

long, weary tramp, and a row on the Delaware, he landed in Philadelphia early one morning.

By this time he had only a few pennies left, which, as he felt hungry, he soon gave to a baker for three large rolls. The small amount of luggage he had with him was thrust



Franklin's entry into Philadelphia.

into his coat pockets, and with a roll under either arm, and one in his hand, Franklin strolled down the street, munching his bread as he walked along. A girl standing on her father's doorstep laughed at the awkward lad passing by, little thinking that a few years later she would be his wife.

Finding employment in Philadelphia, Franklin worked hard, studying as much as he could af-

ter hours. Every book he could buy or borrow was eagerly read, and he paid small sums to booksellers for the loan of their volumes overnight, sitting up late and rising early so as to get all he could out of them. Franklin loved books so much that he soon learned a great deal about foreign countries. He longed to visit them, and therefore gladly welcomed a proposal to go to England and buy a printing press.

As the governor of Pennsylvania promised to supply the necessary funds, Franklin set out; but upon landing in England he found that the governor had deceived him, and that there was no money to be had. Alone in a foreign land, without means or friends, Franklin again sought employment, and worked for an English printer for the next few years. By dint of hard work and great economy, he managed to save enough money to bring him back to Philadelphia, at the age of twenty. Then, after working as clerk and printer for a while, Franklin set up in business for himself, and married.

Besides printing a paper—for which he wrote the articles, set the type, handled the press, and even carted the paper to his shop in a wheelbarrow—Franklin soon began to publish a pamphlet called *Poor Richard's Almanac*. It contained not only the usual information about sunrise and sunset, the moon, tide, and weather, but many short say-

ings, full of good advice. They were so easily remembered, and so often quoted, that some of them have become household sayings. A few are: "No gains without pains." "Never leave that till tomorrow which can be done today." "Time is money." "Keep conscience clear, then never fear."

You might think that Franklin was busy enough with all this work; still, he managed to learn a great deal besides French, German, Spanish, and Italian, which he studied alone at night. He founded the first public library in Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania, and the first fire brigade, the first insurance company, and the first hospital in the city. Besides that, he invented the first good stove, advised paving the streets, and was constantly in political office from the time he was thirty until he died, at the age of eighty-four.

Franklin was so interested in sciences that he studied them closely, too; and in 1752, after thinking the matter over a long while, he decided that lightning must be the same thing as the electricity produced by rubbing a cat's fur. He therefore determined to bring lightning down from the clouds, to find out whether he was right. After many experiments, he built a kite, fastened a sharp point to it, and flew it one stormy day. He had taken all his measures so carefully that he thus really drew down some electric sparks from the sky.

As Franklin was a very practical man, he immediately made use of this knowledge to invent lightning rods for protecting churches and houses from thunderbolts. His discov-

AUGUST hath xxxi Days.											
D. H.			Planets Places.								
New ☽	3	8 aft.	D.	☉	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♁	D.L.
First Q.	11	11 aft.	1	9	2	10	4	0	13	S.	1
Full ☉	18	8 aft.	6	14	2	10	7	6	23	N.	4
Last Q.	25	at noon.	12	19	2	10	10	13	17	4	4
☽	1	25 Deg.	17	24	1	10	14	19	13	S.	1
	11	24	22	29	1	11	17	25	21		5
	21	24	27	17	1	11	20	1	28		1

D.	☽	☉	☾	☽	☉	☾	☽	☉	☾	☽	☉	☾
12	27	10	12	12	21	12	21	12	21	12	21	12
2	Moon	11	2	12	22	12	22	12	22	12	22	12
3	sets.	11	51	2	23	12	23	12	23	12	23	12
4	A.	12	37	3	24	12	24	12	24	12	24	12
5	8	17	1	23	3	25	12	25	12	25	12	25
6	8	47	2	7	4	26	12	26	12	26	12	26
7	9	15	2	51	5	27	12	27	12	27	12	27
8	9	40	3	32	6	28	12	28	12	28	12	28
9	10	8	4	14	6	29	12	29	12	29	12	29
10	10	33	4	57	7	30	12	30	12	30	12	30
11	11	5	5	40	8	31	12	31	12	31	12	31
12	11	41	6	26	8	2	12	2	12	2	12	2
13	Morn	7	17	9	9	3	12	3	12	3	12	3
14	12	15	8	10	10	4	12	4	12	4	12	4
15	1	39	8	11	11	5	12	5	12	5	12	5
16	2	2	10	6	12	6	12	6	12	6	12	6
17	Moon	11	7	1	13	7	12	7	12	7	12	7
18	rises	Morn	1	7	14	8	12	8	12	8	12	8
19	A.	12	8	2	15	9	12	9	12	9	12	9
20	8	10	7	3	16	10	12	10	12	10	12	10
21	8	46	6	4	17	11	12	11	12	11	12	11
22	9	19	5	5	18	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
23	Morn	3	4	6	19	13	12	13	12	13	12	13
24	10	53	4	7	20	14	12	14	12	14	12	14
25	10	33	4	8	21	15	12	15	12	15	12	15
26	11	14	5	9	22	16	12	16	12	16	12	16
27	11	54	6	10	23	17	12	17	12	17	12	17
28	Morn	7	11	11	24	18	12	18	12	18	12	18
29	12	28	11	12	25	19	12	19	12	19	12	19
30	1	22	10	13	26	20	12	20	12	20	12	20
31	2	19	10	14	27	21	12	21	12	21	12	21

Richard says, 'Tis foolish to lay out Money in a Purchase of Repentance; and yet this Folly is practised every Day at Vendues, for want of minding the Almanack. Wise Men, as Poor Dick says, learn by others Harms, Fools scarcely by their own; but, Felix quem faciunt aliena Pericula cautum. Many a one, for the Sake of Finery on the Back, have gone with a hungry Belly, and half starved their Families; Silks and Sattins, Scarlet and Velvets, as Poor Richard says, put out the Kitchen Fire. These are not the Necessaries of Life; they can scarcely be called the Conveniencies, and yet only because they look pretty, how many want to have them. The artificial Wants of Mankind thus become more numerous than the natural; and, as Poor Dick says, For one poor Person, there are an hundred indigent. By these, and other Extravagancies, the Genteel are reduced to Poverty, and forced to borrow of those whom they formerly despised, but who through Industry and Frugality have maintained their Standing; in which Case it appears plainly, that a Ploughman on his Legs is bigger than a Gentleman on his Knees, as Poor Richard says. Perhaps they have had a small Estate left them.

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A page from Poor Richard's Almanac.