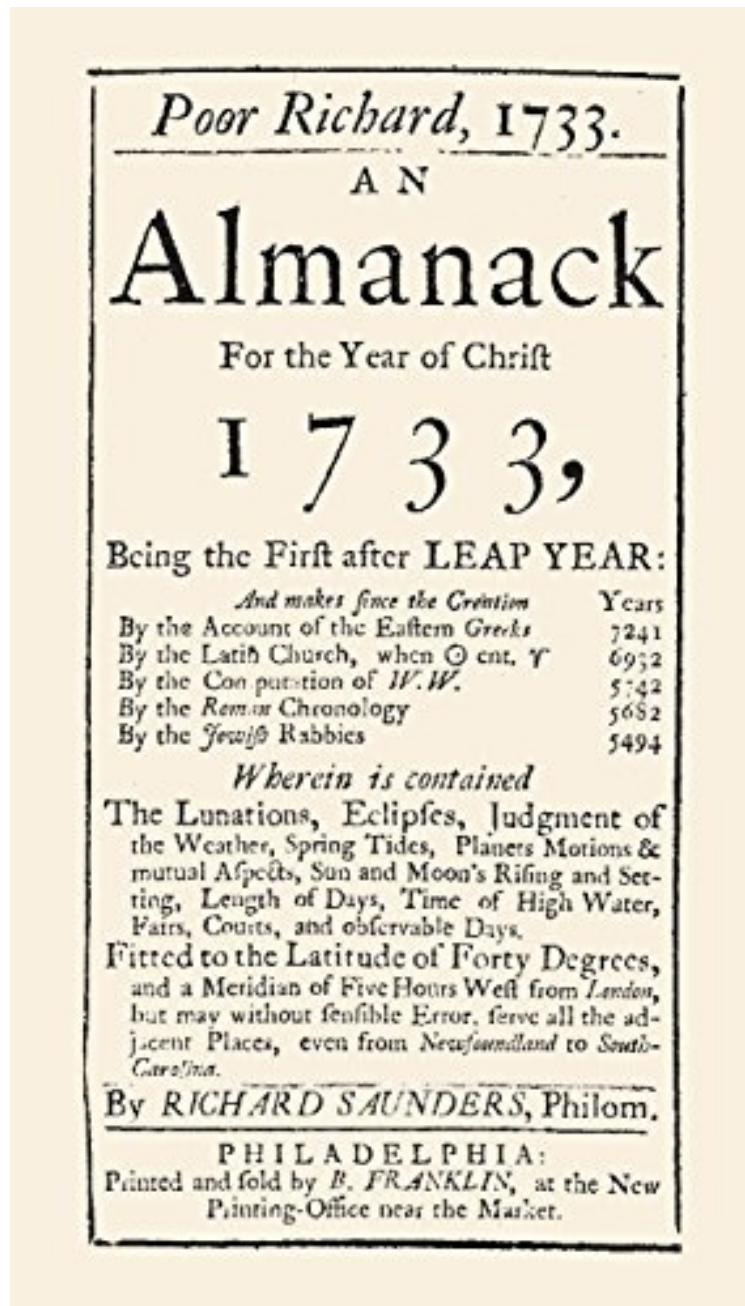


Poor Richard's Almanack for 1733: For the Year of Christ 1733

Richard Saunders, Benjamin Franklin
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Benjamin Franklin's *Poor Richard's Almanack* was first published in 1733. Facing heavy competition from similar publications, Franklin took the unusual and controversial approach of injecting witty, unexpected entries between standard tables of tides, planetary motion, weather predictions and other facts. In the debut edition, faithfully reproduced here, he included under the heading *Principal Kings of Europe*, "Poor Richard, an American Prince, without subjects, his wife being Viceroy over him, born October 23, 1684, age 49." The Almanack went on to become the most popular book of its kind in colonial America and was published annually for the next 25 years. This facsimile offers a unique and entertaining look at 18th century American life and humor.

Courteous Reader: 'It is hardly necessary to state, that Franklin did not originate all the sayings of Poor Richard. He himself tells us, that they were the 'Wisdom of many ages and nations'. Any one, familiar with Bacon, Rochefoucauld, and Rabelais, as well as Others, will recognize old friends in some of these sayings, while a study of the *Collection of Proverbs*, made in the early part of the eighteenth century, by Ray and Palmer, will reveal the probable source from which Poor Richard pilfer'd. Yet, with but few exceptions, these maxims and aphorisms had been filter'd through Franklin's brain, and were ting'd with that mother wit, which so strongly and individually marks so much that he said and wrote. --Introduction by Paul Leicester Ford
"If you want the brutal truth, I did not expect to get much useful information out of *Poor Richard's Almanack*. I wondered, what could Benjamin Franklin--a guy who has been, no offense, dead for more than two hundred years--possibly have to say that would be relevant to a resident of today's dot-com world? Plenty, as it turns out." --from the Introduction by Dave Barry
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From the Inside Flap
Franklin's *Autobiography* is one of the most famous works in American literature. He started it as a private collection of anecdotes for his son, but soon it was transformed into a work of history, both personal and national, revealing Franklin as the man who, as Herman Melville said, possessed "deep worldly wisdom and polished Italian tact, gleaming under an air of Arcadian unaffectedness."
From the Hardcover edition.
From the Back Cover
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