

Book by Benjamin Franklin, published 1779

Title: Political, Miscellaneous, and Philosophical Pieces

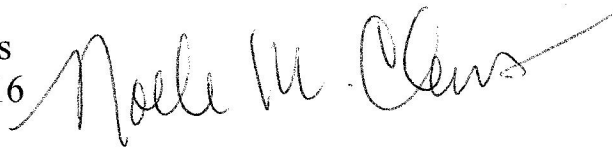
Author: Benjamin Franklin

Publication Date: 1779

This book is a long-held family treasure. First owned by my husband's great-great-great grandfather, George Nice Baker (1788-1859), it was passed on to his son William Spohn Baker (1824-1897) who dedicated much of his life to documenting and cataloging information on the life and times of George Washington. He became an authority on Washington, publishing dozens of books and papers about the first President, as well as the many engravings and portraits done of him and other prominent figures of the day. Wm. S. Baker had one of the finest collections in existence of Washington related memorabilia, books, and engravings from that period. (Those times also included the larger-than-life Benjamin Franklin.) Most of Wm. S. Baker's Washington collection was given to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania so that it would always be available to the public, however, what remained eventually ended up in our immediate family, including the book referenced above by Benjamin Franklin that was first published in 1779.

Before we received the remainder of Baker's collections, it was owned by my husband's grandmother, Marie Elsie Whelen Goelet Clews, former Philadelphia socialite and direct descendant of Wm. Spohn Baker. She was the founder of La Napoule Art Foundation and owner of the magnificent Chateau de La Napoule (on the Mediterranean, near Cannes, France). For additional information please go to <www.LNAF@Clews.org>

Noele M. Clews
January 22, 2016



Attached: Online books by William Spohn Baker (1824-1897)

Also see: "In Memoriam. William Spohn Baker", *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 22, No. 1 (1898), pp. 1-8