

Words and Phrases

Everybody had their hands and hearts full.

Levi Sheftall, diary entry on the American Revolution

The first and principal thing is to have a good heart, to perform the operation with courage, intermixed with tenderness.

Abraham I. Abrahams, on circumcision, New York, 1772

A cynical definition of an anti-Semite: One who hates Jews more than is really necessary.

I got a lusty boy; jump into the world the night before last.

Samuel Jacobs, Canada, 1772

Civil peace may be maintained amidst diversity of opinions.

Fundamental Constitution of Carolina, 1669

You cannot know what a wonderful country this is for the common man.

Rebecca Samuel, Petersburg, Va., 1791

You know I love to be in the way of adding to my stock of ideas upon all subjects.

Benjamin Rush, 1787

He who hates another man for not being a Christian, is himself not a Christian. Christianity breathes love, peace, and good-will to man. The Jews have had a considerable share in our late Revolution. They have behaved well throughout. Let our government invite the Jews to our State and promise them a settlement in it. It will be a wise and a politic stroke, and give a place of rest at last to the tribe of Israel.

South Carolina Gazette and General Advertiser, August 30, 1783

Midway in the play, Zousse Massinca, 82, playing Macbeth, turned to Lady Macbeth, played by Bessie Estrich, and lamented: "A king I had to be? a 15-room castle wasn't good enough for you?"

New York Times, July 10, 1964

"Never to admit any performance calculated to injure virtue, religion, or other public happiness, to wound a neighbour's reputation, or to raise a blush in the face of virgin innocence."

Editorial policy of James Rivington, 1773