

Franklin Gazette

Volume 7, Number 2, Summer, 1996

Friends of Franklin, Inc., c/o Larry E. Tise, The Franklin Institute, 20th & Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1194

"Lost time is never found again; and what we call Time enough, always proves little enough." B. Franklin

From the Desk of Larry E. Tise

Things Franklin, are as always, in a rush and in great abundance. See to wit:

1. **Poor Richard's in Japanese:** In this column in the last issue of the *Gazette*, I shared with readers a visit I had from Friend of Franklin, Kazuo Majima, Member of the House of Councillors of the government of Japan. When he visited he said he was translating Franklin's Poor Richard's sayings into Japanese. Lo and behold, newly arrived on my desk is a beautiful copy of a fine book as promised with the sayings and some very nice illustrations as shown elsewhere in this *Gazette*. The book came with a letter thanking me personally and several other Friends of Franklin who helped explain the meaning of some of the arcane terms and references made by Franklin. It is truly a beautiful book. Kazuo did not mention in his letter the price of his book, but the identification number for ordering it through any book service is ISBN4-324-04868-1. Anyone who would like to write directly to our most capable Friend of Franklin in Japan, can as follows: Kazuo Majima, House of Councillors, RM 329, Sangiin Giinkaikan, 2-1-1, Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 100 JAPAN. Congratulations, Kazuo!

See From the Desk of... Page 5

Benjamin Franklin's Interest in Maps of North America by Mark Babinski

The two most important colonial maps of the North American continent are Henry Popple's 1733 map, *"A Map of the British Empire in America"* and the 1755 map of John Mitchell, *"A Map of the British Colonies in North America."* Both were published in London. The former was the first official large scale map, bound into an atlas, published *"with the approbation of the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations"*¹ and endorsed by the famous astronomer Edmund Halley. The latter, geographically more accurate, was used to define the boundaries between the United States and the British

Possessions (future Canada) in the 1783 treaty settling the American Revolution.

Benjamin Franklin expressed interest in both of these maps and was active in supporting the efforts of another map maker, Lewis Evans. Evans published an important map of Pennsylvania and the adjacent colonies.

In 1745, Benjamin Franklin was consulted by James Alexander, a lawyer and member of the East New Jersey Board of Proprietors (and also Surveyor General of New Jersey), in regard to publishing a small group of three New Jersey maps. BF advised the Surveyor General *"that Lewis Evans of Philadelphia proposes to do copies of these maps at a total cost of 37 pounds."*¹ In July, 1746, Benjamin Franklin forwarded to Lewis Evans the grand sum of 33 pounds, and six shillings, which Alexander had dispatched to the printer on July 4, 1746, *"for Lewis Evans for contracting Map No. 3"* (one of the maps from the New Jersey lot). These 3 maps were *"Published by Subscription; Printed by James Parker in New York 1747; and a few Copies are to be Sold by him,*

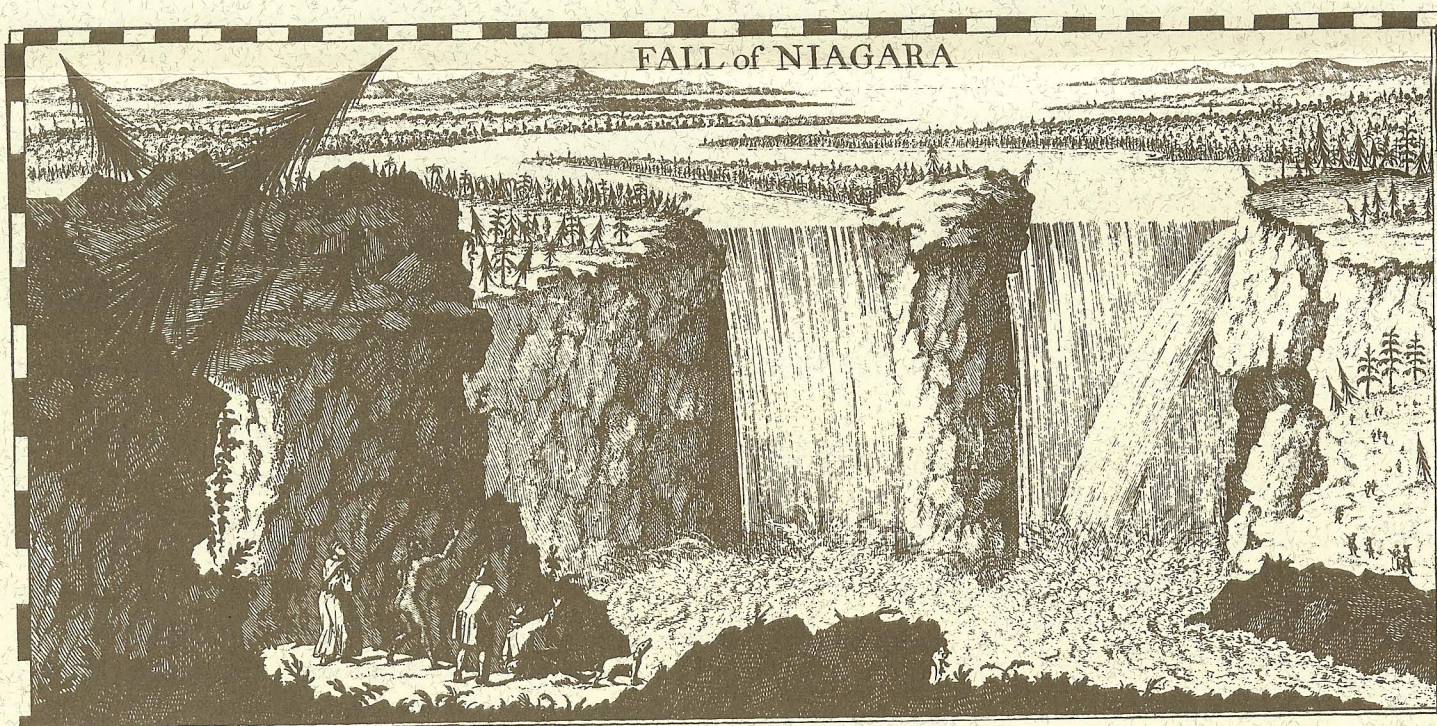
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Henry Popple's "A Map of a British Empire in North America."



"Inset of Niagara Falls," from Henry Popple's Map.

Benjamin Franklin's Interest in Maps of North America..

Continued From Page 1

*and Benjamin Franklin, in Philadelphia; Price bound, and Maps, Three Pounds; plain and sticht only, Fifty Shillings, Proclamation Money."*¹

The maps of New Jersey were a precursor to Lewis Evans' famous "Map of Pensilvania, New Jersey, New-York, and the Three Delaware Counties" published in 1749. The map had special Franklin interest because Evans printed in one of the empty spaces, some data on northeast storms and thundergusts. BF provided Evans with this information. Although Franklin developed his theory about the course of northeast storms in 1743, Lewis Evans' 1749 map was the first published statement of that theory.¹ In July 1971, the American Philosophical Society put out an interesting pamphlet by Walter Klinefelter entitled, "Lewis Evans and his Maps," in which *Gazette* readers may find extensive additional information.

At about the same time, in a May 22, 1746 letter to William Strahan, Franklin ordered "two setts of Popple's Mapps of N. America, one bound, the other in Sheets, they are for our Assembly."¹ The Henry Popple map was printed on 20 large sheets, which when joined, resulted in an enormous wall map 8 feet by 8 feet (2401 mm height by 2335 mm width.) It usually came with a more manageable small reduction of the big map called an Index (or Key) map - approximately 20 inches by 20 inches. A copy of this Key map is reproduced here. The map was sold, bound into an atlas for the price of 1 pound, 16 shillings, and 6 pennies. It could also be purchased on linen in a format called, "On Rollers and Colour'd,"¹ for the price of 2 pounds, 12 shillings, and 6 pennies. In an October 19, 1748 letter to Strahan, BF acknowledged receipt of the maps. They arrived in April, 1747, taking almost a year for arrival in America.

While Franklin appreciated maps of America, one can note his casual attitude toward maps of other parts of the world. In that same May 22, 1746 letter to Strahan, BF says, "P.S. I forgot to mention, that there must be some other large Map of the whole World, or of Asia, or Africa, or Europe, of equal Size with Popple's to match it; they being hung, one on each side of the Door in the Assembly Room; if none can be had of equal Size, send some Prospects of principal Cities, or the like, to be pasted on the Sides, to make up the Bigness."¹

Henry Popple's map was also referred to by Franklin in his 1748 edition of Poor Richard. His almanac for the Month of December contains the following colorful statement regarding a map detail of Sheet 6 and the inset of Niagara Falls, which can be found in the upper left corner of the Popple map: "The fall of Niagara, which Popple's map lays down in the N-West corner of this province, is, according to Henepin, compounded of two great cross streams of water, and two falls, with an isle sloping along between. The waters fall from a horrible precipice above 600 foot, and foam and boil in an hideous manner, making an outrageous noise,

more terrible than thunder; for when the wind blows out of the South, their dismal roaring may be heard more than 15 leagues off." The inset of Niagara Falls is reproduced here.¹

The American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, has, in its possession, one of three unique copies of the Henry Popple map in an unrecorded edition 3. This edition contains an unusual paste-down of the Georgia section of the map. The other two known locations of this edition of the map are: The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and the Public Record Office in Kew, England. The author has discovered 8 editions of the map (published between 1733 and circa 1740) to exist.

Franklin's interest in John Mitchell's 1755 map was more than casual. Apparently Dr. Mitchell was his good friend. In a lengthy June 26, 1755 letter to Peter Collinson, Franklin offered to sell Mitchell's map, just as he sold the maps of Lewis Evans. BF states that he "shall be glad to see Dr. Mitchell's Map, and will endeavour to sell some for him if he sends them."¹

The Mitchell map was published in many editions, including French, Dutch, and Italian. One of the later editions was used by Benjamin Franklin and the opposing British parties to negotiate a territorial settlement of the American Revolution in 1783. This so called "red-lined" Mitchell map (with manuscript red lines drawn on the map during negotiations) is probably the most important map in the history of the United States. It resides in the British Library in London where it was deposited by the British Royal Family.

As a note of interest for collectors of Americana - a second copy of the "red-lined" Mitchell map came up for sale recently at a Sotheby's auction in London. It was advertised as having contemporary manuscript redlines, just like the British royal copy. The estimated value was over 100,000 pounds. However, the map failed to sell. Research on the inks used on the map, indicated that the red lines, although old, were added in the 19th century, rather than in 1783.

Frugal Benjamin Franklin would have been amazed to find that at Sotheby's Welsh Collection sale in New York on June 13, 1991, a copy of the Mitchell map sold for \$45,100, the Popple map sold for \$18,700.

¹The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, Yale University Press, 1959- , Edited by Leonard W. Labaree.

The author is a Computer Science college professor, with an interest in map collecting. He teaches at the Wood Tobe-Coburn School in Manhattan. The results of his research on the 1733 Henry Popple map, where he discovered five new editions, will be published shortly.

Autumn Surfing - Compiled by Roy Goodman

Surf's Up! Not on the shore but on the internet. From time to time I'll do some internet surfing and find interesting web sites for Friends of Franklin to explore.

For a history of the Glass Armonica contact web site:

<http://crystallmusic.com/history.html>

This web site features several interesting components about BF and Glass Music including the origin of the Armonica, its popularity in England and Europe, and a segment on Franklin as an Armonica Player. There is a story printed in an early Irish dictionary of how, upon his return to America, while Franklin's wife was asleep, he went up to the attic of his Philadelphia home and set up his Armonica, which she had not yet heard. Upon completing this, he started to draw forth its "angelick strains." Floating down from above, these sounds were apparently so heavenly, that "his wife awakened with the conviction that she had died and gone to heaven and was listening to the music of angels."

You can read reviews of Franklin's performances, and obtain a list of at least 300 works of classical music written for the glass armonica. There are also references to the Armonica and illness (Fanning the Flames of Madness), as well as Historical Hysterical Events. You can find answers to frequently asked

questions. Enjoy the fine surfing on this web site.

Who is Yatri?

To find out... tap into the web site:

<http://crystallmusic.com/yatri.html#Yatri>

and find out more about this wonderful musician and her album of Armonica playing. Yatri combines her interest in the healing arts as well as an impressive background as a classical musician. As a concert pianist, she recorded and toured internationally for ten years. She has taught at the University of Western Ontario and in the classical music world she is known as Kathryn Root.

When she was first introduced to the unique sounds of "glass music" by Eric Cadesky of Toronto, she became fascinated. Since having her Armonica made for her in 1989, her crystal music has been heard on film soundtrack and she has also performed live musical improvisation within dance and theatre performance.

Yatri's basic nature is quiet and gentle. In spite of having spent much of her life in the limelight of the concert stage, her greatest spiritual rewards have come from playing music for the dying. On her web page, Yatri informs the browser of how she got involved with the Armonica. She takes you on her own journey of serenity and peace that the crystals have had on her

whenever she plays the Armonica. She has also recorded an album of Armonica playing called Crystal Spirit at the request of guests at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health in Lenox, Massachusetts. As a frequent guest of the meditation and relaxation programs there, people who heard her play the Armonica wanted to be able to take that kind of relaxation home with them. So, on a hot summer day in July, 1995, accompanied by Grammy-award-winning recording engineer, Chris Brown, Yatri recorded the album. She refused to add synthesizer background to the Armonica, because she wanted the music to be in the original pure state it was meant to be in, as it was in Franklin's time.

What would Ben have said? Yatri is pretty sure that inventors such as Ben Franklin would have been excited about today's technological possibilities. She says, "One reason the Armonica was so popular in his day was because it had so many more sound capabilities than the plucking sound of the harpsichord. Today, to be able to sustain a sound is not a big idea. But in the late 1700's it was pretty unusual."

I mentioned these web sites to someone at Corning Glass Works and they tapped into them with glee. I hope all our surfing Friends log on and enjoy them too!

Friends of Franklin Generate New Contributions for THE PAPERS OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN by Barbara Oberg

Numerous contributions from members of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Franklin, Inc., have recently raised \$15,000 to match the generous challenge gift of \$15,000 for The Papers of Benjamin Franklin by Friends of Franklin founder and first president Stuart Karu. Contributors to this successful effort are: Ralph G. Elliot of Hartford, CT; Dr. and Mrs. William W. L. Glenn of New Haven, CT; Frank B. Jones (2nd president of the Friends), Bloomington, IN; Barbara Oberg (Editor of the Papers), New Haven, CT; Dr. and Mrs. John Sherman (Deane is currently vice-president), Washington, D.C.; Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Smith (Mac was the third president of the Friends), Chicago, IL; and George F. Waters (currently vice-president), Rochester, MN. These gifts will be recognized on the Acknowledgments Page of Volume 32 of the Papers, scheduled for publication in late December. That's \$30,000 produced for the Papers entirely by current or past officers and directors of the Friends of Franklin. Meanwhile, another Friends of Franklin Director, Peter Van Cleave of Chicago, vice-president of the Kemper Educational and Charitable Fund, announced this spring a pledge by the Kemper Fund of \$20,000 a year for three years. That gets us to \$90,000, still among the circle of the Friends of Franklin. What would be welcome news indeed would be the approval of the pending application by the Papers to the National Endowment for the Humanities. An award from the NEH could parlay that \$90,000 into \$180,000. Franklin, who conceived of the very idea of matching programs in his fundraising campaign for the Pennsylvania Hospital, could only be pleased with the good work of the Friends. Thank you!

"Frankliniana, Off the Shelf"

by

John V. Alviti, Senior Curator of
Collections,

The Frankliniana Collection at The Franklin Institute Science Museum (TFI) provides the Benjamin Franklin Memorial with a unique interpretive resource. A number of items from the Collection are on public display in the Memorial's Franklin Hall—the inking pads and inking stone from Franklin's Philadelphia print shop, his 1747 Electro-Static Machine, and a lap desk used for correspondence from London in 1757, to name just a few. These artifacts help tell the story of Franklin's public life as a printer, scientist, and statesman, respectively. But on the shelves in our collections' storage areas, there are many more Franklin-related objects not often seen by the public. TFI's Frankliniana holdings consist of well over 100 artifacts and visual images—paintings, prints, and drawings—documenting various aspects of Franklin's multi-faceted career. They range from Franklin's family bible to the type foundry printing equipment and tools, used at his printing operations in France. There are also a number of "relics" of Franklin's personal and public past, such as a swatch of his famous "ceremonial" coat and a fragment of the wrought iron lightning rod he fashioned for the house of John Wister, one of Philadelphia's most distinguished wine merchants and chemists, located in the 200 block of Market Street. These museum holdings offer us powerful iconographic and material sources for interpreting the social and intellectual life of 18th century America's most extraordinary public figure. In the issues to follow, the "Frankliniana, Off the Shelf" feature will profile one or a specific collection of artifacts that comprise the Institute's Frankliniana Collection. We hope you will find them of interest.

Our sincere apologies to Mrs. Pamela Hartsock who was inadvertently listed in our new members box as an Individual Member instead of a "Friend".

From the desk of Larry E. Tise continued from Page 1

2. The Chronology in English:

The Friends of Franklin have a best seller on their hands—at least in the world of Benjamin Franklin. Our Chronology project, spearheaded by Frank Jones and released for sale in July has sold hundreds of copies. People are giving them as gifts. Others have placed them as reference tools next to their desks. And at The Franklin Institute it was an inspiring moment when the Institute's senior volunteers were each given a copy in honor of their service. Remember that you can place your order directly to Kendall/Hunt Publishers by calling 1-800-228-0810. By mentioning the code name "Ben" you can get the book at the member's discount price of \$7.96 instead of the list price of \$9.95. It's not too early to do your holiday shopping in this easy manner. Thank you, Frank, for bringing us this good project. Now, we are ready and prepared for requests for special editions and foreign translations.

3. The Armonica in Japan: One of our most faithful contacts and correspondents, Friend Cecilia Brauer - - a professional armonicist (that is her word) - - responded to our article about Kazuo Majima by telling us about other folk in Japan interested in Franklin - - especially the musical instrument he invented, the armonica. According to Cecilia, the Asaki Glass Company in Yokohama bought a 45 bowl armonica from Gerhard Finken-

beiner in 1992. When she was on tour with the Metropolitan Opera in Japan in 1993, she learned about the purchase and the fact that no one with the glass company knew how to play the strange instrument. As shown in a picture she provided us in this issue of the Gazette, Cecilia took it upon herself to visit the Asaki Glass Company and do a demonstration. She taught Mikio Kozuko of the glass company the fine art of placing wet fingers on the tip edge of the glass bowls, thus producing that strange and ethereal sound. And while she was at it, Cecilia provided us with information about her latest project to record and produce "The Angelic Sounds of Christmas" in both cassette and compact disc forms. "A good idea for Christmas gifts!" she says at \$12 and \$16 respectively and \$2.50 shipping and handling. Send your order to Cecilia Brauer, 2267 Hewlett Avenue, Merrick, N.Y., 11566-3930. Or call (516) 378-0449. Thanks, Cecilia. Maybe now we can expand our membership in Japan.

4. Armonica or Harmonica: Webster's Ninth Collegiate does not do well in helping us to identify Franklin's precious instrument. The word "armonica" does not appear. Nor does the word "armonicist." The only possible reference falls under the word "harmonica" where the first meaning listed is "glass harmonica." And then the compilers move to the description of what we all know as the mouth played small instrument. Come on Webster! How obtuse can you be? For more on the armonica, see Roy Goodman's piece on interesting web sites in this Gazette.



Cecilia Brauer teaching Mikio Kozuko of Yokohama,
Japan how to play the Glass Armonica

Wedgwood's "Franklins" to be Exhibited at the American Philosophical Society

by Emily Croll
Assistant Curator, American Philosophical Society

Opening in November of this year, the Library of the American Philosophical Society will present an exhibition on Josiah Wedgwood and Benjamin Franklin. The exhibition will feature more than twenty portrait medallions, plaques, and cameos of Franklin and will highlight both the beauty and fine craftsmanship of Wedgwood ceramics and the important role played by Josiah Wedgwood in creating and disseminating the image of Franklin throughout Europe and the United States. The exhibition will draw upon the Society's collection, as well as loans from museums and private individuals, including Friends members Richard Margolis and Phil Greenslet. Friends Treasurer, Roy Goodman is assisting with the organization of the exhibition.

Although it is uncertain whether Wedgwood and Franklin ever met, they were both fellows of the Royal Society of London and they shared a love of science and many close friends including Joseph Priestley and Erasmus Darwin. Franklin and Wedgwood corresponded on at least one occasion — in 1788 regarding the abolition of slavery. Included in the exhibition will be the rare Wedgwood "Slave Medallion," sent by Wedgwood to Franklin on this occasion, and destined to become one of this country's earliest emblems in the fight to abolish slavery. The Philosophical Society owns one of the very few remaining "Slave Medallions," as well as the original correspondence from Wedgwood to Franklin.

During the 1770's, Josiah Wedgwood's firm created at least eight different likenesses of Franklin depicting him as a classical hero with Roman robes and flowing locks, as an Enlightenment *philosophe* wearing a fur cap like that of Jean Jacques Rousseau, and as an English gentleman in bag wig and court dress. The American Philosophical Society's exhibition will include examples of all of these images of Franklin, as well as related objects and Wedgwood portrait medallions

of other APS members and related dignitaries.

The exhibition will be on view to the public from November 7, 1996 until April 15, 1997 in the lobby of Library Hall, 105 South Fifth Street in Philadelphia, a half block from Independence Hall.

Open hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

**Rare Wedgwood Slave Medallion
to be displayed at Wedgwood's
"Franklins" Exhibit at the
American Philosophical Society.**



Front Cover, Illustrations, and Captions from Kazuo Majima's Japanese Translation of Poor Richard's

第一章 プーア・リチャードの暦

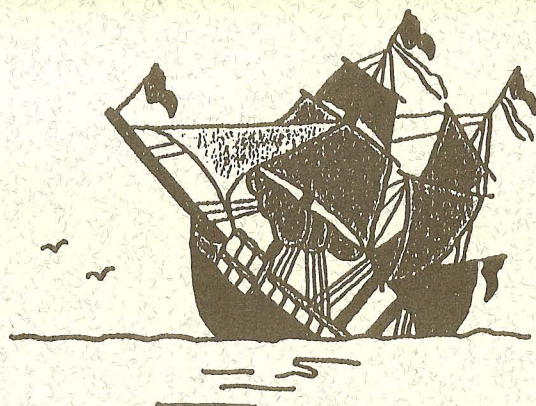
ベンジャミン・フランクリン プーア・リチャードの暦

真島一男……………【監訳】



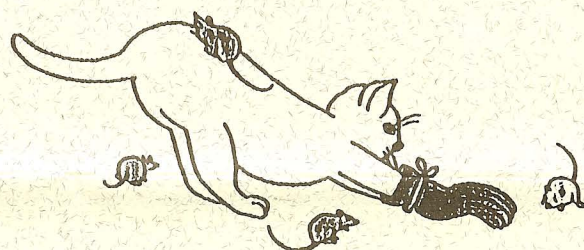
きょうせい

第一章 プーア・リチャードの暦



小さな出費にご用心、小さな水漏れが大きな船を沈める

Beware of little expenses;
a small leak will sink a great ship.



手袋をはめた猫に鼠は取れない！

Handle your tools without mittens;
remember that the cat in gloves, catches no mice.



君の仕事を追いかけてよ！ 仕事に追われるな！

If you ride a horse, sit close and tight,
if you ride a man, sit easy and light.

第一章 プーア・リチャードの暦



空の袋は真っすぐには立ちにくい！

Tis hard for an empty bag to stand upright.

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All individuals, institutions, scholars, students, collectors, and others are invited to become members of the Friends of Franklin at the membership rates indicated below.

Life Members (individuals)	\$1,000
Institutional Members	\$1,000
Sustaining Friend	\$ 100
Franklin Friend	\$ 50
Individual Member	\$ 30
Subscription to the Gazette	\$ 20
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Upcoming Events

- ♦ **Friends of Franklin Board Meeting - Williamsburg Nov. 6, 1996, 2:30-4:30 p.m.**
- ♦ **Benjamin Franklin's Historic Williamsburg and Virginia Tour Nov. 6-10, 1996**
- ♦ **Benjamin Franklin Symposium, Philadelphia, PA May 30-31, 1997**
- ♦ **Benjamin Franklin's Historic England October 21-27, 1997**