

FACTS ON FILE LIBRARY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF

AMERICAN  
LITERATURE

REVISED EDITION

美国文学百科辞典 (修订版)

Settlement to the  
New Republic  
1607-1815

Susan Clair Imbarrato  
and Carol Berkin



 上海外语教育出版社  
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VOLUME I

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AMERICAN LITERATURE  
美国文学百科全书 (修订版)

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SETTLEMENT TO THE NEW REPUBLIC  
1607-1815



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# 《美国文学百科辞典》(修订版)

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# 出版说明

进入21世纪以来,上海外语教育出版社相继引进出版了《MIT认知科学百科全书》、《不列颠简明百科全书》(英文版)、《语言与语言学百科全书》(第2版),以及《牛津英国文学百科全书》等大型系列百科工具书,获得了良好的社会反响,极大地推动了学术经典在我国的传播与推广,促进了我国外语学术研究的发展与繁荣。

美国文学发展至今,硕果累累,独树一帜,在世界文学之林中享有独特的地位。一方面,美国文学充分表述了其历史地理、政治经济、社会生活等国民特征,也充分凸显了其价值观念、思维方式、风土人情等文化因素,是世界人民了解美利坚民族最鲜活、直观、形象、生动的教材,内涵广博而丰富;另一方面,从近100多年的发展来看,美国文学见证了美国逐步崛起,成为世界唯一超级大国的历程,这一时期,美国文学发展迅速,后来居上,在一定程度上成为引领世界文学走向的文化力量。近年来,随着中美之间经济、文化交流增多,以及我国高等教育快速发展,越来越多的人对美国文学产生兴趣,十分关注其最新动态和发展趋势。为此,上海外语教育出版社引进出版了美国 Facts on File 出版社于2008年出版的《美国文学百科辞典》(修订版),以飨读者。

本套百科辞典共4卷,按照时间顺序全面、详尽地描绘了美国殖民拓居和新共和时期、19世纪美国文学成长期的浪漫主义和现实主义、20世纪上半叶美国文学高潮期的自然主义和现代主义,以及二战后的当代文学这4个时期的文学发展全貌,反映了每一时期的社会风貌、政治气候和文化环境。值得一提的是,《美国文学百科辞典》(修订版)为 Facts on File 出版社2008年推出的新版,它在2002年版的基础上,经过学者专家大量的修订、更新和增补,并对美国文学的发展阶段进行了更加合理化的整合后隆重推出,由原来的3卷扩展为现在的4卷,新增了1000多个词条,尤其对近5年的重大新发展进行收录,体现了美国文学的最新发展前沿。

本套百科辞典对于读者了解美国文学、进而了解美国文化史、思想史均有极高的学术参考价值,是一部不可多得的权威工具书。

书中个别地方涉及一些政治观点和敏感问题,仅代表作者个人观点,编辑已尽所能作了必要的处理,但仍请读者阅读时注意甄别。

上海外语教育出版社

2010年8月

# 序

在高校任教美国文学多年，常被问到一个问题：外国文学学了有什么用？提问者的声音里有时带着无奈的困顿，楚楚可怜；有时带着挑战的不屑，咄咄逼人。我的回答因人而异，有时耐心解惑，有时反唇相讥。其实这个问题问得没有水平，背后是一个错误的逻辑前提，即只有“用”才是衡量“学”的标尺。高等教育的任务主要不是提供职业培训，而是为受教育者打下终身发展的基础，培养健全的人格，让学生获得开阔的文化视野以及各种比实用技能更重要的能力，包括观察能力、思辨能力、想象能力、判断能力、解析能力、表述能力、沟通能力等等。这些抽象的东西捏合在一起，我们今天称之为综合素质。所以，我们的学习应该超越应用层面，拥抱更加广博的知识。所谓知识，首先是“知”：了解、明白；然后是“识”，在“知”的基础上思考辨析，明达世理。古代汉语中，“知”通“智”——“知者”即“智者”。从某个角度讲，认识比应用更重要。

从本质上讲，文学并不是“致用”的东西，而是一门“致知”的学科。我曾在一篇文章中谈到“知”和“用”的关系：“文学的‘用’是‘无用之用’——无用之用，方是大用，因为编码于文学作品中的精神文化方面的东西，可以潜移默化地影响一个人，改造一个人。”如果一个人只追求实在的、实用的、实惠的东西，那么他就陷入了功利主义的泥坑。苏格拉底有一句名言：“未经审视的人生没有价值。”用通俗的话来讲就是：活着，要做个明白人。人作为地球上唯一知性/智性的、文化的生物，需要了解自己的生存环境，包括自然的、社会的和人文的环境；也需要了解我们自己：人的行为、人的思想和人的情感。我们还需要，如苏格拉底所言，对生活进行“审视”，反思过去，探究人生的意义，规划和想望未来。优秀的文学作品，不管是中国的还是美国的，都能通过语言的艺术反馈经验，提供认识社会、认识生活的观察窗口。

从传统渊源来讲，包括美国文学在内的西方文

学，受到源自古希腊、罗马的人文精神的浸润。文艺复兴时期的人文精神强调人是世界之本，提倡自由和变革，倡导科学思辨，相信人的智慧可以推动社会进步。西方文学中涵容的核心价值，在很多方面与我国的传统文化形成互补之势。在中国近代史上，我国的知识分子曾经在西学中获得了对抗顽固的封建主义的巨大力量。从近100年的发展来看，美国文学见证了大英帝国走向衰弱，美国崛起为世界唯一超级大国的“换位”式的变迁。伴随着主导世界的政治、军事和经济影响力，美国文学迅速崛起，后来居上，成为世界文学之林中最受关注的一支，在一定程度上也是引领世界文学走向的文化力量。美国文学充分表述了其历史地理、政治经济、社会生活等国民特征，也充分凸显了其价值观念、思维方式、风土人情等文化因素，是我们了解美利坚民族最鲜活、最直观、最形象、最生动的教材，内涵广博而丰富。

威廉·凡·奥康纳在《美国小说思潮》中谈到了历史塑成的美国民族性的一个重要方面：“美国与其他国家不同之点，在于这个国家建筑在某种观念之上。”早期来到北美的拓居先民，身上没有历史的负担和传统的牵挂，把新大陆当作巨大的实验室，将欧洲理想进行本土化改造，催生了杰弗逊的农业理想主义、富兰克林的实用哲学、爱默生的超验主义认识观；孵化了布鲁克林农场这样的乌托邦公社；也导致了全民追求“美国梦”的狂热。这里历来是多种理想、多种文化交融和碰撞的集合地，充满了骚动与亢奋，滋育着幻灭和希望。美国文学充分记录和反映了民族的和个人的追求历程，而记录文本中又有一种批判精神始终贯穿其中，与民族理想相反相成，表达了求索过程中典型的美国式的矛盾心态。政治的、经济的、文化的力量作用于社会，作用于文学，催生和滋育了新的文学表达。文学作品再现的许多故事，不仅共同编织了一幅栩栩如生的美国生活的风俗画，而且串联和勾勒了美国历史几百年发展的文脉语境。著名学者

弗雷德里克·霍夫曼指出,文学的价值不仅仅产生于它“使用”了某一时期的史料,也不在于它表达了某一主题思想,更不局限于它为政治、思想史作诠释,具有文献的功能,“而主要是因为它是一种最高概括,是通向认识某一时代重大事件的真正径途。”

近几十年来,中美之间经济、文化交流增多,同时我国高等教育发展迅速,致使越来越多的人对美国文学产生兴趣。高校的中文和外语院系,本科、研究生和专业师资在3个层面上学习和研究美国文学和美国文化,形成了一个规模不小的群体;社会上也有很多美国文学爱好者。在我国图书市场,各类美国文学史、美国作家的作品选读、传记,以及他们所著述的文学理论和批评著作层出不穷。被翻译引荐的外国文学著作名录中,包括经典的、当代的、严肃的和通俗的,最多的也是美国文学。改革开放后几十年带来的文化繁荣,一方面将美国文学推向更加普及的层面,另一方面又促进了更加专业的研究。从普通读者群到学术界,都对美国文学抱有极大的好奇心,关注着她的发展动态和研究趋势。在信息化将世界紧密联系在一起的今天,我们需要获得更多异文化的体验,才能在全球化语境中达到有效沟通和交流,而文学文本是培养多元文化意识和全球视野的理想课本。

这套《美国文学百科全书》(修订版)可以为我们的学习、阅读美国文学答疑解惑,提供详尽的参考。全系列分为殖民拓居和新共和时期,19世纪美国文学成长期的浪漫主义和现实主义,20世纪上半叶美国文学高潮期的自然主义和现代主义,以及二战后的当代文学。每一时段的文学,都是该时期文化史、思想史的一部分,最生动地反映着当时的社会风貌、政治气候和文化环境。作家的审美意识和艺术想象又最能提示所处时代的精神气候、文化特性和生存状态。值得一提的是第一卷。一般认为,除了印第安人的口头文学和殖民时期的一些零散诗歌外,狭义的美国文学只有200年的历史,即从华盛顿·欧文和库珀的早期浪漫主义开始,但这套《美国文学百科全书》(修订版)用了整整一卷的篇幅,追踪从1607年早期欧洲移民的遗留文字到19世纪初美国早期浪漫主义开始之前。编撰者们以开放的心态定义文学,收集后来汇成洪流的源头上的涓涓滴滴,对各种记录文字进行了历史考证和汇总,为考察美国文学的源起提供了丰富而有价值的原始资料,难能可贵。

《美国文学百科全书》(修订版)是2008年的新版,在2002年版的基础上,经过学者专家大量的修

订、更新和增补,并对美国文学的发展阶段进行了更加合理化的整合后隆重推出,由原来的3卷扩展为现在的4卷,新添了1000多个词条共计40余万英语词的内容,尤其对近5年的重大新发展进行收录。按照编撰者的设计,这套百科全书的主要读者对象是英语国家的大学生,供他们学习、研究参考之用,因此具有如下几方面的主要特点:

1. 摒除学究式的晦涩,内容清楚明晰,文字简洁易懂,评述扼要客观,特别适合母语不是英语的我国读者阅读参考;

2. 结合文学史的分段和辞典的排序,以文学阶段分卷,集中相关内容,每卷收录的词条按字母排序,既形成词条之间的呼应与参照,又便于查阅,兼具文学史和文学辞典两方面的功能;

3. 覆盖从早期殖民地文学到当代文学的最新发展,词条不仅收录重要的作家与作品,其他信息如文学运动、文学思潮、文学刊物、文学奖项等也均有介绍;

4. 跟踪作家、作品、批评与研究的新发展与新动向直至2007年,反映了美国文学研究的前沿态势;

5. 每个作家词条后均列出主要批评和传记书目,重要作家词条附有研究综述专栏,为进一步深入学习和研究提供指南;

6. 每卷开篇之前有按年份列出的文学发展大事记,形成一个目录式的陈列,将个别词条嵌入整体发展框架之中,便于辞典使用者对美国文学的综合把握。

上海外语教育出版社引进出版的《美国文学百科全书》(修订版),为我国的美国文学学习者、爱好者和研究者提供了全面而权威的工具书,为美国文学教学与研究的发展做出了新的贡献,功德无量。这套百科全书洋洋4大卷,为国内同类出版物中首次引进,也正是品种繁多的有关美国文学的出版物中缺少的那种理想、实用的参考工具书,覆盖宽广,信息丰富,设计独特,与时俱进。对我而言,以及对于所有美国文学的爱好者、教师和学生,拥有了这样一套百科全书,就相当于得到了美国文学信息资料库的钥匙。我在这里特别向上海外语教育出版社的决策者们表示由衷的感谢和敬意,正是因为他们高瞻远瞩,一如既往地注重出版的社会效益,我们才能不断从中受益。

上海外国语大学

虞建华

2010年夏

# ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

VOLUME I

SETTLEMENT TO THE NEW REPUBLIC

1607–1815



*Revised and Augmented by*  
*Susan Clair Imbarrato*  
*from the first edition prepared by*  
*Carol Berkin*

 **Facts On File**  
*An imprint of Infobase Publishing*



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The editor thanks Facts On File and Professor Emory Elliott, University of California at Riverside, for extending the opportunity to compile and to revise this volume, an exciting and stimulating enterprise. I also thank and acknowledge the excellent editing and kind assistance of Penny Hope and Elizabeth Leverton, whose good humor and astonishing organization sustained this project. This volume also owes a debt to its initial compiler and author, Dr. Carol Berkin, for providing the foundation upon which this current volume has been expanded. Thank you,

as well, to James Bense, professor of English at Minnesota State University at Moorhead, for his enthusiastic support, and to the staff at the MSUM Livingston Lord Library for assistance with resources. To my students, I have appreciated discussing these materials and benefiting from their insightful responses. From the classroom to the edited volume, I continue to gain new appreciation for this rich literary and historical period extending from Settlement to the New Republic (1607–1815).

—S. C. I.

# PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION



This four-volume *Encyclopedia of American Literature* is a thorough revision of the three-volume work published by Facts On File in 2002. It adds more than one thousand entries, some four hundred thousand words, and a new volume to the original work. Some one million books have been published in the United States since the first edition of *EAL* appeared; among them are many that require recognition in the encyclopedia, both as primary and secondary resources, some by writers who had not yet published five years ago.

The revised and updated work differs from its predecessor in these respects: 1) entries have been added to reflect the emergence of significant authors, current scholarship, and student interest; 2) bibliographies have been reworked and updated to include newly published primary and secondary works; 3) the scope has been expanded from 2001 to 2007; 4) chronologies, which provide the social, political, and literary context for the encyclopedia, have been substantially expanded; 5) study guides have been added for most frequently

studied authors and literary topics to aid students in organizing their approach to literary appreciation; 6) illustrations have been added to mark and elucidate entries and major figures; 7) epigraphs, taken from writers' works or interviews, have been added to entries on significant figures; and 8) corrections have been made, as necessary.

A circumstance too often ignored by compilers of literary reference works is the ever-changing landscape of the literary world. The usefulness of a reference book is, in large part, determined by the currency of its information. With this augmented, revised, and corrected edition, the editors of *Encyclopedia of American Literature* undertake to accomplish what all who prepare reference works should aspire to: currency, accuracy, relevance, and maximum utility. It is a work in progress.

Matthew J. Bruccoli  
Richard Layman  
Editorial Directors

# INTRODUCTION



Referencing the literature and events of the earliest moments of contact with the North American continent to the establishment of the early Republic, this revised first volume of the *Encyclopedia of American Literature* includes more than three hundred entries that invite readers to explore the literary history of early America. In response to the expanding canon of early American literature, approximately one hundred of these entries are new.

Perhaps more than any other period in American literary history, the literature of 1607 to 1815 engages students in interdisciplinary study. Students must familiarize themselves with the historical background of their subjects, learning about the physical and material cultures in which early Americans lived, in order to better understand the literature of the period, its place in history (including the compelling story of America's turn from a literature of the Old World to one decidedly of the New), and the value of early American literature in present times. The compilers of this volume have taken into account both the social influences—economics, religion, science, foodways, geography, politics, and printing—and the literary elements, such as symbol, image, voice, and narrative, of the period. Yet, however helpful it is to understand cultural context when examining literature, the focus of this series lies in the realm of literature—and, therefore, volume one specifically examines the journals, sermons, essays, poems, pamphlets, and novels that have played significant roles in the first two hundred years of the nation's developing literary tradition.

Because the early American experience is characterized by the establishment of the nation's independence, volume one includes expressions of rebellion—the religious dissent of Roger Williams and the fiery political essays of Thomas

Paine, for example—as well as calls for cohesion—John Winthrop's "A Modell of Christian Charity," a sermon delivered in 1630; and Timothy Dwight's *Greenfield Hill: A Poem in Seven Parts* (1794). The volume makes it clear that America was settled by immigrants of all classes, creeds, and ethnicities, by both men and women, by the young and the elderly. In volume one students will find a multiplicity of views and voices and a range of literary forms, from the jeremiad (a type of sermon) to the sentimental novel.

## CONTACT TO JAMESTOWN

In the entries that cover the initial contact and subsequent settlement of the North American continent by British and European explorers, from approximately 1492 to 1607, America is portrayed as a land of opportunity and, in some cases, as an idealized utopia. In letters, journals, histories, promotional tracts, and exploration narratives, lands and peoples are evaluated for potential expansion and wealth. Motivated to discover trade routes, to find exotic and valuable commodities, and to attract converts, explorers tended to describe the landscape according to its physical appearance. In Christopher Columbus's "Letter to Lord Raphael Sanchez, Treasurer to Ferdinand and Isabella King and Queen of Spain, on His First Voyage" (1493), for example, he observes, "The harbors of the sea here are such as you could not believe in without seeing them, and so the rivers, many and great, and good streams, the most of which bear gold. And the trees and fruits and plants have great differences from those of La Juana; in this there are many spices and great mines of gold and of other metals."

Such descriptions of the beauty and potential wealth of the New World encouraged further exploration by Spanish,

French, and British explorers. Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca, for example, provided this catalogue of wildlife in northern Florida in his *Narrative of Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca* (1542): "There are deer of three kinds, rabbits, hares, bears, lions, and other wild beasts . . . Geese in great numbers. Ducks, mallards, royal-ducks, fly-catchers, night-herons and partridges abound." Further north, Samuel de Champlain explored the Hudson Bay area and noted in *The Voyages of Samuel de Champlain, 1604–1618* on July 13, 1609: "There is also a great abundance of fish, of many varieties; among others, one called by the savages of the country *Chaousarou*, which varies in length, the largest being, as the people told me, eight or ten feet long." These reports describe fertile lands, teeming with wildlife and rich with valuable minerals. The persuasiveness of these so-called promotional tracts encouraged patrons to fund yet more journeys, and eventually, to invest in settlements. The resulting journals, books, and letters collectively indicate through their descriptions the presence of some four to five million indigenous peoples, who, speaking more than 350 different languages, had expertly managed these lands for centuries.

This volume recognizes the integral presence and valuable perspective of Native Americans; entries on tribes, such as the Iroquois, Narragansett, and Wampanoag; events, such as King Philip's War; and other aspects of Native American culture are included, and acts of generosity on the part of Native Americans is marked throughout early American texts. In his *History of Plymouth Plantation* (written between 1630 and 1650), William Bradford noted Samoset's assistance and Squanto's service as an interpreter to the Pilgrims in 1620 as "a special instrument of God for their good beyond expectation." Because native history was conveyed orally rather than by written records, an entry on oral Native American literature is included for further background.

As Native American lifestyles were disrupted by disease, war, and the appropriation of sacred land by early settlers, the drastic decline in their populations left the impression to the newly arrived colonists that the land was virtually empty and that its discovery was an act of divine providence. The Wampanoag, who made contact with European fishing boats in the 1500s, numbered between twelve and fifteen thousand in 1600. Due to epidemics from this contact, however, by 1620 their population was about five thousand. Bradford reflected on what he perhaps considered the good luck of the settlers when he wrote: "found a pond of clear, fresh water, and shortly after a good quantity of clear ground where the Indians had formerly set corn, and some of their graves." Immediately thereafter, they found a house and uncovered "divers fair Indian baskets filled with corn."

During the Great Migration of the 1630s, about fourteen thousand English Puritans journeyed to New England. As their ships continued to arrive, appearing at first as "floating islands," their large size suggested that the new visitors intended more than just fishing the coasts. The *Encyclopedia*

of *American Literature* attempts to include significant events from the history and literature of Native Americans as it resists a simplified narrative of cultural displacement and allows the student to uncover the many complicated stages by which colonization took place.

As settlement and expansion increased contact between Anglo-Europeans and native peoples, territorial battles ensued. The continual vying for control by British, French, and Spanish over North American lands signaled that settlement and colonization of the New World was a multinational endeavor to expand empires and gain resources. In keeping with current study and teaching of this period, this volume includes entries on New England, New France, and New Spain. The ongoing colonization of the eastern seaboard from Virginia to New England that precipitated the Great Migration from the Old World to the New World was influenced by two primary motives: some pursued wealth, while others came to establish a New Jerusalem. As charters were granted, families and groups from similar locations migrated together and often shared similar beliefs and skills. Northern colonies became the destination for shipbuilders and Puritans, who named towns after those Old World places left behind, such as Exeter, Lynne, Plymouth, Salem, and York. The middle colonies attracted farmers and merchants of Protestant, Catholic, and Quaker persuasions seeking a refuge from persecution in Anglican England; they named colonies for their leaders and affiliations, such as Pennsylvania for William Penn and Maryland for Queen Henrietta Maria, wife of King Charles I. The southern colonies attracted merchants and aristocrats of Anglican faith and were generally considered the wealthiest colonies for their ability to produce cash crops, such as tobacco and rice, with increasing use of slave labor; colonies and towns in turn reflected loyalist affiliations, such as Virginia, for Queen Elizabeth (the Virgin Queen), Jamestown for King James, Charlestown, for King Charles. Ideology and climate played significant roles in distinguishing these regions as northern colonists tended to emphasize values of industry and self-examination; middle colonies reflected mercantile interests and tolerant attitudes; and the southern or "Staple" colonies encouraged mercantile endeavors, attracting witty and worldly settlers. In the century of exploration and migration marked by the arrival of Columbus and the settling of Jamestown, though the North American continent may have appeared initially as an obstacle, yet, it clearly became a source of new markets and revenues.

### PLYMOUTH TO SALEM

Among the many reasons for migrating to America, refuge from religious persecution in England motivated those such as the Separatist Puritans, Catholics, and Quakers, who significantly contributed to the intellectual and social developments of the new colonies. Maryland, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania were all established in direct responses to these migrations. The founding of Harvard College in 1636 to train

the Puritan clergy, for example, contributed to a rich literary history. Some examples of literature that express Puritan doctrine include the poetry of Anne Bradstreet, Michael Wigglesworth, and Edward Taylor. In their poems they illustrate the practice of self-examination that requires a vigilant self-scrutiny and demonstrates the doctrine of Divine Providence, whereby all events are predestined. In journals and sermons by William Bradford and John Winthrop, the importance of community is reinforced. Spiritual autobiography provides a record of the religious thinking of writers such as Increase Mather, Thomas Shepard, Elizabeth Ashbridge, and Jonathan Edwards. Energetic debates are documented in sermons and pamphlets, diaries, and journals in which the words and actions of rebels and dissenters such as Thomas Morton, Anne Hutchinson, and Roger Williams were examined and judged.

Repeated attempts to address changing attitudes in the Puritan community, such as the Half-Way Covenant of 1662, signaled that the once tightly knit community of saints was dissipating. Mary White Rowlandson's *A True History of the Captivity and Restauration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson* (1682) thus not only describes her travails during a three-month captivity but also documents the territorial conflicts with the New England Native American tribes as second-generation Puritans expanded into the western frontiers of Massachusetts and Connecticut. In all of these events, issues of tolerance are raised and the capacity for assimilation is tested. Increasingly, the Puritan leadership appears inflexible. The Salem Witchcraft Trials, for example, have been interpreted by some historians as an implosion of the Puritan community, because it was incapable of allowing for divergent points of view. Inarguably, the 1692 trials mark a decrease of the Puritan influence that eventually gave way to a diverse proliferation of faiths and creeds throughout the colonies.

## GREAT AWAKENING TO REVOLUTION

With a population of approximately 250,000 at the beginning of the eighteenth century, the American colonies grew to about 2.5 million by the time of the battles at Lexington and Concord in 1775. From the evangelical revivals of the 1730s and 1740s known as the Great Awakening to the political and cultural turmoil of the American Revolution in the 1770s, these four decades point to tremendous upheaval and a willingness to entertain new systems. From entries on subjects such as Jonathan Edwards, the Great Awakening, the Enlightenment, and the American Revolution, students may examine the motives and events that brought Methodism and other denominations to the colonies and engendered a new tolerance for religious practices. The entries on ballads and songs, loyalists and patriots, and the *Federalist Papers* and the Constitution indicate the range of issues that provoked and sustained the rebellion that led to a new nation.

Paul Revere's ride into the Massachusetts countryside to relay the message of the British advance captured the spirit of

a people committed to gaining their sovereignty. The revolutionary period is marked by an exciting flurry of pamphlets and newspapers, poems, plays, and novels that aided the process and revealed the range of the colonists' expressions and emotions, from sorrow, to anger, to celebration. They also mark several turning points, as revealed in Ann Eliza Bleecker's "Written in the Retreat from Burgoyne," dated October 29, 1777, in which she poignantly writes about her family's escape from John Burgoyne's troops in the summer of 1777 and the subsequent death of her child: "Was it for this, with thee a pleasing load. / I sadly wander'd through the hostile wood; / When I thought fortune's spite could do no more, / To see thee perish on a foreign shore?" Even the American Revolution could not separate the colonists from the influence of British culture. It took the skills of pamphleteers such as Thomas Paine to make overtures of reconciliation an unacceptable option, as he states in *Common Sense*: "'Tis repugnant to reason, to the universal order of things, to all examples from former ages, to suppose that this continent can long remain a subject to any external power. . . . Reconciliation is now a fallacious dream. Nature hath deserted the connection and art cannot supply her place." The constituting of the new United States and the establishment of the New Republic in many ways inspired identity formation as well as nation building.

Poets described America as a land of new beginnings with high ideals and agrarian values, as in Joel Barlow's *The Vision of Columbus* (1787), Philip Freneau and Hugh Henry Brackenridge's "The Rising Glory of America" (1775), and Timothy Dwight's *Greenfield Hill*. In Phillis Wheatley's "Liberty and Peace" (1785), for example, she celebrates these events: "From every Tongue celestial Peace resounds: / . . . / Auspicious Heaven shall fill with fav'ring Gales, / Where e'er Columbia spreads her swelling Sails: / To every Realm shall Peace her Charms display, / And Heavenly Freedom spread her golden Ray." Drama distinctly expressed American themes and emphasized American virtue over corrupt British ways, as in Royall Tyler's *The Contrast* (1787); Mercy Otis Warren's *The Adulateur* (1773), *The Defeat* (1773), and *The Group* (1775). Broadsides and pamphlets addressed taxation and representation, as in John Adams's *A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law* (1765); James Otis Jr.'s *The Rights of the British Colonies Asserted and Proved* (1764); John Dickinson's *Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania* (1768); Thomas Jefferson's *A Summary View of the Rights of British America* (1774); and, notably, Paine's *Common Sense* (1776).

While elevated, inspired rhetoric distinguishes this period of American writings, minority voices that questioned the hypocrisy of fighting for a limited freedom also emerged. Abigail Adams anticipated these new voices in a letter to her husband on March 31, 1776, as she awaited the Declaration and reminded him that as they compose "the new Code of Laws" that they "would Remember the Ladies." She advised, "Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Hus-

bands. Remember all Men would be tyrants if they could. If perticular care and attention is not paid to the Ladies we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation.”

### CONSTITUTION TO NEW REPUBLIC

After ten years of battle and various compromises, the Treaty of Paris in 1785 signaled the end to hostilities and made way for the Constitution in 1789. Colonial subjects found themselves in a remade world as American citizens. The hard-won peace ushered in a new era, a new government, and new battles to protect hard-won freedoms. The contradiction of keeping 15 percent of the American population enslaved in a country that declared its independence by insisting that “all men are created equal” drew criticism from within and abroad. The antislavery movement grew and found powerful support in slave narratives such as Olaudah Equiano’s *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano; or Gustavus Vassa, the African* (1789) and in scores of other slave narratives in the years before the Civil War.

The combined influences of the Great Awakening, the spiritual autobiography, and the slave narrative were powerful tools during this period evidenced by Equiano, as well as by such books as John Marrant’s *A Narrative of the Lord’s Wonderful Dealings with John Marrant, a Black* (1785). In Wheatley’s “On Being Brought from Africa to America” (1773), she called on Christians to acknowledge the hypocrisy of racial prejudice as a contradiction to key theological principles: “Some view our sable race with scornful eye, / ‘Their colour is a diabolic die’ / Remember, *Christians, Negroes*, black as *Cain*, / May be refin’d, and join th’ angelic train.” From personal narrative to poetry, the new work of the nation had clearly begun.

The sentimental novel, which found its first publication by an American in 1789, also developed and expanded during this period, and addressed moral and social themes, as in William Hill Brown’s *The Power of Sympathy* (1789), Susanna Rowson’s *Charlotte: A Tale of Truth* (1791), and Hannah Webster Foster’s *The Coquette* (1797). The Gothic novels of Charles Brockden Brown, such as *Wieland* (1798) and *Edgar Huntly* (1799), adapted European modes and settings to an American locale. Women’s rights and gender issues regarding voting, marriage, and property rights were championed throughout this postwar era, with Judith Sargent Murray’s

“On the Equality of the Sexes” (1779), *The History of the Rise, Progress and Termination of the American Revolution* (1805), and Annis Boudinot Stockton’s poems, such as “A Poetical Epistle, Addressed by a Lady of New Jersey, to Her Niece, upon Her Marriage” (1786) and “The Vision, an Ode to Washington” (1789). Entries such as the ones concerning these authors and works introduce and begin to illustrate the intelligence, strength, and literary talents of America’s earliest advocates and Patriots.

\* \* \*

This volume reaches into the nineteenth century just after the War of 1812, when the nation’s precarious independence was in question. Exploration west was ongoing as Americans spread out across the prairies, while poets and authors entertained romantic views of the independent individual and celebrated the American landscape with its wondrous falls and canyons, along with its expansive plains and rugged Rockies. Although Columbus was disappointed by his initial contact with the West Indies when he realized it was not Asia, and while Lewis and Clark were frustrated by their failure to discover a convenient east-west water route, the readjustment that led to these and other discoveries became commonplace and served ultimately to inspire new voyages. The persistence and the work ethic of Americans unwilling to accept failure fostered a pragmatism evidenced in the works of Benjamin Franklin, who distinguished the American from the European aristocrat in *Information to Those Who Would Remove to America* (1794):

America, where people do not inquire concerning a Stranger, *What is he?* but, *What can he do?* If he has any useful Art, he is welcome; and if he exercises it, and behaves well, he will be respected by all that know him; but a mere Man of Quality, who, on that Account, wants to live upon the Public, by some Office or Salary, will be despis’d and disregarded. The Husbandman is in honor there, and even the Mechanic, because their Employments are useful.

This early emphasis upon the industrious and the pragmatic over the aristocratic and the privileged has provoked debate and invigorated discourse among scholars since the beginning of the republic. As the scholarship in the Sources rubrics for the entries in this volume makes clear, there is a remarkable range and depth in the study of early American literature.

# EDITORIAL PLAN



*Volume I: Settlement to the New Republic* poses special challenges for the *Encyclopedia of American Literature*. First is the matter of definition—entries in this volume necessarily include writers whose works defy literary categorization because literature of the period was more broadly construed, including history, sermons, correspondence, diaries, and other forms. In some cases, significant literary figures were not even published during their lifetimes. We opted for an inclusive editorial policy. Second, there is the problem with availability of texts. Many eighteenth-century works are most readily available to students in anthologies, so here a particular effort has been made to identify key titles and to quote generously in entries to provide a sense of the literature. We have also made an effort to identify available modern texts, while indicating first publication information, as well.

Because literary careers do not fall neatly into chronological divisions, decisions have been made about the placement of authors in volumes. When, for example, a writer might be placed in volume I or volume II, placement has been based on the publication of the author's first important or successful book or play. Washington Irving is a case in point: while he began publishing in the period covered in volume I, his first significant work, *The Sketch Book*, was published in 1819–1820, the period covered in volume II, and so his entry appears there.

Small caps indicate cross-referenced entries *within this volume*; a comprehensive list of entries for all four volumes of the encyclopedia is provided at the end of each volume. Thus, in volume I the name Mercy Otis WARREN appears in small caps when it is first mentioned in an entry, but Washington Irving is presented in regular type. In “List of Entries” at the end of each volume, Irving is listed with a roman numeral II beside his name, indicating his placement in the second volume.

Entries on a major figure are followed by a primary bibliography listing the author's principal works and a Study Guide, which advises students how to research the author. The form of the Study Guide in this volume has been shaped to accommodate students' needs. Thus, a Recommended Writings rubric, not included in other volumes, is provided here for the benefit of students not familiar with the author's canon.

In the Works rubric, Early American Imprints reference numbers are provided to aid students in finding hard-to-locate texts, which are often most readily available in microform or in online databases. In the case of works that are included in the Early American Imprints collection but that have multiple reference numbers, such as periodicals, the numbers are omitted.

All new entries and revisions to the first edition have been provided by Susan Clair Imbarrato.

A note on the illustrations: Scholarship begins with primary materials—books, documents, letters, and notes that form the uninterpreted record of people's expression. The primary materials of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods present special difficulties to students. Many significant books of the time exist only in imperfect copies. The printing is sometimes primitive by modern standards; in some cases only damaged copies of important books survive. Many important documents were never printed and survive in manuscript form only. The paper is old, often torn and foxed; the writing is faded, many times cramped, and the calligraphy conforms to standards that we are unaccustomed to today. At the same time, one can get no closer to the people of the period than by examining the historical materials associated with them.

A sampling of illustrations from such materials has been included here so that students can get a sense of the challenges—and the delights—of archival research.

# CHRONOLOGY

## 1607–1815



**1607**

Jamestown colony in present-day Virginia is founded.

**1608**

Captain John Smith's *A True Relation of Such Occurrences and Accidents of Noate as Hath Hapned in Virginia Since the First Planting of that Collony* is printed in London; it omits the story of Smith's involvement with the Powhatan Indian woman Pocahontas.

**1613**

Samuel de Champlain, *The Voyages of Mr. Champlain of Xaintongeois*.

**1616**

John Smith's *A Description of New England*, a promotional tract enticing settlers to Virginia, is printed.

**1619**

The first meeting of the Virginia House of Burgesses occurs; it is the first representative assembly in the New World.

The first Africans arrive in Jamestown. Their legal status is ambiguous, as the first slave law does not appear in Virginia until 1660.

**1620**

The *Mayflower* arrives off the coast of present-day Massachusetts. The Pilgrims and other passengers on board compose the Mayflower Compact, a document binding them to form a government, and establish the Plymouth colony.

**1624**

*The Generall Historie of Virginia, New-England, and the Summer Isles* by Captain John Smith is published and includes the romantic tale of Pocahontas.

**1630**

John Winthrop leads the Puritan migration to Massachusetts Bay and establishes Boston. While on board the ship *Arbella*, he reads his sermon "A Modell of Christian Charity" in which he

encourages his fellow colonists to build "a city upon a hill."

**1634**

William Wood's *New England's Prospect* promotes colonization of the region.

**1636**

Harvard College is founded. It is named after the Puritan minister John Harvard who bequeathed the school his library and one-half of his estate.

**1637**

The Pequot War rages in New England. Thomas Morton's *New English Canaan, or New Canaan*, is published and describes the Native Americans as "full of humanity."

**1638**

The first printing press in the English North American colonies begins operating in Boston. Anne Hutchinson is tried and convicted of antinomianism (the



belief that faith alone is necessary for salvation) and banished to present-day Aquidneck Island, Rhode Island, along with her family.

### 1640

*The Whole Booke of Psalmes or The Bay Psalm Book* is the first tome published in America.

### 1642–1649

The English Civil War occurs; the Royalists are defeated by the Parliamentarians.

### 1644

Roger Williams's *The Bloudy Tenent of Persecution for Cause of Conscience* is published anonymously and advocates freedom of conscience. It is part of a series of direct responses to Puritan leader John Cotton, who supports persecution based upon personal beliefs.

### 1649

John Winthrop dies.

### 1650

William Bradford, the governor of the Plymouth Colony, finishes compiling *History of Plymouth Plantation*. (It does not appear in print until 1856.)

Anne Bradstreet's book of poems, *The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America*, is published in England without her knowledge or consent. It is the first book of poems printed by an early American colonist.

### 1652

Roger Williams, *The Bloody Tenent Yet More Bloody*.

### 1653

John Eliot's *Catechism in the Indian Language* is the first book printed in a Native American language.

### 1654

Edward Johnson's *Wonder-working Providence of Sions Saviour in New-England* is published. A history of Massachusetts Bay, it defends the Puritans as instruments of God's will.

### 1655

John Hammond's *Leah and Rachel, or The two fruitfull sisters Virginia and Mary-land* is printed as a promotional tract for those two Southern colonies.

### 1656

Puritans in Massachusetts Bay imprison and then banish the first Quakers to arrive in the colony. Legislation in 1658 bars the Quakers from holding their services or "meetings."

### 1657

William Bradford dies.

### 1659

Quakers William Robinson and Marmaduke Stephenson are hanged for refusing to leave Massachusetts. Mary Dyer, an antinomian and later a Quaker, is scheduled to hang with them but is reprieved at the last minute.

### 1660

Charles II is restored to the English throne.

On June 1 Mary Dyer is hanged after defying an expulsion order by returning to Boston.

### 1661

John Eliot translates the New Testament into the Algonquian language; he produces an Old Testament translation two years later.

### 1662

Michael Wigglesworth's *The Day of Doom* is an immensely popular poem. Called the first American best-seller, it sells 1,800 copies in its first year, and by 1751 it is in its seventh printing.

### 1664

English forces take New Amsterdam and rename the colony New York in honor of the Duke of York, the future James II.

### 1666

John Eliot, *The Indian Grammar Begun, or An Essay to Bring the Indian Language into Rules: For the Help of Such as Desire to Learn the Same, for the Furtherance of the Gospel among Them*.

### 1669

*New-Englands Memoriall: or, A Brief Relation of the Most Memorable and Remarkable Passages of the Providence of God, Manifested to the Planters of New-England in America; With Special Reference to the First Colony Thereof, Called New-Plimouth*, by Nathaniel Morton, is the first comprehensive history of the region.

### 1670

The Hudson's Bay Company is incorporated in London with the express purpose of finding a northwest passage to the Pacific Ocean and establishing trading posts on lands adjacent to Hudson's Bay.