

Index

- abusive language, 19, 68–69
abusive speech, 63–64, 73–75, 77–79, 80, 259
Adams, Henry, 16
Adams, Jacob, 15
Adams, John
 credibility and deception, 244
 cursing, 138
 defamation and slander, 153
 false reports, 266
 impolite speech and the imperial crisis, 253
 newspapers, 280
 noise, 66, 72, 77
 profane swearing, 110, 125
 sensibility, 62
 threats, 82, 84, 85, 90
 vulgar speech, 58–59
Addison, Joseph, 123, 194
advice books, 283–284
Africans, 65, 67, 187
alcohol, 76, 97
Algonquin, 52
algorithms, 282
Allen, Robert, 234–236
alternative facts, 282
Alwood, John, 79
American exceptionalism, 284
American Revolution, 7, 34, 53, 270, 272, 276, 277, 279, 280, 281
Ames, Nathaniel, Jr., 90, 91
Andros, Edmund, 39
anger, 88–89, 109
Anglicization, 41–42, 45–46, 56, 126
apologies, 79, 128–129, 133–135, 141–142, 163, 207, 256, 262
appeals, 9, 23, 113, 212–214
Arbuthnot, Dr. John, 248
assaults, 80
Axel, Samuel, 244
Baily, Joshua, 63
Ball, Francis, 137
Baltimore, 177
Bancroft, Thomas, Jr., 228
barbarians, 60
barbaric language, 54
Barker, James, 275–276
Barnstable County, 8
Barrett, Reverend, 71
Barrons, Benjamin, 113
Beale, Joshua, 207–208
bear-baiting, 107
bee colonies, 6
Belcher, Jonathan, 54, 60–61, 109–110, 236
Bell, Thomas (Tom), 242–245, 246, 248, 250, 268
Berkshire County, 9, 13–14, 274
Bernard, Francis, 152, 254
“Betty Negro,” 99, 154, 156, 197–200
better sort, 53–54, 79, 86, 112, 124–125, 261
Bible, 35, 47, 137, 160, 226

- Biddle, Charles, 200
- Billingsgate, 60–61, 106, 124, 153, 176, 242
- Black people, 187, 197–200, 202, 246
- Blackstone, William, 73, 74, 80, 130, 217, 229
- Blagrove, Nathanael, 236
- blasphemy, 17, 19, 138
- Blasters, 138
- Blood, Stephen, 159, 175
- Blood, Zachariah, 158
- blood feuds, 229
- Boardman, Thomas, 89
- bonds, 9, 22, 23
- Book of General Lawes and Libertyes*, 47
- Boomer, Timothy, 283
- Boston
 - false reports, 227, 234–235
 - language shifts, 34
 - noise, 67, 68
 - polite speech, 33
 - population, 67
 - refinement of Massachusetts, 38, 39, 43
 - satire, 176
 - sedition and sensibility, 271
 - smallpox, 234–235
 - speech and the law, 18
 - Town House, 42
- Boston Committee, 279
- Boston Evening Post*
 - credit, 192, 194, 197
 - cursing, 138
 - defamation and satire, 171, 172, 179
 - false reports, 233–234, 235, 267
 - false swearing and perjury, 217, 221, 223
 - “Letter from London,” 20
 - mumpers, 241
 - noise, 69, 78
 - profane swearing, 108
- The Boston Gazette*, 153
- Boston Massacre, 90
- Boston News-Letter*, 232
- Boswell, James, 195
- boxing, 87
- Boynton, Stephen, 116
- brawling, 76, 87, 88, 90, 91
- breaches of the peace, 10, 64, 86
- Briggs, Edward, 88
- Brigham, Justice Samuel, 87
- Brintnal, John, 110
- Bristol County, 9, 14, 137, 164, 172
- Bristow, Edward J., 50
- British Army, 233, 272
- British colonies, 4, 7, 37, 52, 187, 249
- British empire, 56, 108–110
- Brom and Bett v. Ashley*, 276
- Brook, Noah, 12
- Brown, Amos, 70, 87
- Brown, Captain John, 113
- bunters, 157–158
- Burgess, Daniel, 197, 246
- Burke, Edmund, 284
- Burkitt, William, 37
- Burlison, Edward, 156
- Burn, Richard, 186, 188
 - Justice of the Peace and Parish Officer*, 166
- Burnam, Jonathan, Jr., 115
- cacophony, 252–269
 - criminal law and creating social order, 256–269
 - impolite speech and the imperial crisis, 252–256
 - overview, 34
- cage, 97, 99
- Campbell, John, 232
- captivity narratives, 64
- card-playing, 108
- Carter, Philip, 36
- Cathcart, Gershom, 150
- Catholics, 189
- Cavender, John, 142–144, 179–180
- census, 38
- Charlestown, 45
- charters, 2, 39–40, 41, 93, 96, 203
- Chauncy, Josiah, 12
- Chesterfield, Lord, 285
 - Letters to His Son*, 284
- The Child's New Play-Thing*, 37
- children, 279
- Christianity, 36, 94, 258
- Church, Benjamin, 14
- churches, 36
- citizens, 278, 279
- civil defamation, 145–146
- civil order, 27
- civil society, 64, 278–279
- civil speech, 31–32, 49, 127, 128
- civility, 127–180
 - contempt, 129–135

Index

313

- cursing, 135–144
- defamation and satire, 144–180
- overview, 127–129
- politeness and the law, 27, 30, 31–32
- social order, 3, 8
- civilization, 51, 52, 64–65
- Claggett, William, 94, 189
- Clark, John, 50, 236
- clubs, 45, 107, 111, 123, 177–178
- Cobb, Elisha, 141
- Cobbs, Morgan, 163
- cock-fighting, 107
- coffeehouses, 33, 45, 107
- Coke, Sir Edward, 166
- colonial elite, 53, 54, 231–232
- colonial politics, 3–4, 24
- colonial speech economy, 5–6
- colonies, 7, 35, 37, 47, 50, 51–52, 53
- commerce, 196, 220
- commodification, 285
- conduct and courtesy books
- credibility, 33
- cultural ideals, 1, 4
- mumpers, 242
- noise, 66, 70
- politer peace, 35, 37, 41, 49, 56–60
- profane swearing, 93, 123
- sensibility, 62
- speech and the law, 20
- speech of citizens, 286
- threats, 86
- confession, 48, 79, 142, 264
- confidence men, 182, 240, 285
- Connecticut, 5, 194
- Conroy, David W., 40
- Constable, John, 183, 246, 247, 250
- contempt, 18, 128–135, 262
- Continental Army, 271, 272–273, 276
- Cooper, John, 133, 214–215
- Cooper, Lydia, 133, 214–215
- corporal punishment, 97, 112
- court martials, 272, 273
- Court of Common Pleas, 10
- courthouses, 13, 43, 44–45, 142, 257
- courtiers, 195
- courtrooms, 7, 8, 22, 125–126
- courts, 29, 42–43, 162, 280
- Courts of General Sessions of the Peace, 13, 22, 64, 257, 260, 265
- Cox, Caroline, 273
- credibility, 181–251
- credit, 185–202
- criminal law and social order, 265–266
- false reports, 227–240
- false swearing and perjury, 216–226
- lying, 202–216
- mumpers, 240–251
- overview, 30, 32–33, 181–185
- credit, 32, 185–202, 219, 230
- Crelliver, John, 88
- criminal biographies, 49
- criminal defamation, 145–148, 178, 179–180, 206, 263
- criminal law, 23–34, 123, 256–269
- criminal procedure, 20–23
- criminal speech
- methodology, 8–17
- politeness and the law, 2, 28, 30–31
- politer peace, 47, 49, 61
- regulation of speech, 8
- sensibility, 63–64, 65
- speech and the law, 18, 19
- criminal speech law, 1–34
- methodology, 8–17
- overview, 1–8
- politeness and the law, 23–34
- speech and the law, 17–23
- Crosswell, Thomas, 129, 131–132, 179
- crowds, 90, 253–255
- cursing
- civility, 128, 135–144, 175, 179–180
- criminal law and social order, 257–258, 262
- cursing and swearing, 25, 136
- false swearing and perjury, 224
- methodology, 12
- speech of citizens, 277–279
- Curtin, Michael, 44
- Cushing, Justice Daniel, 16, 208
- damages, 145
- Dana, Richard, 15
- data mining, 282
- Davenport, Reverend Mr. James, 168–172
- Davis, Isaac, 12
- Dayton, Cornelia Hughes (Nina), 44, 207, 229
- De Scandalis Magnatum*, 229
- deafness, 72
- decency, 1, 2, 286
- Declaration of Independence, 271

- Deerfield, 228
- defamation
 - civility, 128
 - criminal law and social order, 262, 263
 - defamation and satire, 144–180
 - definition, 145, 179–180
 - false reports, 229
 - lying and defamation, 206
 - methodology, 17
 - parallel with satire, 178–179
 - politeness and the law, 31, 33
 - speech and the law, 17, 19, 20
- deference, 4–5, 20, 32
- Defoe, Daniel, 123, 124, 180, 192, 224
 - Essay Upon Projects*, 94, 135
 - Review*, 95
- democracy, 280, 286
- Denham, Joseph, 243–244
- deportment, 46
- depositions, 13, 77
- Dewey, Martin, 202–203
- dialects, 67, 198
- Dickenson, Hezekia, 156, 157
- disinformation, 282
- disorderly houses, 117–118, 119, 120, 140, 189
- dissent, 271
- Ditz, Toby, 28
- Doak, Tabitha, 154
- docket books, 9, 10
- Dominion government, 39
- Donham, Eleazar, Sr., 207, 208
- Doolittel, Thomas, 106, 124, 189, 219–220, 225
- double-entendres, 176
- Dowd, Gregory, 228
- drama, 57–58
- Drew, John, Jr., 89
- drinking, 97, 106–107
- drones, 6
- Dudley, Samuel, 114
- duels, 18, 90–92, 194
- Dukes County, 14
- Dunbar, David, 109–110
- Dwight, Elijah, 13
- ear-witnesses, 232, 264
- education, 21, 279
- Edwards, Jonathan, 249
- Edwards, Laura, 135
- effeminate bachelors, 31
- elite
 - civility, 27–28
 - credibility, 32–33, 182
 - defamation and satire, 149–151, 154, 160, 167
 - false reports, 230–232
 - male identity and masculinity, 2, 28, 30, 32, 230–232
 - noise, 77
 - politer peace, 38–39, 40–41, 46, 52–53, 54–55
 - profane swearing, 102, 105, 107–108, 110–111, 122, 125, 260–261
 - refinement, 26–27
- Ells, Reverend Nathaniel, 213
- eloquence, 51–52, 198–199, 201–202
- empathy, 63
- empire, 3, 64–65, 108–110, 126
- England, 41–42, 49, 54, 72, 194–195, 274
- English language, 50–54, 58, 64, 108–109
- English law, 45–46
- English, Thomas, 110, 114
- Englishness, 194–195
- Enlightenment, 51, 278
- enslaved people, 65, 67, 99, 187, 198, 246
- Essex County, 14, 43, 47, 49, 205
- ethnicity, 196, 198
- etiquette, 50, 285
- evangelicals, 37, 117, 276
- extralinguistic sounds, 68–69, 71, 72, 80
- fact, 282
- A faithful testimony against profane swearing*, 108
- Fales, Timothy, Jr., 14
- false news, 19, 184, 229, 230, 279, 281
- false reports
 - credibility, 182, 227–240
 - criminal law and social order, 264, 266–267
 - respectability, 17, 276
 - and rumors, 231
 - speech of citizens, 279
- false swearing, 216–226
- Faulkner, Elizabeth, 107, 118, 120
- femininity, 26, 69–70
- feudal system, 229
- Files, 9, 10, 13–15
- fines
 - criminal procedure, 23
 - defamation, 149

Index

315

- false swearing and perjury, 217
- noise, 79
- profane cursing, 278
- profane swearing, 96, 97, 98, 99, 112–116, 118–119, 120–122
- threats, 88
- First Amendment, 184, 280, 281, 286
- Fisk, Daniel, 218
- Fitshughs, Willis, 239
- Flagg, John, 106, 119
- Fletcher, Richard, 130
- Foley, Samuel, 79
- foreign tongues, 60, 67
- fornication, 19, 133, 214–215
- Foster, Deacon, 75, 187, 191
- Foster, Richard, 45
- Foster, Thomas, 89
- Fowler, Bildad, 1–2, 4, 17, 257, 259
- Fox, Jonathan, 159
- Framingham, 237–238
- France, 72, 233
- Franklin, Benjamin, 94
- frauds, 184, 249, 250, 251
- free speech, 184, 280, 282, 286
- French people, 196–197, 202
- fury, 88, 92
- gallows, 91
- gaol, 143–144
- The General Magazine*, 146
- gender
 - credit, 193
 - cursing, 140–141
 - defamation, 148
 - law experiences, 112
 - noise, 69–70
 - politer peace, 36, 37, 47, 49, 57–58
- General Sessions Court Records, 10, 13–16
- gentleel masculinity, 8, 28, 46, 268
- gentleel speech, 56–57, 62
- genteeel swearing, 124
- gentility
 - civility, 180
 - credibility, 185, 240, 249
 - criminal law and social order, 257, 266, 268–269
 - overview, 3, 4, 5, 7
 - politeness and the law, 28–29, 31–32
 - politer peace, 35, 36–37, 55
 - respectability, 272, 283, 284, 285
- gentlemanliness, 5, 8, 29, 191, 225–226
- gentlemen
 - credit, 192, 193–194
 - criminal law and social order, 261–262, 268
 - defamation and satire, 147, 150, 160, 165
 - false swearing and perjury, 225–226
 - gentlemanliness and truth, 191
 - lying, 181–182, 214
 - noise, 72, 77–78, 79
 - politeness and the law, 29
 - politer peace, 36–37, 41, 57
 - profane swearing, 102, 112, 114, 123
 - respectability, 274–275
 - speech economy, 5, 8
 - threats, 81–82, 86
- gentlewomen, 69
- Gibbs, Jonathan, 274
- Gilbert, Sir Geoffrey, 188, 192, 223
- Glover, George, 89
- Glover, Nathaniel, 214
- Glover, Pelatiah, 154, 197
- Godfree, John, 160, 163–167
- Godfrey, George, 14, 165
- Godfrey, George, Jr., 14
- Godfrey, John, 14, 148, 164–165, 166
- godliness, 8, 30–31, 32, 36, 37, 44
- Goffe, Colonel Edmund, 150
- Goldthwait, Ezekiel, 45
- Gooch, Colonel, 110
- Goodhue, Ebenezer, 82
- Goodrich, Daniel, 274, 275
- gossip, 145, 151, 232, 239
- Gott, Benjamin, 211–212
- Gouge, Edward, 134
- government, 130
- governors, 39–40
- Graeber, David, 49
- grand juries, 11, 21–22
- Great Awakening, 50, 245
- Green, Tom, 26
- Grotius, Hugo, 183
- Guardian*, 57
- guilty pleas, 264
- guilty verdicts, 23
- Gustafson, Sandra M., 201
- Hale, Matthew, 187
- half-swearing, 112, 260
- Hall, Dorothy, 155

- Hall, Jeremiah, 155
- Hamilton, Dr. Alexander, 66, 69, 176, 177, 196, 232–233, 250
- Hamond, Lemuel, 207
- Hampshire County
 - credibility, 202, 228
 - Fowler and Taylor, 1
 - methodology, 9, 12, 14–15
 - noise, 70, 74, 77
 - profane swearing, 106
 - Records, 15
 - speech and the law, 19, 21
 - speech of citizens, 209
- Harden, Nathaniel, 63, 157–158
- Harris, Nathaniel, 15
- Harrison, John, 101
- Hartog, Hendrik, 19
- Hartshorn, Moses, 84
- Harvard, 6–7, 21, 124, 242
- Harvard Hall, 6
- Harvard Law Library, 165
- Hasseltine, John, 218
- Hatfield, 227–228, 230, 231
- Hawley, Captain, 121
- Hayman, Nathan, 137
- Hayward, Isaac, 90–92
- Hemphill, Cynthia Dallett, 26, 37
- Herrington, Elizabeth, 154
- Hewitt, James, 273
- Hewlet, John, 106
- Hides, Samuel, 238–239
- hierarchical diffusion pattern, 230–231, 267
- hierarchies, 52–54, 286
- Hill, Robert, 154
- Hilton, William, 216–217, 223, 226
- Hinsdale, Samuel, 76–77
- Hobbes, Thomas, 130
- Hogarth, William
 - Industry and Idleness*, 49
- Holmes, Joseph, 227–228, 230, 231, 232
- Homenway, Joshua, 237–238
- honesty, 30, 32, 192, 249–250
- honor, 192, 194, 229
- Hopkins, Reverend Samuell, 173–174
- hottentots, 60
- How, Juazaniah, 70
- Howe, Joseph, 211–213
- howling, 64, 69
- Hubbard, Isaac, 168, 174
- humanity, 95, 126
- Hutchinson, Anne, 47
- Hutchinson, Justice, 79
- Hutchinson, Thomas, 61, 126, 152, 254
- identity, 188, 190–191, 192, 194, 286
- imperialism, 27, 99, 108–110, 126, 252–256
- impolite speech, 20, 27, 35, 58–61, 122, 252–256
- impolite violence, 87
- imposters, 249, 250
- incest, 238–239
- incivility, 31, 128
- incredible, 33
- incursions, 228
- Indians
 - credit, 200–202
 - demographics, 38
 - false reports, 227–228, 230, 234
 - false swearing and perjury, 216–217, 226
 - Indian languages, 51–52
 - noise, 67
 - profane swearing, 99, 122
 - stealthy fighting, 153
- indigenous languages, 51–52, 200
- indigenous peoples, 228
- information, 32, 230–234, 266–267, 279–280, 281
- informers, 164, 165–166, 168
- innholders, 17, 102, 106–107, 117, 119–120
- inns, 106–108, 119–120
- Inns of Court, 46
- innuendoes, 158, 176
- insensible, 31, 60, 65
- intelligence, 232
- international trade, 40–41
- Internet, 281–282
- invective, 175
- Irish people, 69, 138, 189, 196, 224
- Iroquois government, 201
- itinerancy, 239–240, 241, 245
- Jackson, Reverend Edward, 159–160
- Jackson, William, 255–256
- jail, 23, 126, 143–144
- Jennison, William, 84
- Jones, Elisha, 82–84, 114
- Jones, Erasmus, 66, 196
- judges, 23, 130

Index

317

- juries, 13, 21–23, 205–207
- Juster, Susan, 117
- justice system, 20–23
- justices of the peace, 10, 21–22, 25, 40, 46, 100
- Kalm, Peter, 200
- Kealey, Linda, 19
- Kentucky, 274
- Kerber, Linda, 44
- king, 130
- King, Peter, 24
- king's attorney, 22
- king's peace
 - contempt, 135
 - criminal law and social order, 257
 - politeness and the law, 25, 27
 - profane swearing, 105, 108, 114, 122, 279
 - sensibility, 65
 - threats, 81, 86
- knowledge sources, 32
- Lamb, Jonathan, 150
- Land Bank controversy, 245
- land claims, 237
- language
 - credibility, 183, 196–197, 200–201
 - from sinful to impolite speech, 50–54
 - politeness and the law, 29, 34
 - race, dialect and language, 198
 - respectability, 286
 - sensibility, 73–75, 105, 108–109, 111–112
 - slander, 153
- Larrebee, John, 85
- law
 - politeness and the law, 23–34
 - respectability and role of law, 286
 - speech and the law, 17–23
- Laws and Liberties*, 96
- Learson, Hamond, 154
- legitimate speech, 30
- Leonard, George, 72, 164, 167
- lesser sort, 56, 190
- L'Estrange, Roger, 190, 226
- letters, 232–233, 279
- Leverett, Mary, 7
- Lewis, Ezekiel, 236
- Lewis, John, Jr., 205–206
- libel, 17, 112, 145, 168, 176, 281
- licensed houses, 97, 106
- location of offence, 84–86
- Locke, John, 44, 181, 183, 268, 278, 279
 - Thoughts Concerning Education*, 181
- Lockridge, Kenneth A., 29, 56
- London, 33, 49, 54
- loudness, 156
- lower orders
 - civility, 128
 - contempt, 134
 - credit, 192
 - cursing, 139
 - defamation and satire, 146–147, 150
 - noise, 79
 - politeness and the law, 26–28, 31
 - politer peace, 56
 - profane swearing, 96, 104–108
 - speech and the law, 20
 - threats, 80, 84, 87
- loyalty, 218, 219, 229
- lying
 - credibility, 181–183, 184, 185, 202–216, 248, 250–251
 - credit, 185–187, 192, 193–194, 197, 200–201
 - criminal law and social order, 263–265, 268
 - defamation, 206
 - false reports, 228, 229–230
 - false swearing and perjury, 219, 220, 222, 224–225
 - politeness and the law, 32
 - respectability, 276, 281
 - speech and the law, 17, 19
- Maine, 8, 16, 39, 67, 216
- male identity, 28–29, 57–58
- manhood, 28, 31
- manners, 1, 2, 33, 49, 282, 284
- market, 285
- marketplaces, 106, 280
- Marsh, Ebenezer, 148, 154, 167–168, 174
- masculinity
 - civility, 32
 - criminal law and social order, 268
 - defamation, 148
 - gentle masculinity, 8, 28, 46, 268
 - politeness and the law, 26, 28–29, 30, 31
 - refinement of Massachusetts, 37–38, 43–45, 46

- masculinity (cont.)
 - sensibility, 76, 95
 - white masculinity, 2, 3, 28, 30, 31
- Massachusetts
 - charters, 39–40
 - criminal procedure, 20–23
 - criminal speech law, 8
 - from sinful to impolite speech, 46–61
 - methodology, 8
 - overview, 1–8
 - politeness and the law, 26, 33–34
 - population, 38
 - refinement of, 35–46
 - Second Charter, 2, 93, 96, 203
 - speech and the law, 17–23
 - speech economy, 6–7, 8
- Massachusetts Provincial Congress, 271
- Mather, Cotton
 - civility, 32
 - credibility, 197, 200, 219, 244
 - defamation and satire, 151–152, 160–162, 166, 174, 177
 - noise, 75
 - profane swearing, 93
 - The Right Way to Shake off a Viper*, 160–162
- May, Samuel, 244
- meaner sort, 53, 59, 176, 177
- meetinghouses, 36, 42–43, 45, 211, 257
- Meinzois, James, 172–173
- Members of the Civil Society, 138
- men
 - civility, 128, 135, 141, 148
 - courts as masculine space, 43–45
 - from sinful to impolite speech, 57–58
 - manhood, 28
 - names, 53
 - perjury, 184
 - profane swearing, 93, 95
- menaces, 80, 89
- mercantilist economy, 40, 54
- merchant elite, 20, 30, 35, 38–39, 40, 41–42
- Merry, Sally, 252
- methodology, 8–17
- middle class, 270, 283, 285
- Middlesex County, 9, 15, 45, 129, 133
- middling sort, 53, 283
- Midwinter, Providence, 107
- midwives, 194, 215, 267
- military, 98–99
- ministers, 20, 32, 36, 93, 155–156, 159, 233
- minutebooks, 16, 100
- misinformation, 282
- moths, 68, 90, 253–255
- Montagu, Admiral, 59
- Moody, Joshua, 105
- Morse, James, 84
- Morse, Reverend Joseph, 160, 163–167
- mumpers
 - credibility, 33, 182, 184, 240–251
 - criminal law and social order, 264, 268–269
 - definition, 33, 182
 - respectability, 276, 284
 - as social type, 246
- music, 67–68, 70
- Nantucket County, 15
- Native Americans, 54, 201
- native peoples, 51–52, 197, 200–202
- Neale, Joseph, 204, 205–207
- “Negroes,” 68, 121, 246
- New England, 7, 50, 187
- Newport, Rhode Island, 236
- news, 230, 231–234, 266–267, 279–281
- news-letters, 233
- newspapers, 177, 232, 233–234, 235, 280–281
- nobility, 55, 229
- noble savage, 200
- noise, 64, 65–79, 96, 118, 274
- nolo contendere*, 23, 82, 83, 114, 122
- non compos mentis*, 171–172
- Norwood, Ebenezer, 274
- Nova Scotia, 39
- Novak, Bill, 26
- novels, 62, 242
- Noyes, Reverend Nicholas, 249
- oath of fidelity and allegiance, 18, 272
- oaths
 - credit, 188, 189–190, 192
 - false swearing and perjury, 218–219, 220–226
 - methodology, 12
 - profane swearing, 3, 92–93, 96, 104, 111, 120, 122
 - speech and the law, 18
- obscene language, 286

Index

319

- occupation, 53, 101–102
- Old, Robert, 85
- Old Bailey, 73
- Oliver, Andrew, 152, 254
- oral communication, 232–233, 280
- oratory, 51, 198–199, 201
- othering, 27–28, 29, 38, 56, 125, 265
- Paine, Robert Treat, 153, 273
- pamphlets, 127, 177
- paper money, 245
- paralinguistic sounds, 71
- Parker, Moses, 63
- Partridge, Edmund, 168
- Partrig, Samuel, 156
- Paster, William, Jr., 88
- paternity, 194, 215, 267
- peace
 - civility, 135, 146
 - politeness and the law, 25
 - politer peace, 35, 44
 - sensibility, 64, 123
 - social order, 135
- Peirce, John, Jr., 218
- Pemberton, Reverend Ebenezer, 57, 67–68
- Peream, George, 107
- periodicals, 20, 34, 35, 52, 57
- periwig, 249
- perjury
 - credibility, 182, 184
 - credit, 185, 186, 190
 - criminal law and social order, 264, 265
 - false reports, 230, 231
 - false swearing and perjury, 216–226
 - lying, 202, 210, 214
 - speech and the law, 17, 19
- pernicious lying, 264
- Perry, James, 206
- petit or petty juries, 22, 237
- Phelps, Charles, 154, 168, 174
- Philips, Reverend George, 156
- piety, 35, 36–37, 257, 278
- pillory, 217
- Pixley, Noah, 202–204
- place, 84–86, 122
- plays, 57–58
- Plymouth Church, 75, 187, 191
- Plymouth County, 16, 106, 119, 142–144, 157, 189, 225
- polite literature, 33, 66
- polite speech, 3, 27, 33–34, 35, 63, 220, 268–269
- politeness
 - criminal law and social order, 257, 263, 268–269
 - mumpers, 240–241, 242, 244–245, 246–247, 248–249, 250
 - overview, 2–4
 - politeness and the law, 23–34
 - politer peace, 36–37, 54–55
 - respectability and speech of citizens, 282, 283, 284, 285
 - speech and the law, 20
- politer peace, 35–61
 - overview, 30, 35
 - refinement of Massachusetts, 35–46
 - from sinful to impolite speech, 46–61
- politics, 39, 280
- Pope, Alexander, 177
 - The Dunciad*, 198
- Porter, John, Jr., 3
- porters, 85, 98, 99
- Postal Act, 280–281
- Poule, Hannah, 159–160
- power, 3, 4, 5, 8, 23, 38, 286
- Powers, Joseph, 218
- pox, 157–158
- preachers, 168–170, 171, 198, 244
- premarital sex, 215
- Prentice, Moses, 71
 - A present for an Apprentice*, 127
- Prescott, Benjamin, 15, 159
- Prescott, Jonas, 15
- presentments, 11, 17, 22, 122
- print culture, 8, 151, 162, 230, 234, 280
- printers, 233
- privacy, 285, 286
- private clubs, 107, 111, 123, 177–178
- profane cursing
 - civility, 138, 140
 - criminal law and social order, 257–258
 - fines, 278
 - methodology, 12
 - politeness and the law, 25
 - speech and the law, 17, 19
 - speech of citizens, 277–279
- profane swearing
 - criminal law and social order, 259–261
 - false swearing and perjury, 224–225, 226
 - politeness and the law, 25, 26–27

- profane swearing (cont.)
 - profane oaths, 189–190
 - respectability, 275–276
 - sensibility, 81, 92–126
- profanity, 19, 49, 59, 60
- pronunciation, 224
- property, 19, 40, 236, 237
- protest, 34, 253, 255
- Protestantism, 42, 189
- public houses, 105
- public spaces, 28, 84, 92, 105–106, 108, 110–111, 263
- punishment, 23, 50, 97
- Puritans
 - civility, 31–32, 144
 - credibility, 32, 193, 241
 - from sinful to impolite speech, 47–49, 51
 - politeness and the law, 30, 31–32, 34
 - refinement of Massachusetts, 36, 37, 40, 42
 - sensibility, 64, 93, 123
 - speech and the law, 19, 20
- Pynchon, William, 15, 157
- Quakers, 16, 18, 52, 171
- Quincy, Colonial Josiah, 138
- Quincy, Josiah, Jr., 253–254
- race, 99, 197–200
- railing, 63, 75–76, 78, 80, 85
- raillery, 31, 78, 111
- rape, 115
- Rathborn, Amos, 274, 275
- Raymond, Dan, 63, 78–79
- records, 8–17, 25, 29, 33, 34
- refinement, 26, 28, 30–31, 35–46, 52
- reformation, 49, 89, 115
- regulation of speech, 7, 34, 286
- religion
 - credit, 188–189
 - from sinful to impolite speech, 47, 48–49, 50
 - refinement of Massachusetts, 35, 41, 42
 - sensibility, 73, 74, 96
- respectability, 270–286
 - overview, 34, 270–271
 - sedition and sensibility, 271–277
 - speech of citizens, 277–286
- Restoration, 50, 52, 202
- Revolution, 7, 34, 53, 270, 272, 276, 277, 279, 280, 281
- Rex v. Hinsdale*, 76–77
- Rex v. Silver*, 199–200
- Rhode Island, 235–236
- Richardson, John, 63
- Richardson, Nathaniel, 63
- right speaking, 20, 63, 123
- Riot Act, 68
- riots, 18, 68–69, 90
- roarers, 136
- Roberts, Mary, 107, 118
- Robinson, Elisha, 71
- Robinson, Increase, 214
- Rochester, 236, 237
- rogues, 241
- Root, Hewit, 173–174
- Rose, Richard, 129, 132
- Ross, James, 84
- rough justice, 178
- routs, 68, 70–71
- Rowe, John, 254–255
- Royal Society, 191
- Royan, William, 141
- rudeness, 3, 68
- rufflers, 136
- Rules for the Society of Negroes*, 197
- rumors, 194, 231, 239
- runaways, 98, 246
- Ryan, Margery, 120, 260
- sailors, 98–99, 102, 103, 118, 120–121, 123
- Salem, 34, 39, 43, 45, 138
- Sampson, 198
- Sands, Doctor, 151–152
- Sanford, John, 205
- satire, 31, 124, 146, 148, 151, 175–179
- savages, 65, 99, 200–202
- scalping, 216–217, 226
- scolds, 18, 141
- Scottish people, 196
- Scriblerians, 248
- Second Charter, 2, 93, 96, 203
- sedition, 19, 271, 273–274
- Sedition Acts, 281
- self, 7, 245
- self-control, 238–239
- self-fashioning, 183, 241
- sense, 62, 123, 124, 126
- sensibility, 62–126

Index

321

- civility, 127
- noise, 65–79
- overview, 62–65
- politeness and the law, 29, 30–31
- profane swearing, 92–126
- threats, 80–92
- sensible speech, 62, 65
- sentencing, 23, 112
- sermons, 34, 71, 93, 169
- servants, 56, 66, 78, 98, 121, 123
- Sewall, Jonathan, 59, 153
- sexual assault, 115
- Shapin, Steven, 191
- Shapiro, Barbara, 191
- Shaw, Samuel, 154
- Shays' Rebellion, 280
- Shelden, Aaron, 63, 173–174
- Shepard, Jeremiah, 74
- Shephard, Nathaniel, 129, 131–132, 179
- Sheridan, Richard
The Rivals, 104, 242
- Shimei, 137
- silence, 68, 69
- Silver, Sarah, 199–200
- sin, 3, 20, 44, 48, 93
- singing, 17, 63, 67–68, 69, 71
- skin color, 197–200
- slander
 - credit, 186
 - defamation and satire, 144–147, 148, 149, 150, 151–154, 156–157, 159, 161–162, 168, 171, 174–175, 176, 180
 - definition, 145
 - determining, 3
- slavery, 65, 99
- smallpox, 158, 234–236
- Smith, Benjamin, 205
- Smith, John, 89
- Smith, Joseph, 202
- Smith, Richard, 71
- Smolenski, John, 5
- Smollett, Tobias, 242
- social hierarchies, 52–54, 60, 64, 65, 98, 102, 286
- social identity, 190–191
- social media, 282
- social order, 8, 44, 60, 61, 180, 257, 283
- social power, 3, 4
- Society for the Reformation of
Manners, 274
- Society of Young Students, 124
- soldiers, 98–99, 102, 120–121
- Solomon, Abraham, 274
- Southworth, Nathaniel, 237
- Southworth, Captain William, 113
- Spectator*, 56, 57, 60, 66, 169, 175, 193, 194, 195
- speech
 - cacophony, 252–269
 - civility, 127–180
 - credibility, 181–251
 - from sinful to impolite speech, 46–61
 - introduction, 1–34
 - methodology, 8–17
 - overview, 1–8
 - politeness and the law, 23–34
 - politer peace, 35–61
 - respectability, 270–286
 - sensibility, 62–126
 - speech and the law, 17–23
- speech economy, 5–6, 8, 63, 113, 281–282
- speech of citizens, 277–286
- Spencer, William, 12
- spirituality, 31, 37
- Spurr, John, 100
- Stamp Act, 152, 253, 254
- statutes, 2, 8, 18, 19, 21, 29, 32–33, 46
- Stebbins, Thomas, 85
- Steele, John, 154
- Steele, Richard, 29, 66, 96, 123, 146, 194, 195–196
- Stertevant, Captain Josiah, 214
- Stertevant, Lemuel, 214
- Stevens, James, 116–117
- Stiles, Reverend Isaac, 137
- stocks, 23, 96, 97, 99, 116, 120, 121, 142–143
- Stratton, Isaac, 12
- Stutson, Elijah, 114
- suborning perjury, 220, 222
- Sudbury, 234
- Suffolk County
 - civility, 130, 143, 155
 - court sessions, 42
 - criminal procedure, 21
 - methodology, 9, 16
 - noise, 79
 - profane swearing, 126
 - Records, 16
 - refinement of Massachusetts, 42, 43, 45
 - sedition, 274

- summons, 9, 11, 22
- sureties, 9, 22, 23
- Swarns, Isaac, 156
- swearing
 - credit, 189–190
 - criminal law and social order, 257–258, 259–261
 - cursing and swearing, 136, 138
 - false swearing and perjury, 224–225, 226
 - joy of, 124–125
 - methodology, 12–13
 - politeness and the law, 25–27
 - profane swearing, 92–126
 - respectability, 275–276, 277–279
 - speech and the law, 19
 - threats, 81
- Sweetser, Wigglesworth, 156, 213
- Swift, Jonathan, 153, 177
- syphilis, 157
- Taft, Isaac, 92, 154
- Taft, Japheth, 92, 154
- Taft, Sarah, 92, 154
- taste, 93, 123, 124
- Tatler*, 33, 56, 57, 58, 96, 104
- taverns
 - methodology, 13
 - newspapers and oral communication, 280
 - noise, 67
 - profane swearing, 97, 106–108, 117–120, 122, 260
 - refinement of Massachusetts, 42–43
 - speech and the law, 17, 22
 - threats, 85
- Taylor, Justice Eldad, 1, 4, 15, 17, 34, 131, 257
- Temple, Abraham, 156
- Temple, Isaac, 211–213
- testimony, 187–188, 190, 194, 218, 221, 223, 263
- theater, 29
- threats, 80–92, 259
- Tilson, Jacob, 141
- time of offense, 84
- tithingmen, 105, 106
- town houses, 45
- Townsend, Penn, 214
- Towsley, Mary, 208–209, 264–265
- Towsley, Michael, 209, 264–265
- trade, 40–41
- transcriptions, 9, 11, 77
- transgressive speech, 7, 17, 19–20, 21, 34, 47–48
- transient persons, 71, 72, 102, 121, 122
- translations, 157–159
- trials, 22–23
- tricksters, 182, 185, 241
- Trowbridge, Edmund, 212
- trust, 182, 185, 196, 219, 221, 223, 225, 226, 251
- truth
 - credibility, 182, 183, 185, 251
 - credit, 196, 200–201
 - false swearing and perjury, 221, 223, 225–226
 - gentlemanliness and truth, 191
 - speech economy and internet, 282
- truthfulness, 32, 186, 191, 192, 193, 225, 227
- Tuesday Club, 177
- uncivil speech, 31, 32
- uncivilized, 64–65
- Underwood, David, 274
- United States of America, 18
- unmanliness, 60
- vagabonds, 38, 240
- Vain, Robert, 239–240
- veracity
 - credibility, 182, 184, 185
 - credit, 186, 187, 193
 - false reports, 232, 233
 - false swearing and perjury, 223, 224, 225–226
- violence
 - defamation and satire, 147, 151–153, 154, 175
 - definition, 80
 - social significance, 86
 - threats, 80, 86–92
- Virgil, 6
- Virginia, 29, 187
- virtue, 30, 54
- vocables, 64, 68–69, 71, 80
- voting behavior, 5
- vulgar speech, 35, 58–61
- vulgarity, 4, 26, 31, 54, 147

Index

323

- Walker, Edward, 132
- Wallingford, John, 218
- war, 34, 270, 271
- Ward, Stephen, 108
- Warden, William, 42
- warrants, 9, 12, 22
- Washburne, Miles, 213
- Waters, Elizabeth, 204–205, 206
- Waters, William, 204–205, 206
- wealth, 38, 41, 54
- weapons, 84–85, 90, 92
- Wetherill, Thomas, 107, 119–120
- Wethrell, Rebecca, 206
- whipping, 23, 97, 99, 120, 121–122, 240, 265
- White, Benjamin, 189
- White, Robert, 15
- white masculinity, 2, 3, 28, 30, 31
- Whitefield, George, 36, 95, 108, 111, 125
- whiteness, 199–200
- Whitman, John, 212
- Whitney, Charles, 87
- whores, 158
- Wiesley, Samuel, 85
- Wight, Aaron, 84
- wilderness, 64–65
- Wilks, Francis, 61
- Willard, Samuel, 190
- Williams, Israel, 11
- Williams, Roger, 47
- Wilson, Mary, 140, 142
- Winslow, Edward, 236–237
- witchcraft, 48, 50, 136, 141, 154
- Witherspoon, John, 275
- witness testimony
 - credit, 187–188, 191–192, 194
 - criminal procedure, 21, 22–23
- false reports, 232
- false swearing and perjury, 218, 222–223, 225
- methodology, 9, 11, 13
- profane swearing, 101
- Wobben, Mary, 84
- Wolland, John, 156, 213
- women
 - civility, 128
 - contempt, 135
 - credit, 192, 193–194, 199–200, 202
 - cursing, 140–141, 262
 - defamation, 147
 - false reports, 267, 276
 - from sinful to impolite speech, 47, 48, 57
- Harvard, 7
- midwife information, 267
- noise, 69–70, 76, 77
- othering, 29
- profane swearing, 93, 95, 102–104, 120, 123, 260
- refinement of Massachusetts, 38, 43–44
- threats, 81, 92
- Wood, Abiel, 115, 189–190, 223–226
- Worcester County, 16, 19, 34, 43, 100, 101, 151
- Wright, James, 218
- Wyman, Jacob, 71
- Yale, 42
- York County, Maine, 16
- Young, William, 110
- Young Men’s Meeting, 124, 260
- Younglove, Titus, 88
- Zuckerman, Michael, 4