UNUSUAL NINETEENTH-CENTURY ENGLISH FICTION:
FROM CHAPBOOKS TO THREE-DECKERS

1. [“A LADY OF RANK”]. The Man of Honour, and The Reclaimed. London: Richard Bentley, New Burlington Street. Successor to Henry Colburn, 1834. 2 vols., large 12mo. Without half-titles (if issued), a little minor spotting at the beginning and end. Contemporary half calf; chafed but sound. $650.00

First edition of these two domestic novellas, by an author whose identity remains uncertain. Garside et al., English Novel 1830-1836, 1834:57, provisionally follows the 1893 Bentley List of the Principal Publications, which assigns authorship to “James Morier, author of ‘Ayesha’ . . . . Hence probably no clue to its authorship appears on the title-page.” David Gilson, in The Book Collector, Vol. XX, p. 531 (1971), discusses the novel and its attribution to Morier, also remarking three quotations from Pride and Prejudice in “The Reclaimed.”

But Garside’s English Novel also notes, unlike Gilson’s article, a contemporary advertisement in The Star: “The Man of Honour and the Reclaimed. By a Lady of Rank.” “Lady of Rank” was also the author given in the list of new publications in Charles Knight’s periodical, The Printing Machine, No. 13, 6 September 1834, p. 16.

Whether Jane Austen was more likely to have been quoted by a female author in 1834 is subject to debate, but additional confirmation of female authorship comes in an apparently straightforward authorial aside on the subject of duelling in “The Man of Honour,” at Vol. I, p. 118:

For many, many reasons, we women have cause to be thankful for our lot; but for none more than that, being women, we are exempted from that fearful, what some would call necessity, others sin, of fighting a duel. Under the influence of this happy exemption, I cannot tell what may be the feelings of those who are on the eve of thus hazard their existence.

Block, English Novel, p. 149 and some library records ascribe the novel to Henry Mackenzie, who edited his Works in 1808 and died in 1831. Eight copies in OCLC (only UCLA in the United States).

ASSIGNATIONS, WHIRLING DERVISHES. . . AND BOOK COLLECTING

2. [ANONYMOUS] - Confessions of an Oxonian. Embellished with thirty-six coloured Plates. London: J.J. Stockdale, Printer, No. 24, Opera Colonnade, 1826. 3 vols., 12mo. Thirty-six hand-coloured engraved plates by J. Findlay, with publisher’s advertisements at the end of Vols. 1 and 2 (see below), the plates printed on variable paper with some browned and a few, extending beyond the untrimmed text, with publisher’s imprints very slightly chipped. Entirely untrimmed and handsomely bound by Philip Dusel in period-style half red morocco, spines gilt. $2,000.00

First edition of a rollicking, very racy, and eminently readable novel, sometimes attributed to Thomas Moore, clearly for no other reason than that the “editor” signs the preface “Thomas Little. Editor of Harriette Wilson’s Memoirs.” The Oxonian’s adventures include an interrupted and nearly fatal post-masquerade moonlit assignation with the scantily-clad daughter of a count, and a spirited protest at an inn in Lichfield when James Boswell is accused of sycophancy: “Boswell really adored Johnson.” In India the Oxonian falls in with a dervish and explores the mysteries of Hinduism, and back in the British Isles he takes up with “a book-collector, that is to say, a bibliomaniac, a Roxburgher out and out”: 
By Heaven! I had forgotten the black letter! O! shrine of Bodley. . . How many an ancient, black-letter Romant, and Tragedie, which I have, in vain, again and again sighed for! There, my young friend, there, he observed, taking, with the most delicate caution, a small, ugly, dirty, square volume, consisting of little more than six pages, there is Robine Hoode’s garlande, printed by Caxton! Oh! what a treasure!

Garside et al., *English Novel*, 1826:52, listing it under “Thomas Little” noting that the work’s “Advertisement” alleges “that the true author died of typhus” - all of which, of course, is certainly fictitious. The name “Thomas Little,” the supposed editor of this book, “occurs,” as a note in the Bodleian Library’s catalogue entry for this book puts it, “several times in the publications of Stockdale and may be a pseudonym of the publisher.” Stockdale was also the publisher of Harriette Wilson’s memoirs, further mentioned in the advertisements at the end of Vol. II. The separately-paginated leaf at the end of Vol. I advertises the exhibition of the “Magnificent National Picture” of Lady Godiva, “fifteen feet by twelve. . . worth myriads of Medicean Venuses.” Not in Summers, *Gothic Bibliography*, or Block, *English Novel*.

3. **[ANONYMOUS]** - The History of William and Nancy; or, The Force of Love. To which is added, the Surprising Story of Charles and Peggy. London: Printed for M. Bassan, No. 6, Punderson’s Place, Bethnal-Green-Road. Price-Sixpence. [circa 1810]. 24pp., 12mo. Engraved frontispiece by R. Newman; tiny hole in the first leaf of text affecting a couple of letters, not the sense. An exceptionally nice copy, entirely untrimmed and stitched in the original blue wrappers, upper cover with title and imprint; backstrip and a small blank piece at the head of the upper wrapper expertly restored.

$375.00
One of several editions of this story; different publishers made up the page count with a variety of shorter tales; here it’s “Charles and Peggy”. The moral of the title-story is clearly stated: “To be unsusceptible of love is to be brutal; society with females ennobles, exalts, and illustrates.” But William doesn’t have an easy time of it. As Nancy grows more beautiful every day, she is repelled by William’s rustic manners. Then, as William becomes more polite and self-assured, she decides to test his affection by encouraging other suitors and rejecting William’s advances. Finally, in despair, William tells Nancy he is resolved to join the army and go to war. Nancy agrees. But William’s uncle, an officer, dissuades him. William returns home and discovers a paper on which Nancy has written of her despair at losing him, calling herself a murderer. “When he came up to her he seized her snowy arm, and she turned towards him with a look that spoke love without dissimulation.”

This edition not found in any of the usual fiction bibliographies. OCLC and JISC/COPAC record four locations: British Library, Bodleian, Cambridge, and Yale.

4. [ANONYMOUS] - Peter Thomson, of Needwood Forest; or, Industry Rewarded. A Cottager’s Tale. Wellington, Salop: Printed by and for F. Houlston and Son, 1824. 76, [2]pp., 18mo. Engraved frontispiece, the first and last blank leaves used as pastedowns. Original printed buff wrappers, title and “Price Eightpence” on upper wrapper, advertisements on the lower; stained with small loss at the extreme outer edge, backstrip missing but stitching intact. $125.00

First edition, on the rewards of honesty and diligence; the story was popular enough to reach a sixth edition in 1837. OCLC and JISC/COPAC locate two copies of this first edition, at the British Library and Florida.

[circa 1810-1820]. [7]-30pp., 12mo, in addition to the hand-colored engraved frontispiece and title-page. A very nice copy, disbound. Small ink notation “Renier” on the blank recto of the frontispiece.$275.00

Apparently the only edition, a tale of seduction and mean-spiritedness, but ending on a happy note with the principal accessory to the treachery repenting and rescuing the heroine from poverty. The hand-colored frontispiece and title are particularly attractive. Not in Block, English Novel, Summers, Gothic Bibliography, or Potter, Gothic Chapbooks; nine locations in OCLC, with most suggesting the publication date 1810, which seems a little too early.

6. [BARBAULD, ANNA LAETITIA, et al.] - The New Prose Repository, containing a Selection of the most Entertaining Pieces. Wrexham: Printed and Sold by J. Painter. Sold also by Crosby and Co. London, [circa 1810]. [iv], [7]-78pp., 18mo. Woodcut title vignette of two small boys embracing, one of them Black, the other White; a few spots and other signs of use, jump in pagination but complete. Disbound. $375.00

Only edition of this provincially-printed mix of anecdotes and gothic fiction, with the “Story of La Roch,” “The Grateful Turk,” and “Sir Bertrand” appearing as the first three, by, respectively, Henry Mackenzie, Thomas Day, and Anna Laetitia Barbauld. The unusual title vignette is apparently unrelated to the volume’s contents, although there is a short passage titled “African Hospitality” on Mungo Park’s kind treatment by African women who sing “Pity the white man, no mother has he.” No copy in OCLC; JISC/COPAC cites one at the Bodleian, suggesting the date 1820; I put it a bit earlier.

7. BEAUCHAMP, HENRY [pseudonym?]. The Interesting Adventures of a Hackney Coach, (as related by the Coachman.). Written by Henry Beauchamp. Containing a great variety of curious Occurences, taken chiefly from the present times. London: Published by S. Hood, 39, Tottenham-Court-Road; and sold by all other Booksellers, 1813. ii, [ii], 154, [2]pp., 12mo. Engraved frontispiece, with a preliminary leaf of errata and a terminal blank leaf; clumsily sewn with the first couple of gatherings detaching, some browning and mild spotting throughout. Later half morocco, spine gilt-lettered. $275.00
First edition, declaredly (in the preface) a continuation of “that ingenious little work, entitled ‘the Adventures of a Hackney Coach,’ published in the year 1781... but perfectly distinct from the former work.” It is full of dramatic incident, beginning with the narrator’s fall from his horse and rescue by the proprietor of an insane asylum. Garside et al., English Novel, 1813:10, locating a copy at the Bodleian; JISC/COPAC adds another at the Museum of London, and OCLC one more at Queen’s University in Canada. An 1815 edition, probably a reissue, is at the British Library.

8. [BOYLE, MARY LOUISA]. The State Prisoner. London: Saunders and Otley, Conduit Street, 1837. 2 vols. large 12mo. With the half-titles, and the leaf of dedication to the author’s mother not always present (see, e.g., the digitised British Library copy); a few leaves partly sprung in Vol. I. Contemporary half calf, spines gilt; spine of Vol. I repaired, Vol. II missing its label.

First edition of the author’s first novel, set in France in the early eighteenth century. The Feminist Companion to Literature in English calls it a “rather wooden historical novel.” Her real talent was in the theatre, and after she met Charles Dickens in 1849 she acted in several of his private theatricals. Later in life she became a friend of Lord Tennyson, who wrote a poem for her. Wolff, Nineteenth-Century Fiction, 621; Block, English Novel, p. 25.

$125.00

9. [CAMERON, LUCY LYTTELTON]. The Two Mothers; or, Memoirs of the Last Century. By the Author of ‘Emma and her Nurse,’ ‘Margaret Whyte,’ &c. &c. Wellington, Salop: Printed by and for F. Houlston and Son, 1824. [iii], 259, [1]pp., large 12mo. Engraved frontispiece, without the half-title. Contemporary half calf; a bit worn with the front free endpaper missing, but a sound and quite fresh copy.

First edition of this unusual novel by Mrs. Cameron. Its larger format, length, and the sophistication of the story and its historical context suggest an intended audience of older children. It is scarcer than Mrs. Cameron’s small-format children’s books. Block, English Novel, p. 33; Wolff, Nineteenth-Century Fiction, 1068.

$100.00

10. COPELAND, CHARLES HENRY, attributed author.
The Life and Singular Adventures of Charles Henry Copeland, Who was, by Birth, Heir to an Immense Property; but being of an eccentric, roving Disposition, he left his native Place, and passed through a Variety of Scenes till he embraced a Seafaring Life: In his first Voyage he suffered Shipwreck, and in the next Captivity; but returning to England he had the Happiness to be reconciled to his Father, and espousing the fair faithful Object of his Affections, with whom he is now settled in splendid Stile in one of the principal squares of the Metropolis. Written by Himself and respectfully dedicated to his Friends. Chatham: Printed by C. and W. Towson, for Langley and Belch, [1808]. [ii], 37, [1]pp., 12mo. Hand-colored engraved frontispiece, the publication date on the title inked out but legible. Disbound, with a small ink notation “Renier” on the blank recto of the frontispiece.

Apparently the only edition, sometimes treated as an autobiography but I agree with the Cambridge University cataloguer: “Apparently fiction.” Most copies seem to show the same inking out of the
publication date, one of which, at Monash University, is pictured and described in its exhibition list:

*Tall Tales and True: Cook and his Contemporaries:*

In this chapbook, the life of Charles Henry Copeland serves as a didactic narrative, warning young men of the dangers of seeking adventure on the seas. Each time he ventures out, he meets with failure, first shipwrecked on his way to Guinea and then taken prisoner by French privateers en route to the Coast of Calabar. He finds happiness and success when he returns home.

OCLC adds six copies in the United States to the Monash record, with JISC/COPAC adding Bodleian and Cambridge.

11. **[CORP, HARRIET].** Cælebs Deceived. By the author of “An Antidote to the Miseries of Human Life,” “Cottage Sketches,” &c. &c. London: Printed for the Author, sold by Baldwin, Cradock & Joy, 1817. 2 vols., large 12mo. Not a prepossessing copy, but entirely untrimmed: without the half-title in Vol. I, which is also missing its upper board. Vol. II with the backstrip chipped but most of the printed paper label intact. $150.00

First edition, reprinted the same year in Philadelphia, after which it vanished, eclipsed by the success of its prototype, Hannah More’s 1808 *Cælebs in Search of a Wife*, which reached a fifteenth edition the same year the present work appeared. Like More’s work, this one had a high moral purpose. Garside et al., *English Novel*, 1817:19; Block, *English Novel*, p. 46. OCLC locates copies at the British Library, Bodleian, Minnesota, and UCLA; JISC/COPAC adds Cambridge.

12. **CORRY, JOHN.** The Preservation of Charles and Isabella, or the Force of Friendship. By John Corry, Author of a Satirical View of London; Original Tales; &c. London: Printed for B. Crosby and Co. [and eight others]. Price Sixpence. [1803]. 36pp., 18mo. Engraved frontispiece by Lundin after [Isaac?] Cruikshank, with imprint “Published by J. Corry, Jany. 1st 1803,” the last two gatherings with signature marks “P” and “Q”; title-page shaved at head affecting “The”, rather soiled and used. Disbound. $75.00

13. [DISRAELI, SARAH and BENJAMIN]. A Year at Hartlebury or The Election. By Cherry and Fair Star. In Two Volumes. London: Saunders and Otley, Conduit Street, 1834. 2 vols., large 12mo. The Vol. I preliminary three leaves and the title-page of Vol. II may have been cancels as they are printed on a smaller sheet, noticeable in this entirely untrimmed copy but which would disappear in trimming for a normal binding. A fine set in the original drab boards; restored with matching paper backstrips and new paper labels. $950.00

First edition. As the summary for a recent scholarly edition (University of Toronto Press, 1983) puts it:
The revelation that a long forgotten novel first published anonymously in 1834 is the work of Benjamin Disraeli and his sister Sarah is an exciting literary event. Newly discovered letters between brother and sister prove without doubt that it was written jointly by them. We do not have to look far for the reason for their secrecy. The vividly described election which forms the centrepiece of the story is clearly based on Disraeli’s recent experiences as an unsuccessful candidate in two elections at High Wycombe. His political career had a long way to go and the last thing he wanted was to jeopardize it by revealing his motives in the past or his hopes for the future.

Perhaps the most literary of recent British Labour Party leaders, Michael Foot, commented “the volume is quite fit to takes its place in the true Disraeli canon and contains many gems which add fresh gleams to the portrait of Disraeli himself.”


14. ETONIAN, An. The Friendly Champions; or, St. Louden Castle: an interesting tale, in which is pourtrayed the Enterprising Adventures of Earls Rowallo and St. Clair, against the Saracens in the Holy Land, under the renowned Prince Edward: with the distinguished marks of favour conferred upon them for their Heroic Exploits; contrasted with the perfidy of Sir Edward Stroma, the Uncle of Rowallo, Who envious of his Friend, the Earl of St. Clair’s better fortune, sought every reason to mar his happiness, by stealing the Children of that Nobleman, and committing many other acts of cruelty. By an Etonian. London: Printed and Sold by J. Bailey, 116, Chancery Lane. Price Sixpence. [circa 1810-1820]. 27, [1]pp., 12mo. Hand-colored engraved frontispiece, publisher’s
advertisements for six “New Pamphlets,” all gothic chapbooks, on the last page. Disbound, with a small ink notation “Renier” on the blank recto of the frontispiece. $250.00

Only edition, with the title-page offering an excellent summary of the tale. Block, *English Novel*, p. 79; also perhaps the title given as “The Friends; or, St. Londen Castle” in Potter, *Gothic Chapbooks*, no. 101. OCLC locates four copies (British Library, Library of Congress, New York Public, and UCLA), of which two offer the date 1812 and the others 1820 and 1821.

15. [FOX, SAMUEL MIDDLETON]. George: A Story In Drab And Scarlet, By the Author of “Our Own Pompeii.” London: David Stott, 370 Oxford Street W., 1890. 3 vols., 8vo. With the half-titles. Original “glazed black linen flecked with white, multiply ruled in dark brown in frame and lettered in scarlet on front and spine” (Wolff); spines dulled. $200.00

First edition, the second and last novel by this author, drawing on his own Quaker background and possibly his experience as a soldier - hence the “drab and scarlet” in the title. Wolff, *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, 2317. Eight locations in OCLC and JISC/COPAC.

**NOT BY DE QUINCEY, AND PROBABLY NOT ABOUT SHELLEY**

16. [GLEIG, GEORGE ROBERT]. The Stranger’s Grave. London: Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, Brown, and Green, Paternoster-Row, 1823. [iii]-vii, [i], 306pp., 12mo. Without the half-title but with a tipped-in errata slip at the end. A very attractive copy in half black morocco over marbled boards, spine gilt, by Philip Dusel. $700.00

First edition, long attributed to Thomas De Quincey and categorically declared by one critic, John Barrell, *The Infection of Thomas De Quincey* (1991), p. 31, to be a roman à clef “in which Edward Stanley... stands for Percy Shelley, and Emily Gordon for Mary Godwin.” But sadly for this exciting notion - and for profit-hungry booksellers - the novel has been persuasively shown, by the recent application of ultraviolet light to a hitherto-illegible letter in the Longman publisher’s archive, to be the work of the miscellaneous writer George Robert Gleig. The novel’s theme of incest was later described by Gleig himself as “repulsive.” Garside et al., *English Novel*, 1823:38, identifying Gleig as the author and noting the proof by Barry Symonds in “The Stranger’s Grave: Laying a De Quinceyan Ghost,” *Charles Lamb Society Bulletin* 83 (July 1993) pp. 105-107. Summers, *Gothic Bibliography*, p. 516 (as anonymous). Virtually all library records in OCLC and JISC/COPAC attribute the novel to Henry Villiers, whose name was added to its title-page in the 1840s.
17. [GREEN, SARAH]. The Private History of the Court of England. In Two Volumes. Ainsi va le Monde. London: Printed for the Author, and sold by B. Crosby & Co. Stationers’ Court, Ludgate-Street, 1808. 2 vols. in one, 12mo. With the half-titles. A very nice copy in near-contemporary, probably Continental, half calf over marbled boards; gilt spine a little rubbed. $400.00

First edition, a thinly-veiled satire on Regency society, and especially the Prince of Wales’s love-life, in the guise of a historical novel. The disguise seems to have fooled the cataloguer of the leading record on OCLC, however, who writes that the novel “deals with the times of Edward IV.” The author’s preface makes the parallel clear: the silly, illiterate stripling, hastily emancipated from the tuition of monkish ignorance . . . is, in this age of improvements, the half-learned, half travelled, trifling coxcomb of rank and fortune; a compound of frivolity and presumption. . . . The late ferocious violator of all the rites of hospitality, who murdered the husband that he might possess the wife. . . is now the smooth-tongued, refined adulterer. Most of the novel’s real characters are obvious. The Feminist Companion to Literature in English notes especially Mary Robinson, who “appears talented, sincere, and oppressed: her husband says ‘if I chuse to SELL you I can, and will.’”

Contemporary reviewers were, on the whole, outraged, with the Critical Review declaring it “a sign of great depravity of manners when such books as that before us are encouraged and multiply,” and that “this is one of the few instances in which we are almost induced to form a wish for new restrictions on the liberty of the press.” Garside et al., English Novel, 1808:49; Summers, Gothic Bibliography, p. 469: “this book was very sharply censured as a scandal novel.”

SUPERNATURAL FICTION

18. [HAMILTON, ALEXANDER]. The Doomed. London: Smith, Elder, and Co., 65, Cornhill, 1832. 3 vols., large 12mo. With the half-titles; a couple of minor marginal repairs and a few spots, but a handsome copy in recent half calf over marbled boards, spines gilt with double morocco labels. $1,200.00

First and only edition, the narrative of a man cursed with immortality. The preface to the novel refers to “the last few years” producing sundry works of fiction founded upon the supposed existence of One who has for centuries slumbered in the grave. . . . The last, and perhaps most beautiful of these fictions is from the pen of an amiable lady, by whom, it is but justice to say, the manuscript of the following pages was never beheld.

It seems a reasonable guess that the author is here referring to Jane Webb’s novel The Mummy, first published in 1827, although he may also be thinking of Mary Shelley’s The Last Man (1826) in his reference to “sundry works of fiction.”

The present novel begins with the narrator’s lament that “thousands of years have passed since first I opened my eyes upon a fair and beautiful land.” His story begins in Nebuchadnezzar’s Babylon and the casting of “Hananiah, and Mishael, and Azariah” into the furnace, where their lives are, of course, preserved. Centuries pass, and the narrator ventures to ancient India, where he falls in love with the beautiful daughter of a Brahmin. She is soon after condemned to be a human sacrifice, but he rescues her and they escape, only for her to die. Then the story moves to the Crusades, where the narrator flees an assassin and is shipwrecked on the shore of an uninhabited paradise. The scene then changes to seventeenth-century Italy, where he meets a party of Scottish travellers
and falls in love again. But he speaks sacrilege and is taken by the Grand Inquisition, survives, escapes to Scotland, and marries, later taking his wife to a warm climate for her health only to have their city destroyed by earthquake. The novel closes with the narrator alone, awaiting his fate.

Garside et al., *English Novel, 1830-1836*, 1832:41, noting the prefatory reference to the “the pen of an amiable lady” but suggesting it may be “part of the fiction.” Block, *English Novel*, p. 95. JISC/COPAC records copies at Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and St. Andrews, to which OCLC adds one more in Australia. This copy was owned by George Locke, bibliographer and proprietor of Ferret Fantasy, and loosely inserted in this copy is his receipt from Foyle’s in Charing Cross Road in 1983. Possibly Mr. Locke commissioned the binding.

19. **HERBSTER, Madame.** *The Cavern of Roseville; or, the Two Sisters. A Tale. Translated from the French of Madame Herbster. By Alexander Jamieson, Author of a Treatise on the Construction of Maps, &c. &c. London: Printed for Law and Whittaker, Ave Maria Lane, Ludgate Street, 1817. vi, 174pp., 18mo. Engraved frontispiece (margins with an old stain). Bound with two John Harris publications for children (Stories selected from the History of Scotland, 1825, and Mary Elizabeth Budden’s Hofer the Tyrolese, 1824) in contemporary half calf; worn with the front endpaper missing. $150.00*

First edition of Jamieson’s translation (a different translation appeared the preceding year) of this tale set during the French Revolution. Block, *English Novel*, p. 102; Summers, Gothic Bibliography, p. 270, noting the source as Mme. Herbster’s *Le Souterrain, ou les Deux Soeurs*. Seven copies in OCLC.


First edition of an uncommon two-volume adventure novel for older children, partly set in South America and with the two brothers assuming early responsibilities as merchants after the death of their extravagant father. It is hard not to see some hints of Mrs. Hofland’s own life: her first husband, a Sheffield merchant, also died young, leaving her virtually penniless.

21. **HUNTER, RACHEL.** Letters from Mrs. Palmerstone to her Daughter; inculcating Morality by Entertaining Narratives. By Mrs. Hunter, of Norwich. London: Printed for W. Robberds, Norwich; and sold by Longman and Rees, Paternoster-Row 1803. 3 vols., 8vo. Apparently issued without half-titles. Contemporary half calf, spines gilt and with the gilt stamp “Balcarres” on the leather of each upper cover; somewhat worn. Engraved bookplates “Bibliotheca Lindesiana” in each volume with a shelf ticket. $700.00

First edition, this copy with a distinguished provenance, of a series of epistolary novellas mostly on domestic themes. Titles include “The Ball; or the History of Miss Crosby,” “The Card-Party; with the History of the Stanley Family,” “The West-Indians,” and “The Pearl Necklace; or the History of Miss Hanway.” The whole is prefaced with an “apology” in the form of “A Dialogue between the Author and His Reader, Mr. Not-at-All.” Rachel Hunter was quite a prolific novelist in the first decade of the nineteenth century, publishing a half-dozen titles including such things as *Lady MacLairn: the Victim of Villany*, and *Letitia: or, The Castle without a Spectre*.

R.W. Chapman suggests that Jane Austen’s reference to “Palmerstone” in a letter dated 24 August 1805 “was perhaps derived” from the present book. Jane Austen is known to have joked with her niece Anna about another of Mrs. Hunter’s novels (see. e.g. Chapman, ed. Letters, pp. 406 and note, and Le Faye, ed. Letters, pp. 407-408).

Block, *English Novel*, p. 116; Summers, *Gothic Bibliography*, p. 74; not in Garside et al., *English Novel*, which seems to have excluded almost anything with “Letters” featured in the title. The Bibliotheca Lindesiana, assembled by Alexander William and James Lodovic, respectively the 25th and 26th Earl of Crawford and 8th and 9th Earl of Balcarres, was arguably the most distinguished private library formed in the nineteenth century.

WITH AN AUTOGRAPH LETTER

22. **JAMESON, ANNA BROWNELL.** Visits and Sketches at Home and Abroad with Tales and Miscellanies Now First Collected, and a New Edition of the “Diary of an Ennuyée.” London: Saunders and Otley, Conduit Street, 1834. 4 vols., large 12mo. Engraved frontispiece in Vol. I and an engraved illustration on the first text leaf of each volume. An attractive set in contemporary half green calf, spines gilt. Loosely inserted is an undated autograph letter signed, 4pp., 18mo (5¼ x 3½ inches), to “Dear Miss Twining.” $400.00

First collected edition, with a revised text of her one significant piece of fiction, the “Diary of an Ennuyée” in which, as the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* puts it, “the melodramatic plot of a heroine dying for love is completely submerged by the same heroine’s vibrant, humorous descriptions of travel and art in Italy.”

The autograph letter is illustrative of what the *ODNB* calls the author’s “peripatetic life, residing at various addresses with friends and relations”: “I am in London for a few days having left Ealing as a residence & transferred my household gods (or rather goddesses) to Brighton. . . .”
23. [JAMESON, ROBERT]. A Trip to London; or, the Humours of a Berwick Smack. Interspersed with Topographical Notices. Edinburgh: Printed by Michael Anderson, for T. Underwood, and John Anderson, London; and Macredie, Skelly, and Muckersy, 52, Princes Street, Edinburgh, 1815. x, 241, [1]pp., 12mo. Slightly clumsy archival tape repair to pp. 47-48, with no text or paper lost, toning, some minor stains and signs of use, but an untrimmed copy in later half calf, spine gilt; covers chafed. $150.00

Presentation copy to the translator’s patron

24. [LE GRICE, CHARLES VALENTINE]. Daphnis and Chloe a Pastoral Novel Now First Selectly Translated into English from the Original Greek of Longus. [Penzance: Printed for the Editor, by T. Vigers]. Sold by Vernor and Hood, Poultry; and B. Crosby and Co. . . London, 1803. [iii], 265, [1]pp., 12mo. Imprint from the title cut away with the London sellers and the date mounted as a colophon at the foot of p. 265, printed on an unusually fine paper with an inserted autograph letter from the translator and a note on the verso of the title by the recipient. Contemporary diced calf gilt; worn with the upper cover detaching. Engraved bookplate of Davies Gilbert “of Tredrea, Cornwall & East Bourn, Sussex” on the front pastedown. $750.00

First and apparently only edition, by the school-friend of Coleridge and Lamb. Le Grice published some occasional poems, including “On Charles Lamb Leading his Sister to the Asylum,” and “In Reminiscence of the Poet Coleridge.” He was known for his humor both at school and at Cambridge; when he left for the West Country to take a job as a tutor in 1799, Lamb wrote to Coleridge that “Le Grice has gone to make puns in Cornwall.”

Le Grice spent the rest of his life there. Early on he made the acquaintance of a local squire named Davies Giddy (Giddy later changed his surname to Gilbert), to whom this copy was presented. It appears that Le Grice had this copy specially bound with its title-page altered (and its Penzance printer’s name eliminated) to suggest some kind of private printing. The autograph letter from Le Grice to Giddy/Gilbert, bound into the present volume after the printed dedication to the poet Robert Bloomfield, reads, in part:

As you first introduced Longus to me, I have sent him to pay his first visit to you in his new dress, which I have endeavoured to make in the modern fashion, but not so much in the extreme of the Mode as to hide the contour of his figure. . . .

Davies Giddy changed his name to Davies Gilbert in 1817 and has signed his note on the verso of the title-page with the latter name. In this note he acknowledges his lending Le Grice the latter’s source for the present translation: “I lent to Mr. Le Grice the edition of Longus by M. Villoisin 1 vol. 8o. Paris 1778 and in about Jan received it back with this translation. . . . Mr Le Grice has completely purified his translation. . . .” Davies Gilbert was a distinguished scientist, a correspondent of Charles Babbage and others, and an inventor in his own right.
25. [LOVER, SAMUEL, et al.]. The Pleasing Story Teller, being a selection of Humorous and Diverting Stories, from the most Popular Authors. Halifax: Printed for H. Pohlman, by R. Aked, Keighley, 1839. vi, 382pp., 24mo (4¾ x 3¼ inches). Woodcut frontispiece and title vignette. A very nice copy in the original purple cloth (faded), pictorially gilt spine with title “Tales and Stories of Ireland.” Contemporary inscription “Margaret & Alice Colley” on title-page. $225.00

Apparently the only edition of this collection which, in spite of its bland title-page, is promoted on the spine with the more accurate “Tales and Stories of Ireland.” All of the stories are on Irish subjects, beginning with Samuel Lover’s “Light Hearts and Light Heels.” At least one other is by William Carleton, and others, anonymous, are taken from various periodicals. OCLC and JISC/COPAC record two copies, at the British Library and University of Chicago.


First edition, a series of stories for children interspersed with lessons on biology, and particularly entomology. The author was Irish and a friend of Charlotte Elizabeth Tonna; the full title of the second book mentioned on the title-page of this one is The Protestant Rector; or, a Tale of Other Times in Ireland. For the present book, see Block, English Novel, p. 154, and Loeber and Loeber, Irish Fiction, M299. OCLC locates two copies (Princeton and UCLA) outside the British Isles.


First edition, one of the author’s last novels, and with a decidedy strange turn in the novella “Sea Maidens” which features a mermaid changeling and her “earth sister.” Not in Sadleir or Wolff’s *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, and with OCLC locating five copies in the United Kingdom but none in North America.

29. **ROBINSON, FREDERICK WILLIAM.** Poor Zeph and Other Tales. By F.W. Robinson Author of “Grandmother’s Money” &c. &c. In Three Volumes. London: Hurst and Blackett, Publishers, 13, Great Marlborough Street, 1880. 3 vols., 8vo. With the half-titles. Original green cloth blocked in black and gilt; inner hinges partly cracked and with slight wear to the spine ends. $250.00


First edition, a wildly gothic novel ending with the poisoning of the heroine and suicide of her lover; the translator notes that the Chevalier de St. Aubigné did not, as planned, publish the French original. Little is known about John Byerley, whom Wikisource describes as “Yorkshire poet, translator and engineer.” Clearly he had some facility with languages, as he also translated “from the original Italian” Machiavelli’s *The Prince* in 1810. Garside et al., *English Novel*, 1803:63 (noting “French original not discovered”); Summers, *Gothic Bibliography*, p. 269, getting the date wrong. Both JISC/COPAC and OCLC locate only a single copy, at the British Library.


32. Taylor, Jefferys [and Jane]. *Harry’s Holiday; or, the Doings of One who had Nothing to Do*. London: Printed for Rest Fenner, 1818. vi, 142, [2]pp., 18mo. Engraved frontispiece of an old pedlar outside Harry’s window, possibly by Jefferys Taylor, with a leaf of publisher’s advertisements at end. Original red roan-backed marbled boards; a bit worn and with a small stain on the upper cover.


33. [Tobin, John] - *The Curfew; or, the Castle of Baron de Tracy*. On which is founded the Popular Play Performed with Unbounded Applause at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane. London: Printed for T. and R. Hughes, 35, Ludgate-Hill, Corner of Stationers-
First and only edition. John Tobin’s play was written circa 1800 but, like his other plays, was rejected by the theatre proprietors, only to be rescued and performed after the playwright’s death in 1804. The play was a tragi-comedy set in feudal times, and it opened at Drury Lane on 19 February 1807. Richard Brinsley Sheridan, the proprietor of the theatre, mean-spiritedly closed the run after twenty nights in order to avoid providing a benefit performance for Tobin’s family. This chapbook version of the story must have been rushed into print: it was published while the play was still being performed. Potter, Gothic Chapbooks, no. 80; not in Block, English Novel, or Summers, Gothic Bibliography. Five copies in OCLC: Bodleian, British Library, Temple, Virginia, and Yale.

HORSE-RACING

34. [TWISDEN, Mr., and possibly Charles Ollier]. The Turf. A Satirical Novel. London: Henry Colburn and Richard Bentley, New Burlington Street, 1831. 2 vols., 8vo. Half-title in Vol. I, none issued for Vol. II, with an initial four-page catalogue for the publishers Whittaker, Treacher in Vol. I, and four pages of advertisements for Colburn and Bentley at the end of Vol. II; with some surprisingly heavy foxing to three gatherings in Vol. I, clearly some fluke of the paper production, as the remaining leaves in both volumes are fresh and clean. Withal a fine copy, untrimmed in the original grey boards, printed paper spine labels. Ticket of J.W. Richardson, Bookseller in Bristol, in both volumes. $450.00

First edition. The New Monthly Magazine, whose proprietors also published the novel, offered a less-than-impartial review in Vol. 33 (March 1, 1831), p. 116: This novel... holds out a beacon to warn and scare the fashionable adventurer from the sunken rocks and treacherous whirlpools of that great sea of iniquity - Newmarket.... That species of low life, which is generally denominated high life, in England and in France, is described by the pen of one who has evidently “sipped of its sweets,” if he have not drunk deeply of its poison. Lords and blacklegs, ladies and demireps, are mingled together in its pages, in some of the portraits we can trace a resemblance, striking if not flattering, to individuals who have been known, and are now not altogether forgotten.... The youth who is but stepping on the threshold of vice, and the veteran who has grown familiar with her face, will do well to peruse these volumes. Garside and Mandell, English Novel, 1830-1836, 1831:10: “BP [i.e. the Bentley Papers] notes: ‘The Author of this work was a son of Sir Robert Twisden. Some additions were made by Mr. [?Charles] Ollier.’” Block, English Novel, p. 241.
35. **[WATKINS, JOHN]**. Scarborough Tales. By a Visitant. London: Published by Longman and Co. . . and C.R. Todd, Terrace, Scarborough, 1830. [xii], 300pp., sm. 8vo. Original cloth; spine ends worn and paper label (including the author’s name and “Price 4s.”) slightly chipped. $125.00

First and only edition, printed in Whitby and dedicated to Francis Wrangham. Stories include a couple of historical ones, “Passages in George Fox’s Imprisonment in Scarborough Castle” and “A Legend of Paul Jones” (this including the battle with the Serapis), and also “Scarborough Warning; or, A Word and a Blow, but the Blow first,” “The Last Mayor,” and “Robin Lyth’s Hole.” Garside et al., English Novel, 1830-1836, 1830:107; not in Block, English Novel. OCLC records seven copies, including Penn, Stanford, UCLA, and Yale in the United States.

36. **[WEST, JANE]**. The Infidel Father; by the Author of “A Tale of the Times,” “A Gossip’s Story,” &c. In Three Volumes. London: Printed by A. Strahan, Printers-Street, for T. N. Longman, and O. Rees, Paternoster-Row, 1802. 3 vols., 12mo. Without the half-titles, but with three pages of publishers’ advertisements at the end of Vol. II. Contemporary sprinkled calf gilt, double morocco labels on spines; a couple of short splits to the joints, but a sound and attractive set. Early signatures on titles of “Christina Anderson St. Germains” (St. Germains is a Georgian house in East Lothian), and the later bookplates of Eleanor Holmes Hinkley (see below). $575.00

First edition, a novel which one recent scholar has described as a “re-education of masculine norms” (Megan A. Woodworth, Eighteenth-Century Women Writers and the Gentleman’s Liberation Movement, 2016). The infidel father is the scheming and caddish Lord Glanville, whose seductions and illegal marriages are ultimately exposed, and who throughout is contrasted with a hero who is, as Woodworth puts it, “less performative and more informed by genuine feeling and goodness.” Garside et al., English Novel, 1802:60; Summers, Gothic Bibliography, p. 365; Block, English Novel, p. 250; Wolff, Nineteenth-Century Fiction, 7111. Eleanor Holmes Hinkley was first cousin to T.S. Eliot and author of plays including Dear Jane, an adaptation of Jane Austen’s life, and Mrs. Aphra Behn.


**THE RARE PARIS EDITION, “PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORESS”**

38. **WILSON, HARRIETTE.** *London Tigers and Paris Lions.* Paris: Published by the Authoress, No. 111, rue de Faubourg St.-Honoré, 1825. [iv], 299, [1]pp., 12mo. With the half-title, the colophon on verso identifying the printer as Anthelme Boucher; short marginal tear to pp. 145-146, outer margin of pp. 189-190 ragged from careless opening, some minor spotting. Still a nice copy in contemporary marbled boards, leather spine label; a little surface chipping of the marble paper covering. Small nineteenth-century purple ownership stamp of Antonie Baumann on front free endpaper. $2,000.00

First Paris edition, following the London edition printed by J.J. Stockdale the same year which appeared under the title *Paris Lions and London Tigers*. Comparison of the present version with Stockdale’s London editions shows that Harriette Wilson revised, improved and tightened the text in a number of places.

The novel was written while Harriette Wilson lived in Paris (the address in the imprint is genuine), and although she said she “drew on her imagination for her modern romance” the London publisher supplied a key to the characters not included in this edition, nor is Stockdale’s “Advertisement by the Editor.” This Paris edition, unlike the London, is dated at the end July 9, 1825.

The novel itself jumps from English to French, back and forth, and is replete with love-affairs between English country squires and their servants, various aristocrats and their minions, and a young would-be actor and a somewhat unappetizing French leading lady named Elvira, whom the young man espies with

some soiled linen, a pair of slovenly pantoufles, and something else too, was visible near the bed; - we won’t say what.

As to the fair Elvira, she was wrapped up in a faded, yellow, figured satin douillette, or wadded pelisse... She was slip-shod, and, apparently, without garters, and, her nails very dirty, yet nevertheless, wore many rings... No matter, Elvira was rather a fine woman, and Peter was a very raw, inexperienced youth. They were tête-à-tête, and the smiles of the actress were encouraging! My readers must guess the rest * * * * * ...

This Paris edition is very rare, with OCLC recording the Princeton and UCLA copies together with two in Europe; JISC/COPAC adds no more. The apparent absence of any copy in the United Kingdom may be the reason that the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* entry on Harriette Wilson doubts her authorship of this work, stating that she was “reputedly the author of *Paris Lions and London Tigers* (1825), although this is unlikely.” A revised text issued from the authoress’s own address in Paris seems to put any such doubts to rest.

39. **[WOLSELEY, Sir GARNET?].** Corrafin. By the Author of “Marley Castle.” London: Tinsley Brothers, 8, Catherine Street, W.C., 1878. 2 vols. in one, 8vo. With the half-titles. Original blind-stamped rust cloth; a little worn and shaken. Signature “William Wylde” on the verso of the front free endpaper. $175.00

First edition, in a publisher’s remainder binding. Sir Garnet Wolseley, the distinguished general and friend of, among others, Henry James, is credited...
with having “edited” *Marley Castle*. Clearly the author of the present book, the stories of military officers set in Limerick, had detailed knowledge of military life. Loeber and Loeber, *Irish Fiction*, Anon. 299; not in Sadleir or Wolff’s *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*; eight copies in OCLC and JISC/COPAC, of which two (Notre Dame and Chapel Hill) are in the United States.

40. **WYE, JAY, probable pseudonym.** Adam and Eve’s Courtship; or, How to Write a Novel. London: Samuel Tinsley, 10, Southampton Street, Strand, 1877. [ii], 372pp., 8vo. A little spotting at beginning and end, but an unusually nice copy in the original blind-patterned green cloth, spine gilt.

First and only edition, surely by a pseudonymous author, and an odd, rambling novel. It probably got its just deserts in a contemporary review in the July 21, 1877 *National Graphic*:

“People who may not happen to come across this novel need not be apprehensive that they have thereby missed a pleasure. “Jay Wye” thinks it possible that ill-natured critics may even find fault with his grammar. With such sentences before us as “When gentlemen commence chess us poor ladies are entirely forgotten,” and “Dear me! how carefully one ought to confine oneself to their subject,” we should think this very probable.

Not in Sadleir or Wolff’s *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*; seven locations in OCLC and JISC/COPAC, of which two (Stanford and Texas) are in the United States.