

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 air balloons

(It is a lapse of knowledge in
of century that Chapin did not
cite your remarks on authenticity)
Best wishes

J. L.

yes back to 1955
if. Lewis correspondence

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,