their innovations as well such as developments in automated systems and electronic delivery The profiles will emphasize the unique materials of research in these institutions archives manuscripts personal and institutional papers The introductory articles on types of libraries include topics ranging from theological libraries to prison libraries from the ancient to the digital An international team of more than 200 leading scholars in the field have contributed essays to the project

Whose American Revolution was It? Alfred F. Young, Gregory Nobles, 2011-09 The meaning of the American Revolution has always been a much contested question and asking it is particularly important today the standard easily digested narrative puts the Founding Fathers at the head of a unified movement failing to acknowledge the deep divisions in Revolutionary era society and the many different historical interpretations that have followed Whose American Revolution Was It speaks both to the ways diverse groups of Americans who lived through the Revolution might have answered that question and to the different ways historians through the decades have interpreted the Revolution for our own time As the only volume to offer an accessible and sweeping discussion of the period s historiography and its historians Whose American Revolution Was It is an essential reference for anyone studying early American history The first section by Alfred F Young begins in 1925 with historian J Franklin Jameson and takes the reader through the successive schools of interpretation up to the 1990s The second section by Gregory H Nobles focuses primarily on the ways present day historians have expanded our understanding of the broader social history of the Revolution bringing onto the stage farmers and artisans who made up the majority of white men as well as African Americans Native Americans and women of all social classes **The Charleston**

Orphan House John E. Murray, 2013-02-11 The first public orphanage in America the Charleston Orphan House saw to the welfare and education of thousands of children from poor white families in the urban South From wealthy benefactors to the families who sought its assistance to the artisans and merchants who relied on its charges as apprentices the Orphan House was a critical component of the city's social fabric By bringing together white citizens from all levels of society it also played a powerful political role in maintaining the prevailing social order John E Murray tells the story of the Charleston Orphan House for the first time through the words of those who lived there or had family members who did Through their letters and petitions the book follows the families from the events and decisions that led them to the Charleston Orphan House through the children's time spent there to in a few cases their later adult lives What these accounts reveal are families struggling to maintain ties after catastrophic loss and to preserve bonds with children who no longer lived under their roofs An intimate glimpse into the lives of the white poor in early American history The Charleston Orphan House is moreover an illuminating look at social welfare provision in the antebellum South

From British Peasants to Colonial American Farmers Allan Kulikoff, 2014-02-01 With this book Allan Kulikoff offers a sweeping new interpretation of the origins and development of the small farm economy in Britain's mainland American colonies Examining the lives of farmers and their families he tells the story of immigration to the colonies traces patterns of settlement analyzes the growth of markets and assesses the impact of the Revolution on small farm society Beginning with the dispossession of the peasantry in early modern England Kulikoff follows the immigrants across the Atlantic to explore how they reacted to a hostile new environment and its Indian inhabitants He discusses how colonists secured land built farms and bequeathed those farms to their children Emphasizing commodity markets in early America Kulikoff shows that without British demand for the colonists' crops settlement could not have begun at all Most important he explores the destruction caused during the American Revolution showing how the war thrust farmers into subsistence production and how they only gradually regained their prewar prosperity

Liberty Tree Alfred F. Young, 2006-11-06 With the publication of *Liberty Tree* acclaimed historian Alfred F Young presents a selection of his seminal writing as well as two provocative never before published essays Together they take the reader on a journey through the American Revolution exploring the role played by ordinary women and men called at the time people out of doors in shaping events during and after the Revolution their impact on the Founding generation of the new American nation and finally how this populist side of the Revolution has fared in public memory Drawing on a wide range of sources which include not only written documents but also material items like powder horns and public rituals like parades and tarring and featherings Young places ordinary Americans at the center of the Revolution For example in one essay he views the Constitution of 1787 as the result of an intentional accommodation by elites with non elites while another piece explores the process of ongoing negotiations would be rulers conducted with the middling sort women enslaved African Americans and Native Americans Moreover questions of history and modern memory are engaged by a compelling examination of icons of

the Revolution such as the pamphleteer Thomas Paine and Boston's Freedom Trail. For over forty years, history lovers, students, and scholars alike have been able to hear the voices and see the actions of ordinary people during the Revolutionary Era thanks to Young's path-breaking work, which seamlessly blends sophisticated analysis with compelling and accessible prose. From his award-winning work on mechanics or artisans in the seaboard cities of the Northeast to the all-but-forgotten liberty tree, a major popular icon of the Revolution explored in depth for the first time, Young continues to astound readers as he forges new directions in the history of the American Revolution. *Down and Out in Early America* Billy G. Smith, 2010-11-01

It has often been said that early America was the best poor man's country in the world. After all, wasn't there an abundance of land and a scarcity of laborers? The law of supply and demand would seem to dictate that most early American working people enjoyed high wages and a decent material standard of living. *Down and Out in Early America* presents the evidence for poverty versus plenty and concludes that financial insecurity was a widespread problem that plagued many early Americans. The fact is that in early America only an extremely thin margin separated those who required assistance from those who were able to secure independently the necessities of life. The reasons for this were many: seasonal and cyclical unemployment, inadequate wages, health problems including mental illness, alcoholism, a large pool of migrants, low pay for women, abandoned families. The situation was made worse by the inability of many communities to provide help for the poor except to incarcerate them in workhouses and almshouses. The essays in this volume explore the lives and strategies of people who struggled with destitution, evaluate the changing forms of poor relief, and examine the political, religious, gender, and racial aspects of poverty in early North America. *Down and Out in Early America* features a distinguished lineup of historians. In the first chapter, Gary B. Nash surveys the scholarship on poverty in early America and concludes that historians have failed to appreciate the numerous factors that generated widespread indigence. Philip D. Morgan examines poverty among slaves, while Jean R. Soderlund looks at the experience of Native Americans in New Jersey. In the other essays, Monique Bourque, Ruth Wallis Herndon, Tom Humphrey, Susan E. Klepp, John E. Murray, Simon Newman, J. Richard Olivas, and Karin Wulf look at the conditions of poverty across regions, making this the most complete and comprehensive work of its kind. **Philanthropy in Democratic Societies** Rob Reich, Lucy Bernholz, Chiara

Cordelli, 2016-09-20 Introduction: philanthropy in democratic societies Rob Reich, Lucy Bernholz, and Chiara Cordelli. Altruism and the origins of nonprofit philanthropy Jonathan Levy. Why is the history of philanthropy not a part of American history? Olivier Zunz. On the role of foundations in democracies Rob Reich. Contributory or disruptive? Do new forms of philanthropy erode democracy? Aaron Horvath and Walter W. Powell. Reconciling corporate social responsibility and profitability guidelines for the conscientious manager Paul Brest. When is philanthropy? How the tax code's answer to this question has given rise to the growth of donor-advised funds and why it's a problem Ray D. Madoff. Creating digital civil society: the Digital Public Library of America Lucy Bernholz. The free provider problem: private provision of public responsibilities Eric Beerbohm.

Philanthropy and democratic ideals Ryan Pevnick Reparative justice and the moral limits of discretionary philanthropy Chiara Cordelli

Children Bound to Labor Ruth Wallis Herndon, John E. Murray, 2011-02-23 The history of early America cannot be told without considering unfree labor At the center of this history are African and Native American adults forced into slavery the children born to these unfree persons usually inherited their parents status Immigrant indentured servants many of whom were young people are widely recognized as part of early American society Less familiar is the idea of free children being taken from the homes where they were born and put into bondage As *Children Bound to Labor* makes clear pauper apprenticeship was an important source of labor in early America The economic social and political development of the colonies and then the states cannot be told properly without taking them into account Binding out pauper apprentices was a widespread practice throughout the colonies from Massachusetts to South Carolina poor illegitimate orphaned abandoned or abused children were raised to adulthood in a legal condition of indentured servitude Most of these children were without resources and often without advocates Local officials undertook the responsibility for putting such children in family situations where the child was expected to work while the master provided education and basic living needs The authors of *Children Bound to Labor* show the various ways in which pauper apprentices were important to the economic social and political structure of early America and how the practice shaped such key relations as master servant parent child and family state in the young republic In considering the practice in English Dutch and French communities in North America from the mid seventeenth century to the mid nineteenth century *Children Bound to Labor* even suggests that this widespread practice was notable as a positive means of maintaining social stability and encouraging economic development

Unwelcome Americans Ruth Wallis Herndon, 2010-11-24 Selected by Choice magazine as an Outstanding Academic Title In eighteenth century America no centralized system of welfare existed to assist people who found themselves without food medical care or shelter Any poor relief available was provided through local taxes and these funds were quickly exhausted By the end of the century state and national taxes levied to help pay for the Revolutionary War further strained municipal budgets In order to control homelessness vagrancy and poverty New England towns relied heavily on the warning out system inherited from English law This was a process in which community leaders determined the legitimate hometown of unwanted persons or families in order to force them to leave ostensibly to return to where they could receive care The warning out system alleviated the expense and responsibility for the general welfare of the poor in any community and placed the burden on each town to look after its own But homelessness and poverty were problems as onerous in early America as they are today and the system of warning out did little to address the fundamental causes of social disorder Ultimately the warning out system gave way to the establishment of general poorhouses and other charities But the documents that recorded details about the lives of those who were warned out provide an extraordinary and until now forgotten history of people on the margin *Unwelcome Americans* puts a human face on poverty in early America by recovering the stories of forty New Englanders who

were forced to leave various communities in Rhode Island Rhode Island towns kept better and more complete warning out records than other areas in New England and because the official records include those who had migrated to Rhode Island from other places these documents can be relied upon to describe the experiences of poor people across the region The stories are organized from birth to death beginning with the lives of poor children and young adults followed by families and single adults and ending with the testimonies of the elderly and dying Through meticulous research of historical records Herndon has managed to recover voices that have not been heard for more than two hundred years in the process painting a dramatically different picture of family and community life in early New England These life stories tell us that those who were warned out were predominantly unmarried women with or without children Native Americans African Americans and destitute families Through this remarkable reconstruction Herndon provides a corrective to the narratives of the privileged that have dominated the conversation in this crucial period of American history and the lives she chronicles give greater depth and a richer dimension to our understanding of the growth of American social responsibility

Escaping Slavery

Antonio T. Bly, 2022-02-07 Escaping Slavery is a documentary history of Native Americans in British North America This study of indigenous peoples captures the lives of numerous individuals who refused to sacrifice their humanity in the face of the violent changing landscapes of early America

The Rise of a Prairie Statesman

Thomas J. Knock, 2016-03-01 The first major biography of the 1972 U S presidential candidate and unsung champion of American liberalism The Rise of a Prairie Statesman is the first volume of a major biography of the 1972 Democratic presidential candidate who became America s most eloquent and prescient critic of the Vietnam War In this masterful book Thomas Knock traces George McGovern s life from his rustic boyhood in a South Dakota prairie town during the Depression to his rise to the pinnacle of politics at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago where police and antiwar demonstrators clashed in the city s streets Drawing extensively on McGovern s private papers and scores of in depth interviews Knock shows how McGovern s importance to the Democratic Party and American liberalism extended far beyond his 1972 presidential campaign and how the story of postwar American politics is about more than just the rise of the New Right He vividly describes McGovern s harrowing missions over Nazi Germany as a B 24 bomber pilot and reveals how McGovern s combat experiences motivated him to earn a PhD in history and stoked his ambition to run for Congress When President Kennedy appointed him director of Food for Peace in 1961 McGovern engineered a vast expansion of the program s school lunch initiative that soon was feeding tens of millions of hungry children around the world As a senator he delivered his courageous and unrelenting critique of Lyndon Johnson s escalation in Vietnam a conflict that brought their party to disaster and caused a new generation of Democrats to turn to McGovern for leadership A stunning achievement The Rise of a Prairie Statesman ends in 1968 in the wake of the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy when the Draft McGovern movement thrust him into the national spotlight and the contest for the presidential nomination culminating in his triumphal reelection to the Senate

and his emergence as one of the most likely prospects for the Democratic nomination in 1972 **Illinois Historical Journal** ,1998 *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party* Alfred F. Young, Alfred Young, 2001-01-17 George Robert Twelves Hewes a Boston shoemaker who participated in such key events of the American Revolution as the Boston Massacre and the Tea Party might have been lost to history if not for his longevity and the historical mood of the 1830 s When the Tea Party became a leading symbol of the Revolutionary era fifty years after the actual event this common man in his nineties was discovered and celebrated in Boston as a national hero Young pieces together this extraordinary tale adding new insights about the role that individual and collective memory play in shaping our understanding of history **Masquerade** Alfred F. Young, 2005-03-08 In *Masquerade* Alfred F Young scrapes through layers of fiction and myth to uncover the story of Deborah Sampson a Massachusetts woman who passed as a man and fought as a soldier for seventeen months toward the end of the American Revolution Deborah Sampson was not the only woman to pose as a male and fight in the war but she was certainly one of the most successful and celebrated She managed to fight in combat and earn the respect of her officers and peers and in later years she toured the country lecturing about her experiences and was partially successful in obtaining veterans benefits Her full story however was buried underneath exaggeration and myth some of which she may have created herself becoming another sort of masquerade Young takes the reader with him through his painstaking efforts to reveal the real Deborah Sampson in a work of history that is as spellbinding as the best detective fiction **The Natural History of Sexuality in Early America** Greta LaFleur, 2020-08-04 How natural history made sex scientific in the eighteenth century If sexology the science of sex came into being sometime in the nineteenth century then how did statesmen scientists and everyday people make meaning out of sex before that point In *The Natural History of Sexuality in Early America* Greta LaFleur demonstrates that eighteenth century natural history the study of organic life in its environment actually provided the intellectual foundations for the later development of the scientific study of sex Natural historians understood the human body to be a porous envelope eminently vulnerable to its environment Yet historians of sexuality have tended to rely on archival evidence of genital based or otherwise bodily sex acts for source material Through careful readings of both elite natural history texts and popular print forms that circulated widely in the British North American colonies among them Barbary captivity execution cross dressing and anti vice narratives LaFleur traces the development of a broad knowledge of sexuality defined in terms of the dynamic relationship between the human and the natural social physical and climatic milieu At the heart of this book is the question of how to produce a history of sexuality for an era in which modern vocabularies for sex and desire were unavailable LaFleur demonstrates how environmental logic was used to explain sexual behavior on a broad scale not just among the educated elite who wrote and read natural historical texts LaFleur reunites the history of sexuality with the history of race demonstrating how they were bound to one another by the emergence of the human sciences Ultimately *The Natural History of Sexuality in Early America* not only rewrites all dominant scholarly narratives of

eighteenth century sexual behavior but also poses a major intervention into queer theoretical understandings of the relationship between sex and the subject

Work in America Carl E. Van Horn, Herbert A. Schaffner, 2003-12-15 The first comprehensive analysis of work and the workforce in the United States from the Industrial Revolution to the era of globalization This comprehensive two volume reference book is the first to analyze the central role of work and the workforce in U S life from the Industrial Revolution through today s information economy Drawing on a variety of disciplines economics public policy law human and civil rights cultural studies and organizational psychology its 256 entries examine key events concepts institutions and individuals in labor history Entries also tackle tough contemporary questions that reflect the conflicts inherent in capitalism What is the impact of work on families and communities On minority and immigrant populations How shall we respond to changing work roles and the growing influence of the transnational corporation Work in America describes and evaluates attempts to address social and class issues affirmative action occupational health and safety corporate management science and trade unionism and organized labor and offers the kind of comprehensive understanding needed to discover workable solutions

America, History and Life ,1996 Provides historical coverage of the United States and Canada from prehistory to the present Includes information abstracted from over 2 000 journals published worldwide

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