

A Legendary Bon Mot?: Franklin's "What Is The Good of a Newborn Baby?"

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One ought not let the bicentennial of the invention of ballooning pass too far by without a comment on one of the most important sayings to which

of "Printing Week" in New York about twenty years ago.⁵ Entitled *What Good Is A Newborn Baby?*, this tiny remembrance conveyed the following information on its title

Dr. I. B. Cohen

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History of an aphorism
(It is a lapse of knowledge or
of courtesy that Chapin did not
cite your remarks on authenticity)
Best wishes

J. L.

goes back to 1955
if. Loewi correspondence.

Received from
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The fact that the famous query is closely associated with Franklin was never made more obvious than when a small privately-printed book appeared during the celebration

of Enlightenment. What he said, whether in reporting a new play, the presentations at a public art showing, or the discussions in one of the private salons of the French capital,