Amusement Parks

1001. Carousel patent was granted on July 25, 1871, to Willhelm Schneider of Davenport, IA. It was a two-story carousel and not very successful or practical.

1002. Roller coaster was invented by Lemarcus Adna Thompson, a former Sunday school teacher, and put in operation in June 1884 by the L.A. Thompson Scenic Railway Company at Coney Island, NY (now part of New York City). It traveled along a wooden and steel track 450 feet long at a speed of six miles per hour. The cars started from a peak and ran downgrade, the momentum carrying the cars up an incline. The passengers got out, the attendants pushed the train over a switch to a higher point on a second track, and the passengers returned. The highest drop was only 30 feet. Thompson obtained a patent on January 20, 1885, on a roller-coasting structure and another patent on December 22, 1885 on a gravity switchback railway. The first high-speed roller coaster was The Cyclone, which opened at Coney Island on June 26, 1927. Its one-and-a-half minute ride hit speeds of up to 60 miles per hour.

1003. Mechanized shooting gallery that was fully automatic was invented in 1890 by Charles Wallace Parker of Abilene, KS, whose first sale was made to Leon Brownie of Houston, TX.

1004. Ferris wheel was invented in 1892 by George Washington Gale Ferris, a railroad and bridge engineer. It was erected on the Midway at the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago, IL, in 1893. It consisted of 36 cars, each capable of holding 60 passengers. The highest point of the wheel was 264 feet. The total weight of the wheels and cars was 2,100 tons, of the levers and machinery 2,200 tons, and of the passengers per trip 150 tons.

1005. Shoot-the-chutes was built by Captain Paul Boyton and opened on July 6, 1895, at the amusement park at Coney Island, NY (now part of New York City). Each passenger toboggan held 16 persons. The inclined railway was 80 feet high with a 50 percent grade to the surface of a large body of water.

1006. Roller coaster with a loop-the-loop was a centrifugal railway invented by Edwin Prescott of Arlington, MA, who received a patent for it on August 16, 1898. It was known as Boyton’s Centrifugal Railway and was installed at the amusement park on Coney Island, NY (now part of New York City), in 1900. It had a 75-foot incline and a 20-foot-wide loop.

1007. Skee-ball alley was built in 1914 by the National Skee-Ball Company of Coney Island, New York City, and the first battery was operated by William A. Norwood in April 1914 at the Coney Island amusement park.

1008. Theme park was Santa Claus Land, a Christmas-themed park in Santa Claus, IN, founded by retired businessman Louis J. Koch. The park, which opened on August 3, 1946, offered rides, food treats, an antique toy collection, and a wax museum, as well as a Santa Claus impersonator. The name was changed to Holiday World in 1984.

Art

1009. Cave paintings known to have been made in what is now the United States were painted in caves near the Pecos River in southwest Texas circa 1970 B.C.E. The caves had been inhabited for more than 3,000 years when the paintings were made, and continued to be inhabited until the arrival of the Spanish in the 16th century. The date of the paintings was established using a technique developed by Marvin Rowe, Marian Hyman, and Jon Russ of Texas A&M University that separates organic materials in the paint from inorganic substances in the rock.

1010. Artist to come to America was Jacques Le Moyne de Morgues, a cartographer attached to the French Huguenot expedition to Florida under René Goulaine de Laudonnière. They sailed from Havre de Grace, France, on April 20, 1564, and reached Flor-
ida (then called New France) on June 22, remaining until September 20, 1565, when the Spanish destroyed their settlement and killed its inhabitants. Le Moyne’s work consisted principally of scenic and historical views.

1011. Painting of an American scene by a European painter was painted near what is now St. Augustine, FL, on June 27, 1564, by Jacques Le Moyne de Morgues, a cartographer who accompanied the French Huguenot expedition to Florida under René Goulaine de Laudonnière. The work, titled *Laudonnierus et Rex Athore ante Columnam a Praefecto Prima Navigatione Locatam Quamque Venerant Floridenses*, was painted in gouache and metallic pigments on vellum. It shows Laudonnière being welcomed by a party of Native Americans led by Chief Athore.

1012. Artist in the English colonies was the English painter and cartographer John White, who came to North Carolina in 1585 as part of Sir Walter Raleigh’s expedition. He recorded Native American life in his paintings and made maps of the coast as far south as Florida. He returned in 1587 as governor of Raleigh’s Roanoke colony, which disappeared while White was back in England getting supplies. Among the vanished colonists was Virginia Dare, the first child of European descent known to have been born in America, who was White’s grandchild.

1013. Woodcut was a likeness of the Reverend Richard Mather, the leader of Congregationalism in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, made just prior to his death in April 1669. The engraver, John Foster, cut away from the surface of a flat wooden block those parts which were to appear white in the print, leaving the actual design in raised outline on the block. The print was 5 by 6 inches.

1014. Self-portrait from the English colonies known to exist was painted circa 1670 by Captain Thomas Smith, a Puritan mariner of Boston, MA. The painting, in a style taken from Dutch portraiture, shows Smith resting his hand on a skull, which in turn rests on a poem that discusses Smith’s own death.

1015. Engraving of any artistic merit was a line-engraving copperplate portrait of Increase Mather, made in 1701 by Thomas Emmes. It was used as a frontispiece to a sermon, “The Blessed Hope,” published in Boston, MA, in 1701 by Timothy Green for Nicholas Boone.

1016. Pastelist was Henrietta Johnston of Charlestown, SC, who was active between 1707 and 1720. She worked with colored chalk. Her subjects were principally colonial women of South Carolina. Her most celebrated piece of work, done in 1718, was a portrait entitled *His Excellency Robert Johnson Captain General, Governor and Commander-in-Chief* in and over *His Majesty’s Province of Carolina*.

1017. Painter to obtain a public commission was Gustavus Hesselius. His painting *The Last Supper*, an oil on canvas, 117.5 inches wide and 35 inches high, was commissioned on September 5, 1721, by the Vestry of St. Barnabas’ Church, Queen Anne’s Parish, Prince Georges County, MD. It was put in place as an altarpiece on November 26, 1722. Hesselius was paid “£17 curr. money” for the painting and installation. It was also the first important commission in America for a painting with more than one figure.

1018. Mezzotint engraving was a portrait of Cotton Mather about 13.5 by 10 inches, made by Peter Pelham in 1727.

1019. Artist of importance to be born in America was John Singleton Copley, the great portraitist, who was born in Boston, MA, in 1738, and emigrated to England in 1774. He painted many of the prominent people of his era, including Samuel Adams, John Adams, John Quincy Adams, John Hancock, and the King and Queen of England. He is credited with more than 269 oil paintings, 35 crayons, and 14 miniatures.

1020. Historical print engraved in America was *A Prospective Plan of the Battle Fought Near Lake George*, which presented a bird’s-eye view showing the march of troops at the left, the camp and battle at the right, and Forts William Henry and Edward in the upper right-hand corner. It was a hand-colored line engraving by Thomas Johnston after a painting by Samuel Blodget, and was printed by Richard Draper in Boston, MA, in 1755.

1021. Caricature was Nathaniel Hurd’s *The True Profile of the Notorious Doctor Seth Hudson*, published in 1762 in Boston, MA. It depicted Dr. Hudson in the pillory and Howe, his assistant, at the whipping post, in punishment for forging paper money.
1022. **Commercial artist** who was successful was Matthew Pratt, who painted signboards in Philadelphia, PA, in 1768. From 1764 to 1768 he had been an art student in London, where he studied under the American expatriate artist Benjamin West.

1023. **Engraving to achieve popularity** was *The Bloody Massacre Perpetrated in King Street, Boston, on March 5, 1770*, which was engraved, printed, and sold by Paul Revere. It depicted the shooting of five Americans in Boston, MA, by British troops—the famous Boston Massacre—and has appeared in countless children’s textbooks and general works on American history.

1024. **Artist of American birth to head the Royal Academy of London** was Benjamin West, who became president of the Royal Academy on March 24, 1792, succeeding Sir Joshua Reynolds. Born on October 10, 1738, near Springfield, PA, he went to Italy in 1760 for three years of study and afterward settled in London, where he gained fame as a painter of historical subjects. In 1772 he became historical painter to King George III.

1025. **Professional illustrator** was Alexander Anderson of New York City. A trained physician, he was also a highly skilled wood engraver who illustrated hundreds of books, periodicals, and newspapers. The earliest engravings of Anderson’s to be published appeared in 1794 in Arnaud Berquin’s children’s book *The Looking-Glass for the Mind*. Anderson’s engraving of Father Time appeared on the cover of the *Farmer’s Almanac* in various forms and re-engravings for 190 years.

1026. **Professional portrait painter who was African-American** was Joshua Johnson (or Johnston), a free man, possibly a former slave, who worked in Baltimore, MD, between 1795 and 1825. More than 80 of his portraits are known to exist, most of them depicting individuals or families from the city’s mercantile elite.

1027. **Landscape painter of renown** was Thomas Cole, born in 1801 in England and recognized as the founder of American landscape painting. The leader of the Hudson Valley School of artists, Cole specialized in painting the scenery of New York State. His later works were often done in a grandiose neoclassical style.

1028. **Lithograph** was *A Water Mill*, by Bass Otis of Philadelphia, PA, published July 1819 in the *Analectic Magazine*.

1029. **Painting movement** was the Hudson River School, a group of American landscape painters who were active between 1825 and 1875. Their main subject was the Hudson River Valley and other grand vistas of the American landscape. Among the most important members of the school were Thomas Cole, Albert Bierstadt, Asher Brown Durand, Samuel Finley Breese Morse, and Frederic Edwin Church.

1030. **National organization of artists** was the National Academy of Design, whose first president was the inventor and artist Samuel Finley Breese Morse. It was organized on January 18, 1826, by 15 members of the New York Drawing Association, which had been formed on November 8, 1825, in New York City.

1031. **Etcher of skill** was William Dunlap of New York City, a painter who studied under Benjamin West in London and whose success in 1830 inspired others to practice the art of etching. He was also a prominent playwright and historian.

1032. **Marble statuary group** was *The Chanting Cherubs*, designed in 1830 by Horatio Greenough for James Fenimore Cooper. The subject was suggested by a portion of a Raphael painting but incurred hostility because of the nudity of the figures.

1033. **Sculptor to obtain a federal commission** was John Frazee. A federal appropriation of $400 was granted to him on March 2, 1831, for a bust of John Jay for the Supreme Court, Washington, DC.

1034. **Sculptor of renown** was Hiram Powers of Vermont, who got his start as a sculptor in a waxworks museum. His chief sculptures were produced from 1835 to 1873. In addition to neoclassical statues entitled *Eve Disconsolate, Greek Slave, Proserpine, Il Penseroso, A Californian*, and *An American*, he made busts of George Washington for Louisiana, of John Caldwell Calhoun for South Carolina, and of Daniel Webster for Boston. His busts of Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson were installed in the Capitol in Washington, D.C. He also made busts of John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Chief Justice John Marshall, Martin Van Buren, and other distinguished Americans.
1035. Art magazine of merit was The Illustrated Magazine of Art, which contained "selections from the various departments of painting, sculpture, architecture, history, biography, art-industry, manufactures, scientific inventions and discoveries, local and domestic scenes, ornamental works, etc." It was published by Alexander Montgomery in New York City from January 1853 to December 4, 1854. The first issue contained 60 pages.

1036. Chromolithograph was made in 1861 of John Banvard's painting The Orison, which depicted the interior of the St. Eustace convent in Italy. It was 16 by 24 inches and was chromolithographed by Sarony, Major and Knapp. Proofs were $10, prints $5.

1037. Halftone engraving was made by Stephen Henry Horgan and appeared in the New York Daily Graphic on March 4, 1880. It was entitled Scene in Shantytown, NY. The basis of the invention was a screen gradated from transparency to opacity.

1038. Abstract paintings by a modern artist were the work of Arthur Dove, born in Geneva, NY. In 1910, he created a series of six paintings on linen, such as Nature Symbolized, No. 1, that took their inspiration from landscape but showed no clearly recognizable representational forms.

1039. Modern art exhibition of importance opened at the 69th Regiment Armory in New York City on February 17, 1913. The controversial exhibition, organized chiefly by the American modernist painter Arthur Bowen Davies, scandalized the public with such avant-garde works as Marcel Duchamp's Nude Descending a Spiral Staircase. More than 250,000 visitors received their first look at paintings by Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin, Vincent van Gogh, Edward Hopper, Henri Matisse, John Marin, Charles Sheeler, and others.


1041. Native American art exhibition of importance was the Exposition of Indian Tribal Arts, a traveling show assembled by artist John Sloan and writer Oliver La Farge in 1931. The highlight of the show was the collection of Navajo textiles of the Classic Period, worth up to $1,000 apiece at the time. The first major museum show of Native American art took place in 1940 at the Museum of Modern Art, New York City.

1042. Exhibition of the Mona Lisa in the United States took place on January 8, 1962, in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC. The painting, Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece of 1506, was owned by the Louvre, in Paris. The loan of the painting was arranged by First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy and André Malraux, the French minister of culture. On the first day, 2,000 dignitaries were allowed to view the painting. The exhibition was opened to the public on January 9 and received 518,535 viewers during its three-week stay. The Mona Lisa was then moved to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, where it was seen by 1,077,051 visitors.

1043. Major solo show of work by an African-American artist was a 90-piece exhibition of the paintings of Henry Ossawa Tanner, co-sponsored by the National Collection of Fine Arts and the Frederick Douglass Institute. It opened in Washington, D.C., in 1969 and traveled to seven other major American museums. Tanner painted genre scenes depicting African-American life and scenes from the Bible.

1044. Light sculpture created with a cityscape was Night/Light, created by artist James Pelletier to commemorate the centennial of the invention of the light bulb by Thomas Edison. The sculpture involved a dozen office buildings along the East River waterfront in lower Manhattan, each of which was provided with a pattern of windows to illuminate. The result, which lasted for three hours on the night of October 21, 1979, was a display of geometrical forms that were reflected in the river.

1045. Sale of an American painting at a price comparable to that of European paintings took place at an auction at Sotheby's, in New York City, on December 1, 1999. The painting was Polo Crowd, a 1910 work by George Bellows. The buyer was
Microsoft founder Bill Gates, who paid $27,502,400, a record price for a painting by an American artist.

Dance


1047. Professional American dancer was John Durang of Lancaster, PA, a multi-talented entertainer renowned for his dancing, acting, directing, stage managing, clowning, puppeteering, and acrobatics. He began performing in 1784 in Philadelphia, PA, and traveled extensively with dance and theater companies and circuses. His star turn was “Durang’s Hornpipe,” a dance to music written by Franz Hoffmeister.

1048. Ballerina in the United States was Suzanne Vaillande, also known as Madame Placide. In 1792 she danced in a season of ballets and pantomimes staged by her lover, the impresario Alexandre Placide, at the John Street Theatre in New York City.

1049. Tap dancer of renown was William Henry Lane of Providence, RI, an African-American entertainer who went by the stage name Juba during the 1840s. Billed as “The Wonder of the World, Juba . . . the King of All Dancers,” Lane derived his tapping style by combining fast steps from jigs and reels with West African giouba, a kind of step-dance. He was the first African-American to headline a troupe of white dancers. Bill “Bojangles” Robinson, born Luther Robinson in Richmond, VA, in 1878, was the first dancer to bring tap into modern stage and film entertainment.

1050. Modern dancer was Isadora Duncan, born Angela Duncan in 1878 in San Francisco, CA. She trained in classical ballet, but rejected it in favor of a personal, freely interpretive style, often based on Greek classical art, that attempted to synthesize music, poetry, and natural imagery into a symbolism of movement. She preferred to dance barefoot, wearing a loose, flowing tunic and scarves. In 1899 she left the United States and traveled to England, Germany, and, in 1905, Russia, where she met her greatest success. Her only important tour of the United States, in 1922, was a complete failure.

1051. Ballet choreographer of international renown to work in the United States was George Balanchine, born Georgi Melitonovitch in 1904 in Russia. Balanchine defected from the Soviet Union in 1924 to join Sergei Pavlovich Diaghilev’s Ballets Russes. He settled in 1933 in New York City, where he cofounded the School of American Ballet with Lincoln Kirstein. In 1948 he became artistic director and principal choreographer of the New York City Ballet. Balanchine’s works, of which there were more than 100, were noted for their abstract themes and simplicity of movement.

1052. Modern dance troupe that was all-male was Ted Shawn and His Men Dancers, founded by dance pioneer Ted Shawn in Becket, MA. The lead dancer was Barton Mumaw. Shawn was the choreographer. Their first performance took place in Boston, MA, in March 1933. Until 1940, when the group disbanded, they toured extensively in the United States and overseas.

1053. Ballet on an American theme by an American choreographer that was set to American music and performed by an American ballet company was Billy the Kid, a work depicting the violent career of the Western folk hero. The choreographer was Eugene Loring of Milwaukee, WI. The music was composed by Aaron Copland. The ballet was first performed at the Chicago Civic Opera House on October 9, 1938, by Lincoln Kirstein’s Ballet Caravan.

1054. Theater designed for dance performances was the Ted Shawn Theatre, designed by Joseph Franz and built at Jacob’s Pillow, Shawn’s dance retreat in Becket, MA. It was built of pine with a smooth maple floor. The first performance was given there on July 9, 1942.

1055. Copyright registered for a choreographic score was presented on microfilm by Hanya Holm, New York City, and registered on February 25, 1952, as an unpublished dramatic-musical composition. It was a complete score of her choreography for Cole Porter’s musical comedy Kiss Me, Kate, which opened on December 30, 1948, at the Century The-
ater, New York City. The score was recorded in Labanotation, the notation system invented by Rudolf Laban.

1056. Ballet transmitted by satellite to be shown in the United States was the Royal Ballet’s “The Royal Ballet Salutes the U.S.A.,” hosted by Gene Kelly from Covent Garden, London, and broadcast over WNEW-TV, New York City, at 8 P.M. on July 22, 1978, and at 3 P.M. on July 23. The program was a Metromedia Television–British Broadcasting Company television coproduction and was sponsored by the Irving Trust Company.

1057. Powwow at the National Mall in Washington, DC, was held over the weekend of September 14–15, 2002, near the construction site of the National Museum of the American Indian. The event was a contest of traditional dance, with more than 400 participants of all ages competing in eight categories. Drumming accompaniment was provided by Black Lodge (Blackfeet) and Cozad (Kiowa) drummers. The event was organized by George Horse Capture, a curator at the museum.

An Indian powwow.

Literature

1058. Book written in America was A True Relation of Such Occurrences and Accidents of Noate as Hath Happened in Virginia Since the First Planting of That Collony, printed for I. Tappe in 1608 in London. The author was Captain John Smith, who used the pseudonym Th. Watson. A plain, unadorned account of hardships, it is generally regarded as more reliable than his later work A Generall Historie of Virginia (1624), which includes the romantic, and possibly fabricated, tale of his rescue by Pocahontas.

1059. Poetry translation prepared in America was made by George Sandys, treasurer of the Virginia Company, who made his translation while he was a member of the English colony at Jamestown, VA. His translation of Ovid’s Metamorphoses was published in 1626 in London as Ovid’s Metamorphoses Englished, Mytholized and Represented in Figures. A second edition was published in 1632, to which was added a translation of Virgil’s Aeneid.

1060. Poetry collection by an American poet was Anne Dudley Bradstreet’s volume Several Poems compiled with great variety of Wit and Learning, full of delight; wherein especially is contained a compleat Discourse, and Description of the Four Elements, Constitutions, Ages of Man, Seasons of the Year, together with an exact Epitome of the Three first Monarchyes, Viz. The Assyrian, Persian, Grecian, and beginning of the Romane Common-wealth to the end of their last King: With diverse other pleasant & serious Poems. By a Gentlewoman in New-England. The book was published in Massachusetts in 1640. Bradstreet was born in Northampton, England, circa 1612 and came in 1630 to Massachusetts, where her husband later served as governor.

1061. Book published in America was the Bay Psalm Book, printed by Stephen Day of Cambridge, MA, the first colonial printer. Its full title was The Whole Booke of Psalmes, Faithfully Translated into English Metre whereunto is prefixed a Discourse declaring not only the lawfulness, but also the necessity of the heavenly ordinance of singing scripture psalmes in the Churches of God. The book, 5.5 by 7 inches, contained 296 pages and was published in July 1640. It was a new metrical...
version of the psalms, a revision of those of Sternhold and Hopkins. Seventeen hundred copies were printed and sold for 20 pence each, netting a profit of almost £80. This was also the first hymn book published in America.

1062. **Children’s book** was John Cotton’s catechism *Milk for Babes, Drawn out of the Breasts of Both Testaments, Chiefly for the Spiritual Nourishment of Boston Babes in either England: But may be of like use for any children*, printed by Stephen Day in Cambridge, MA, 1641–45.

1063. **Book intended for circulation in the English colonies** was Martin Luther’s *Little Catechism*, translated into the Algonkian Native American language in 1656 by Johannes Campanius, a clergyman, who dedicated it to King Karl X Gustav of Sweden. It contained 132 pages of text and 27 pages of dictionary. About 600 copies of the book were printed in 1696, 40 years later, in Stockholm, Sweden, by Thomas Campanius Holm, Campanius’s grandson. The title was *Lutheri Cathechismus oswersatt på American-Virginiste Spräät*. It was intended for missionary work among the Native Americans in the colony of New Sweden, in what is now New Jersey and Delaware, and also contained a small vocabulary in the Algonkian language.

1064. **Poetry collection by an American poet who was a man** was *New Englands Crisis, or a Brief Narrative of New Englands Lamentable Estate at present, compar’d with the former (but few) years of Prosperity. Occasioned by many unheard of Crueltys practis’d upon the Persons and Estates of its united Colonies, without respect of Sex, Age or Quality of Persons, by the Barbarous Heathen thereof*. The author was Benjamin Tompson, who was graduated from Harvard College, Cambridge, MA, in 1662. This work, a 31-page book of poems about King Philip’s War, was published in 1676 in Boston, MA. It was printed and sold by John Foster.

1065. **Poem to be printed in a newspaper** was “The Seminary at Quebeck,” a Latin poem published on December 24, 1705, in the *Boston News Letter*. It was four lines long and described a fire whose flames engulfed a church: *Gallica crux aequam flammam sentive coacta est.*

1066. **Story serialized in a newspaper** appeared in Samuel Keimer’s *Pennsylvania Gazette* in Philadelphia in 1729. It was entitled “Religious Courtship” and was written by Daniel Defoe, author of *Robinson Crusoe*. It was reprinted from his book of the same title, published in 1722 in London.

1067. **Translation of a classic** was Marcus Porcius Cato’s *Moral Distichs Englished in Couplets*, which was translated by James Logan, president of the Council and chief justice of the province of Philadelphia. It was printed and sold in 1735 by Benjamin Franklin, Philadelphia, PA, for one shilling. It consisted of 24 pages of precepts of morality and moral apothegms. An announcement in the pages of the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of December 11 and December 18, 1735, stated that it was “very proper to be put into the Hands of Young Persons.”

1068. **Poetry collection by an African-American writer** was *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* by Phillis Wheatley, published in London in 1773 and dedicated to the Countess of Huntingdon. Wheatley was born in Africa, possibly in Senegal, about 1753. She was kidnapped by slavers as a child and taken to Boston, MA, where she became personal servant to the wife of tailor John Wheatley. She began to write in English at the age of 13. Her first poem, “An Elegiac Poem on the Death of George Whitefield,” was published in 1770.

1069. **Novel by a writer born in America** was *The Life of Harriot Stuart*, by Charlotte Ramsay Lennox, published in two volumes in London in 1751. The author, whose father was a British army officer, was born in 1720 in New York State and moved to England at the age of 15. This novel, her first, was a semi-autobiographical romance. Samuel Johnson, the eminent English writer and lexicographer, was a personal friend of hers, and celebrated the book’s publication by throwing an all-night party.

1070. **Philosophy book printed in America** was *Elementa Philosophica: Containing Chiefly, Noetica, or Things Relating to the Mind or Understanding; and Ethica, or Things Relating to the Moral Behaviour*, by Samuel Johnson. It contained 103 pages and was printed in 1752 in Philadelphia, PA, by Benjamin Franklin and D. Hall.
1071. Published literary work by an African-American was “An Evening Thought. Salvation by Christ with Penitential Cries: Composed by Jupiter Hammon, a Negro belonging to Mr. Lloyd of Queen’s Village, on Long Island, the 25th of December, 1760,” published as a broadside in 1761. Hammon, though a slave, was educated by a minister, Nehemiah Bull, and himself served as preacher.

1072. Work of satirical fiction was a 16-page pamphlet by Francis Hopkinson entitled A Pretty Story, Written in the Year of Our Lord 1774 by Peter Grievous, Esquire, ABCDE. Velunti in Speculo. It was a political satire on the administration of the British colonies in North America and the causes of the American Revolution. It was printed in Williamsburg, VA, in 1774 by John Pinkney, for the benefit of Clementine Rind’s children.

1073. Novel by an American writer to be translated into a foreign language was Adventures of Alonso: Containing Some Striking Anecdotes of the Present Prime Minister of Portugal (Sebastião José de Carvalho e Mello, Marquis de Pombal) by “A Native of Maryland, some years resident in Lisbon.” The work is attributed to Thomas Atwood Digges of Warburton Manor, MD. The original edition consisted of two volumes, 148 pages and 129 pages, and was printed for John Bew in London in 1775. It was published in Leipzig, Germany, in 1787 by Schwickert as Alonso’s Abenteur.

1074. Travel writer was John Ledyard of Hartford, CT. After sailing through the Mediterranean and the Caribbean as a seaman with the British Navy, he circumnavigated the globe as a marine under Captain James Cook; then, with the encouragement of Thomas Jefferson, he made his way on foot from London to Yakutsk, Siberia, taking notes as he went. His last trip was an expedition to Egypt. His Journal of Captain Cook’s Last Voyage to the Pacific Ocean was published in 1783.

1075. Professional writer who was a woman was Hannah Adams, born in Medfield, MA, in 1755. Her income from this source was very limited. Her first book, Alphabetical Compendium of the Various Sects which Have Appeared from the Beginning of the Christian Era to the Present Day, appeared in 1784.

1076. Bibliography of Americana in English was Bibliotheca Americana; or a Chronological Catalogue of the most curious and interesting books, pamphlets, state papers, etc. upon the subject of North and South America, from the earliest period to the present in print, published in 1789 in London for J. Debrett. It contained 271 pages and included an introductory study on the state of literature in North and South America.

1077. Novel by an American writer to be published in America was The Power of Sympathy or the Triumph of Nature Founded in Truth, dedicated “to the young ladies of America.” It was printed in 1789 in Boston, MA, by Isaiah Thomas and Company and sold at the company’s bookstore, 45 Newbury Street. Publication was announced in the Independent Chronicle of January 21, 1789. The novel appeared in two volumes of 138 and 158 pages. No author’s name appeared on the first edition. Later editions bore the name of Mrs. Sarah Wentworth Apthorp Morton, but literary scholars attribute the novel to William Hill Brown. Brown, the son of a Boston clockmaker who had emigrated from England, was a friend of the Apthorp family and embarrassed them by including in his novel a thinly disguised version of a real event, the seduction and suicide of one of the daughters.


1079. Fiction best-seller was Charlotte, a Tale of Truth, by Susanna Haswell Rowson, an actress at the New Theatre, Philadelphia, PA, and the author of several previous novels. Charlotte was printed by D. Humphreys for M. Carey, Philadelphia, PA, in two volumes in 1794. An English edition of Charlotte was printed in London in 1790. Later it was entitled Charlotte Temple. About 200 editions have been printed.

1080. Writer whose livelihood was obtained exclusively by writing was Charles Brockden Brown of New York and Philadelphia. His first book was Alcuin, a Dialogue, one of the earliest known works by an American to champion the rights of women. It
Arts and Entertainment

was published anonymously and was first announced on April 28, 1798, by T. and J. Swords, New York City. His first novel was *Wieland, or the Transformation*, the first American example of the Gothic horror novel, which was published in New York City in 1798.

1081. **True-crime bestseller** was *Narrative of Patrick Lyon Who Suffered Three Months Severe Imprisonment in Philadelphia Gaol on Merely a Vague Suspicion of Being Concerned in a Robbery of the Bank of Pennsylvania With his Remarks Thereon*, printed by Francis and Robert Bailey in Philadelphia, PA, in 1799. This was Lyon's account of his wrongful imprisonment for the sensational robbery of the Bank of Pennsylvania on September 1, 1798. The book, written after he was cleared by a grand jury, recounted the story of the robbery as he had it from his own communications with the thieves. It was a popular success, portraying as it did the persecution of a common citizen by the wealthy and powerful.

1082. **Book on Americanisms** was John Pickering's *A Vocabulary, or Collection of Words and Phrases Which Have Been Supposed to Be Peculiar to the United States of America; to which is prefixed an essay on the present state of the English language in the United States*, a 206-page book published in 1816 by Cummings and Hilliard, Boston, MA.

1083. **Historical novel** was James Fenimore Cooper's *The Spy*, the story of an itinerant peddler who spies for George Washington during the Revolution. It was published in 1821. The New York-born author, then 32, wrote it after making a bet with his wife that he could pen a more exciting story than the English novel she was reading at the time.

1084. **Rhyming dictionary** was *A Rhyming Dictionary, containing all the perfect rhymes of a different orthography, and allowable rhymes of a different sound, throughout the language, with authorities for the usage of them from our best poets*, published in 1823 by F. and R. Lockwood, New York City. It was an American edition of John Walker’s *A Dictionary of the English language answering at once the purposes of rhyming, spelling and pronouncing on a plan not hitherto attempted*, first published in London in 1775.

1085. **Novel about whaling** was *Miriam Coffin; or, The Whale-Fishermen*, by Massachusetts author Joseph C. Hart, written in 1834. The novel was set in Nantucket and New Bedford.

1086. **Novel by an American to depict Native Americans in a realistic manner** was *The Yemassee*, written in 1835 by South Carolina author William Gilmore Simms. Simms, a planter, politician, and leading secessionist, wrote more than 80 books, most of which concern some aspect of South Carolina history and manners. *The Yemassee* describes the Yemassee rebellion of 1715–18.

1087. **Transcendentalist literary work** was *Nature*, an essay by the philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson of Concord, MA, published anonymously on September 9, 1836.

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Ralph Waldo Emerson

1088. **Detective story** to achieve popularity was Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Murders in the Rue Morgue,” published in April 1841 in *Graham’s Magazine*, Philadelphia, PA.

1089. **Humor writer who was a woman** was Frances Miriam Berry Whitcher, who contributed humorous pieces to Joseph Clay Neal's *Saturday Gazette* in 1846 under the nom de plume “Frank.” Her “Widow Bedott” papers, republished in book form in 1855, sold over 100,000 copies.
1090. Book to sell more than 1 million copies was *Uncle Tom’s Cabin; or, Life Among the Lowly*, the antislavery novel by Harriet Beecher Stowe. It had already appeared as a weekly serial in the *National Era* newspaper when it was published in book form in March 1852 by John P. Jewett & Co., Boston, MA. It became an instant and sold almost 1.5 million copies worldwide, particularly in England, where there was a strong antislavery movement.

1091. Novel by an African-American writer was William Wells Brown’s *Clotel, or the President’s Daughter*, a Narrative of Slave Life in the United States, the story of a slave woman represented as the housekeeper of Thomas Jefferson. In the novel, one of the woman’s two daughters drowns herself in the Potomac River to elude pursuing slavers. The book was published in London in 1853, and reprinted with slight changes in 1864 in Boston, MA, under the title of *Clotelle, A Tale of the Southern States*. It was published by James Redpath, contained 104 pages, and sold for 10 cents.

1092. Novel by an African-American woman is thought to have been *The Bondwoman’s Narrative, by Hannah Crafts, a Fugitive Slave, Recently Escaped from North Carolina*, apparently a work of fictionalized autobiography. The author used a pseudonym. Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr., who located the manuscript in 2001, dated its composition to the period 1855–59. The book was published by Warner Books on April 2, 2002. If the dating of the manuscript proves to be incorrect, the first known novel would be *Our Nig; or, Sketches from the life of a Free Black, in a two-storey white house, North. Showing that Slavery’s Shadows Fall Even There*. It was written by Harriet E. Wilson and published by Geo. C. Rand & Avery in Boston, MA, in 1859.

1093. Poem to win national acclaim was Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s *Song of Hiawatha*, which was published in book form on November 10, 1855, by Ticknor and Fields, Boston, MA. In four weeks 10,000 copies were sold, and in 18 months, 30,000.

1094. Book tour of the United States by an author was made by the English writer Charles Dickens. He first visited the United States in 1842. On November 19, 1867, he arrived in Boston, MA, to begin a book tour in which he stopped at major cities to perform readings from his works. He was paid $3,000 per reading, and his performances, which were wildly popular, stimulated sales of his books. He left in April 1868.

1095. American poet honored in Westminster Abbey in London, England, was Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, a descendant of English immigrants. Longfellow died in 1882 and was buried in Cambridge, MA. In 1884, a white marble bust sculpted by Sir Thomas Brock was placed in the abbey’s Poets’ Corner “by the English admirers of an American poet,” as the inscription read.

1096. Novel by a woman of Native American descent was *Wynema: A Child of the Forest*, by S. Alice Callahan, an Oklahoma teacher who was the daughter of a Muscogee (Creek) mother and an Irish-American father. It was published in 1891.

1097. Nonfiction best-seller other than a textbook or purely theological work was *In His Steps, or What Would Jesus Do?* by the Reverend Charles Monroe Sheldon. It was written in the winter of 1896 and was a utopian fantasy of what the world might be like if people lived literally according to the teachings of Jesus. It was read by the author a chapter at a
time to his Sunday evening congregation in the Central Congregational Church, Topeka, KS. He sold the story for $75 to the Chicago Advance and it was printed as a serial in 1897. As only parts of the serial were sent to the copyright office, the copyright was declared defective. Over 8 million copies in various editions were published by different publishers.

1098. Comic books were published in 1904 by Cupples and Leon, New York City. They were collections of cartoons that had previously been published in newspapers. The books were 10 inches high and 15 inches long, contained 40 pages, and retailed for 75 cents. The titles of some of the books were Alphonse and Gaston and Their Friend Leon and Happy Hooligan by Frederick Burr Oppe, The Naughty Adventures of Vicious Mr. Jack by James Swinnerton, and The Katzenjammer Kids by Rudolph Dirks. The first comic book containing original material was More Fun, published in 1935 by National Periodical Publications, which later became Detective Comics (DC).

1099. Book-of-the-Month Club selection was Lolly Willowes, or the Loving Huntsman, by Sylvia Townsend Warner, published by Viking Press, which was distributed to 4,750 members of the club on April 16, 1926. The club was established in New York City in April 1926 by Harry Scherman, with Robert Haas as president. The original book judges were Dorothy Canfield, Heywood Broun, Henry Seidell Canby, William Allen White, and Christopher Morley.

1100. Comics studio for the mass production of comics was started in 1936 by Will Eisner and Jerry Iger in New York City. Eisner, the creator of “The Spirit,” mentored other comic-book artists such as satirist Jules Feiffer, Bob Kane, the creator of “Batman,” and Art Spiegelman, the author of Maus.

1101. Comic book hero with superpowers was Superman, created by writer Jerry Siegel and artist Joe Shuster, childhood friends from Cleveland, OH, who shared an interest in science fiction. Both were on the staff of D.C. Comics in New York City, working on other people’s comic strips, when the company’s publisher decided to take a chance on their unusual superhero character. Superman was featured in the first volume of Action Comics, which appeared in June 1938.

Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster’s original Superman was a superpowered villain. In 1933 they decided he would make a better hero, so they created a comic strip for him. It was rejected by all the newspaper comics syndicates.

1102. Batman comic book was Detective Comics issue #27 (May 1939), published by Manhattan-based National Publications (later DC Comics, acquired by Warner Communications in 1976). Originally billed as “The Bat-Man,” the Caped Crusader was co-created by artist Bob Kane and writer Bill Finger, although Kane received official credit. It was Finger, however, who conceived of the bat connection and who suggested the character’s cowled headgear and black cape. Batman’s sidekick, Robin (also the creation of Finger), did not appear until issue #38 (April 1940). By 2005, a mint copy of Detective Comics #27 was worth more than $300,000 to collectors.

1103. Comic book versions of literary works were created by Albert Kanter, founder of the Gilberton Company. In 1940, Kanter began publishing Classic Comics, a line of great books in comic-book format that proved popular with GIs. The name was changed to Classics Illustrated in 1947. Among the works adapted were Moby-Dick, Frankenstein, and Romeo and Juliet.

1104. Book censorship board established by a state was appointed by Georgia in March 1953 under authority of an act approved on February 19, 1953, with the power to make recommendations for prosecution. The first chairman of the three-member committee was James Wesberry. Newspapers were not subject to review or censorship.

1105. Beat Generation literary event of note was a poetry reading at the Six Gallery in San Francisco, CA, on October 7, 1955. Hosted by Kenneth Rexroth, it featured five readers, including Allen Ginsberg, who electrified the crowd of about 150 listeners with his recitation of “Howl.”

1106. Spider-Man comic book was issue #15 (August 1962) of Amazing Fantasy (formerly Amazing Adventures, then Amazing...