This new edition of The Cambridge Companion to British Romanticism has been fully revised and updated and includes two wholly new essays, one on recent developments in the field and one on the rapidly expanding publishing industry of this period. It also features a comprehensive chronology and a fully up-to-date guide to further reading. For the past decade and more the Companion has been a much-admired and widely used account of the phenomenon of British Romanticism that has inspired students to look at Romantic literature from a variety of critical angles and approaches. In this new incarnation, the volume will continue to be a standard guide for students of Romantic literature and its contexts.

Stuart Curran is Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Pennsylvania.

A complete list of books in the series is at the back of this book.
THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
BRITISH ROMANTICISM

EDITED BY
STUART CURRAN
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The forty years in Great Britain from 1785 to 1825, the period generally construed as the age of Romanticism, saw a crucial transition between an Enlightenment world view and the values of modern, industrial society. So different to a contemporary apprehension are those two cultures that we might resort to Shelley’s claims for Dante, as a “bridge thrown over the stream of time, which unites the modern and ancient world,” to characterize this age that spanned them. It was a turbulent period at whose center lies the longest experience of warfare – twenty-two years – in modern history, warfare conducted on a world scale. Although the counterrevolutionary and Napoleonic wars were all too real, leaving Europe exhausted and (except for Great Britain) bankrupt, they might stand as well as a metaphor for an age of conflict, stress, and tumult.

There was a day when scholars of the literature of this period sought for safe categories to resolve its instabilities, even when, like Arthur Lovejoy, they had to resort to a patent stretching of terms that would allow for conjoining “Romanticisms” rather than rely on a singular definition for the age. But as the currents of traditional literary criticism and scholarship in recent years have drawn increasing sophistication from new philosophical and historical inquiries, the problem of contemporary definition has been exacerbated – or perhaps rendered obsolete. The convenient labels by which critics sought to untrouble the roiling waters of actuality have grown more and more irrelevant to the true historical situation, or (which is to say much the same thing) they have seemed rather a falsification than an explanation of the nature of the age.

The present volume affords an opportunity not for a consolidation of outmoded categories but for a reassessment, a rethinking, of essential terms. If the aesthetics and history of the time reveal a similar preoccupation with process rather than completion, with skeptical explorations over dogmatic assurances, of multivalent instead with unitary modes of thought, then it follows that a criticism representing the main concerns of the age needs to be
conducted along dialectical lines that honor rather than resolve into simple formulas the tensions responsible for its dynamic energies. This volume is a collaborative effort of an international panel of distinguished scholars who have sought to give English-speaking students, whatever their culture or level of training, coherent access to the historical roots, the intellectual ferment, and the cultural range of the Romantic age without sacrificing its diversity and even its salutary contradictions. At the intersection of competing philosophical traditions, of political and class divisions, of emergent gender distinctions, of high and low and sacred and profane cultures, of battles of the books (prose and poetry, fiction and history), and contested claims among the arts, the literature of this age – the incomparable literature of Romanticism – reflects the tensions that attend and often empower its creation. The authors recognize that this book will most often be turned to by students of the six great poets who dominate the modern canon (Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, and Keats); but they are also well aware that in recent decades newer voices, novelists and women authors particularly, have increasingly resonated in our classrooms as in our historical perspective. By giving space to those other voices the volume at once testifies to the literary riches of the age and encourages readers to explore them further on their own. In this second edition many essays have been revised to accord with new criticism and scholarship, and we add an introductory essay by Jerrold Hogle that establishes the trajectory of those recent critical shifts in cultural apprehension, as well as another, by Stephen Behrendt, that examines the many and diverse imperatives relating to class, gender, and regional values that drove the vibrant publishing industry in this period.
CHRONOLOGY

1749  b. Charlotte Turner, later Smith (May 4)
1752  b. Frances Burney (June 17)
1756  b. William Godwin (March 3)
1757  b. William Blake (November 28)
1758  b. Mary Darby, later Robinson (November 27)
1759  b. Robert Burns (January 25); b. Mary Wollstonecraft (April 27)
1760  George III crowned King of England
1762  b. Helen Maria Williams
1764  b. Ann Ward, later Radcliffe (July 9)
1768  Royal Society founded; b. Maria Edgeworth (January 1)
1770  b. Ludwig van Beethoven (December 16); b. Georg Friedrich Hegel (August 27); b. James Hogg (bap. December 9); b. William Wordsworth (April 7)
1771  b. Walter Scott (August 15)
1772  b. Samuel Taylor Coleridge (October 21); b. David Ricardo (April 19)
1773  Muzio Clementi settles in London; b. Francis Jeffrey (October 23)
1774  b. Robert Southey (August 15)
1775  Goethe, The Sorrows of Young Werther
1776  b. Jane Austen (December 16); b. Charles Lamb (February 10); b. Walter Savage Landor (January 30); b. Matthew G. (“Monk”) Lewis (July 9); b. Joseph Mallord William Turner (April 23)
1777  Declaration of Independence of American colonies; b. John Constable (June 11); b. E. T. A. Hoffman (January 24); b. Sydney Owenson, later Lady Morgan (December 25); d. David Hume Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations
1778  b. Thomas Campbell (July 27)
1779  b. Humphrey Davy (December 17); b. William Hazlitt (April 10); d. Jean Jacques Rousseau
1779  b. Thomas Moore (May 28); d. David Garrick
1781  Surrender of General Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia; Herschel discovers the planet Uranus
Samuel Johnson, completion of Lives of the English Poets
Immanuel Kant, Critique of Pure Reason
Thomas Warton, final (third) volume, A History of English Poetry

1782  James Watt patents steam engine capable of motive power
Frances Burney, Cecilia

1783  William Pitt Prime Minister; Peace of Versailles recognizes independence of the United States; b. Marie Henri Beyle (Stendhal) (January 23); b. Washington Irving (April 3); b. Jane Taylor (September 23)
William Blake, Poetical Sketches
Hannah Cowley, A Bold Stroke for a Husband
George Crabbe, The Village
Catherine Macauley, final (eighth) volume, A History of England, from the Accession of James I to That of the Brunswick Line

1784  b. James Henry Leigh Hunt (October 19); d. Samuel Johnson
Charlotte Smith, Elegiac Sonnets, and Other Essays

1785  b. Thomas De Quincey (August 15); b. Alessandro Manzoni (March 7); b. Thomas Love Peacock (October 18)
William Cowper, The Task

1786  b. Carl Maria von Weber (November 18); d. Frederick the Great
Robert Burns, Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect
Helen Maria Williams, Poems, in Two Volumes

1787  Constitution of the United States of America ratified; b. Mary Russell Mitford (December 16)

1788  Mental illness of George III; penal colony founded at Botany Bay, Australia; Warren Hastings, Governor General of India, impeached in the House of Commons; b. George Gordon Byron, later Lord Byron (January 22); d. Thomas Gainsborough
Jeremy Bentham, An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation
Edward Gibbon, final volume of The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire
Immanuel Kant, Critique of Practical Reason
Charlotte Smith, Emmeline, or, The Orphan of the Castle

1789  Convening of the Three Estates in France; storming of the Bastille (July 14); National Assembly adopts the Declaration of the Rights of Man (August); b. James Fenimore Cooper (September 15)
William Blake, The Book of Thel, Songs of Innocence
Erasmus Darwin, The Loves of the Plants
Chronology

Charlotte Smith, *Ethelinde, or The Recluse of the Lake*

1790  
- b. Alphonse Lamartine (October 21); d. Adam Smith; d. Thomas Warton, Henry James Pye named to succeed him as poet laureate  
- Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*  
- Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Judgement*  
- Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Man*

1791  
- Joseph Priestley’s house and library burned by “Church-and-King” mob in Birmingham; Louis XVI, attempting to flee France, is captured; Wordsworth travels to France; Haydn in London at invitation of Johann Peter Salomon (returns 1793–4); b. Michael Faraday (September 22); d. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
- Anna Laetitia Barbauld, *An Epistle to William Wilberforce*  
- James Boswell, *Life of Johnson*  
- Isaac D’Israeli, *Curiosities of Literature*, vol. 1  
- Elizabeth Inchbald, *A Simple Story*  
- James Mackintosh, *Vindiciæ Gallicæ*  
- Thomas Paine, *The Rights of Man*, part 1

1792  
- Austro-Prussian invasion of France; royal family imprisoned; September Massacres; abolition of French monarchy, France declares itself a republic; British victorious over Tipu Sultan in Mysore, India; b. Percy Bysshe Shelley (August 4); d. Joshua Reynolds  
- Thomas Holcroft, *Anna St. Ives*  
- Mary Robinson, *Vancenza, or, The Dangers of Credulity*  
- Samuel Rogers, *The Pleasures of Memory*  
- Charlotte Smith, *Celestina*  
- Helen Maria Williams, first volumes of *Letters from France*  
- Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*

1793  
- Execution of Louis XVI; England and France declare war; Jean-Paul Marat assassinated; Robespierre becomes director of the Committee of Public Safety, “Terror” in Paris; execution of Marie Antoinette; treason trials against “Jacobins” in Scotland; Lorenzo Da Ponte appointed Poet of King’s Opera, London; b. John Clare (July 13); b. Felicia Dorothea Browne (later Hemans) (September 23)  
- William Blake, *America, Marriage of Heaven and Hell, Visions of the Daughters of Albion*  
- William Godwin, *An Enquiry Concerning Political Justice*
Chronology

Hannah More, Village Politics
Charlotte Smith, The Emigrants, The Old Manor House
Dugald Stewart, Outlines of Moral Philosophy
William Wordsworth, Descriptive Sketches, An Evening Walk

1794
Execution of Danton; arrest and execution of Robespierre; formation of French Directorate; habeas corpus suspended in England; state trials of leaders of London Corresponding Society end in acquittal; d. Edward Gibbon
William Blake, The First Book of Urizen, Europe, Songs of Innocence and of Experience
Johann Gottlieb Fichte, Whole Theory of Knowledge (Wissenschaftslehre)
William Godwin, Things as They Are, or the Adventures of Caleb Williams
Thomas Paine, The Age of Reason, part I
William Paley, Evidences of Christianity
Ann Radcliffe, The Mysteries of Udolpho
Mary Robinson, Poems
Charlotte Smith, The Wanderings of Warwick, The Banished Man

1795
Two Acts, prohibiting seditious meetings and treasonable conspiracy; Warren Hastings acquitted; England seizes Dutch possessions – Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, and Indonesian islands; army of Napoleon in Italy; b. Thomas Carlyle (December 4); b. John Keats (October 31); d. James Boswell
William Blake, The Book of Ahania, The Book of Los, The Song of Los
Hannah More, first Cheap Repository Tracts
Thomas Paine, The Age of Reason, part II
Charlotte Smith, Montalbert

1796
Spain changes allegiance, aligning with France against England; France threatens invasion; first exhibition of oil paintings by J. M. W. Turner; d. Robert Burns
Monthly Magazine founded
Robert Bage, Hermsprong
Edmund Burke, Letter to a Noble Lord, Letters on a Regicide Peace
Frances Burney, Camilla
Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Poems on Various Subjects
Mary Hays, Memoirs of Emma Courtney
Elizabeth Inchbald, Nature and Art
Matthew G. Lewis, The Monk, a Romance
CHRONOLOGY

Mary Robinson, Sappho and Phaon: In a Series of Legitimate Sonnets
Robert Southey, Joan of Arc
Charlotte Smith, Marchmont

1797 British naval mutinies; Franco-Austrian Treaty of Campo Formio establishes Ligurian and Cisalpine Republics but cedes historic Republic of Venice to Austria; b. Franz Schubert (January 31); d. Edmund Burke; b. Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin (August 30); d. Mary Wollstonecraft (September 10)
Anti-Jacobin Review founded
Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Poems, second edition
Harriet, with Sophia, Lee, The Canterbury Tales (1805)
Ann Radcliffe, The Italian
Mary Robinson, Walsingham, or, The Pupil of Nature
Charlotte Smith, Elegiac Sonnets, and Other Poems, 2 volumes
Robert Southey, Poems, vol. 1
Jane West, A Gossip’s Story

1798 Wolf Tone rebellion in Ireland put down; France invades Egypt, fleet destroyed by Nelson in Battle of the Nile; b. Giacomo Leopardi (June 29)
Joanna Baillie, A Series of Plays … [on] the Passions, vol. 1
Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Fears in Solitude … [with] France, an Ode; and Frost at Midnight
Maria and Richard Lovell Edgeworth, Practical Education
William Godwin, Memoirs of the Author of A Vindication of the Rights of Woman; ed. Posthumous Works by [Mary Wollstonecraft]
Elizabeth Inchbald (after Kotzebue), Lovers’ Vows
Walter Savage Landor, Gebir
Matthew G. Lewis, The Castle Spectre
Thomas Malthus, Principles of Population
Mary Robinson, Thoughts on the Condition of Women, and on the Injustice of Mental Subordination
Charlotte Smith, The Young Philosopher
William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Lyrical Ballads

1799 Coup d’état of Eighteenth Brumaire, Napoleon becomes First Consul; London Corresponding Society banned; Six Acts against radical activities; publisher Joseph Johnson imprisoned on charge of seditious libel; b. Honoré de Balzac (May 20); b. Eugène Delacroix (April 26); b. Aleksandr Pushkin (June 6); d. George Washington Thomas Campbell, The Pleasures of Hope
William Godwin, *St. Leon*
Mungo Park, *Travels in the Interior of Africa*
Mary Robinson, *The False Friend, The Natural Daughter*
Anna Seward, *Original Sonnets on Various Subjects*
Robert Southey, *Poems*, vol. ii
Jane West, *A Tale of the Times*  
(Wordsworth, two-book *Prelude*)

1800 Abortive French landing in Ireland; battles of Alexandria, Hohenlinden, Marengo; Malta seized by Britain; Alessandro Volta produces electrochemical generator; b. Thomas Babington Macaulay (October 25); d. William Cowper; d. Mary Robinson
Robert Bloomfield, *The Farmer's Boy*
Joseph Cottle, *Alfred*
Maria Edgeworth, *Castle Rackrent*
Thomas Moore trans., *Odes of Anacreon*
Mary Robinson, *Lyrical Tales*
William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Lyrical Ballads*, 2 volumes

1801 Act of Union with Ireland (January 1); Pitt government falls over Catholic Emancipation; Henry Addington becomes Prime Minister; Britain annexes Ceylon
Maria Edgeworth, *Belinda, Moral Tales for Young People*
James Hogg, *Scottish Pastorals*
Leigh Hunt, *Juvenilia; or, a Collection of Poems*
Matthew G. Lewis, *Tales of Wonder*
Thomas Moore, *Poems of the Late Thomas Little*
Amelia Opie, *Father and Daughter*
Robert Southey, *Thalaba the Destroyer*

1802 Peace of Amiens (March 25, 1802–May 18, 1803) celebrated with gas lighting in Soho; John Field, “the Irish Chopin,” emigrates to Russia; Napoleon named Consul for life; b. Victor Hugo (February 26); b. Letitia Elizabeth Landon (August 14)
William Cobbett’s *Weekly Political Register, Edinburgh Review* founded
Sir Humphrey Davy, *Discourse Introductory to a Course of Lectures on Chemistry*
Amelia Opie, *Poems*
1803  War resumed with France; British capture Delhi, India; British army adopts Captain Henry Shrapnel’s timed bomb filled with shot; Robert Fulton demonstrates working steamship on the Seine, but cannot secure financing; France sells Louisiana Territory to the United States; Irish patriot Robert Emmet executed; b. Hector Berlioz (December 11); d. Vittorio Alfieri
Erasmus Darwin, *The Temple of Nature*
William Hayley, *Life and Posthumous Writings of William Cowper*
Jane Porter, *Thaddeus of Warsaw*

1804  William Pitt returns as Prime Minister; renewed illness of George III; Napoleon crowned hereditary emperor; Britain declares war on Spain; b. Amadine Dupin (George Sand) (July 1); d. Immanuel Kant
Maria Edgeworth, *Popular Tales, The Modern Griselda*
Matthew G. Lewis, *The Bravo of Venice*
Amelia Opie, *Adeline Mowbray, or, The Mother and Daughter*

1805  British defeat French fleet at Trafalgar; Nelson dies; France defeats Austria and Russia at Austerlitz; b. Samuel Palmer (January 27); d. Friedrich Schiller
Metcalf Cary trans., Dante, *Inferno*
William Godwin, *Fleetwood; or The New Man of Feeling*
Walter Scott, *The Lay of the Last Minstrel*
Robert Southey, *Madoc*
Ann and Jane Taylor, with Adelaide O’Keeffe, *Original Poems for Infant Minds*
Mary Tighe, *Psyche; or, The Legend of Love* *(Wordsworth, *The Prelude* completed in manuscript)*

1806  d. William Pitt; d. Charles James Fox, leader of Whig minority; coalition ministry of “All the Talents,” Grenville as Prime Minister; end of Holy Roman Empire; France defeats Prussia at Jena; first steam-operated textile mill opens in Manchester; b. Elizabeth Barrett (March 6); b. John Stuart Mill (May 2); d. Charlotte Smith
George Gordon, Lord Byron, *Fugitive Pieces*
Elizabeth Inchbald, *The British Theatre* (-1809; 25 volumes)
Thomas Moore, *Epistles, Odes, and Other Poems*
Sydney Owenson, *The Wild Irish Girl*
Mary Robinson, *The Poems*, 3 volumes
Chronology

1807 Slave trade abolished in British dominions; Lord Grenville resigns over Catholic Emancipation – Duke of Portland succeeds him as Prime Minister; Russia signs Treaty of Tilsit, withdrawing from war with Napoleon; France invades Portugal and Spain
George Gordon, Lord Byron, *Hours of Idleness, Poems on Several Occasions*
George Crabbe, *Poems*
Georg Friedrich Hegel, *Phenomenology of Mind*
Thomas Moore, *Irish Melodies* (–1821)
Sydney Owenson, *Lays of an Irish Harp*
Charlotte Smith, *Beachy Head; with Other Poems*
William Sotheby, *Saul*
Germaine de Staël, *Corinne*
Henry Kirke White, *The Remains*, ed. Southey
William Wordsworth, *Poems, in Two Volumes*

1808 Widespread revolt in Spain, Joseph Bonaparte named King; British troops land in Portugal; Convention of Cintra allows French withdrawal; b. Gerard Labrunie (Nerval) (May 22)
Leigh Hunt editor of *The Examiner*
Felicia Dorothea Browne (later Hemans), *Poems*
John Dalton, *A New System of Chemical Philosophy*
Johann Wilhelm von Goethe, *Faust*, part 1
Elizabeth Hamilton, *The Cottagers of Glenburnie*
Hannah More, *Coelebs in Search of a Wife*
Walter Scott, *Marmion; a Tale of Flodden Field*

1809 Death of Sir John Moore in Peninsular War; Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, Commander-in-Chief of British troops; Napoleon captures Vienna, Peace of Schönbrunn; Perceval as Prime Minister; Covent Garden and Drury Lane theatres burn, are rebuilt; b. Charles Darwin (February 12); b. Alfred Tennyson (August 6); d. Franz Josef Haydn; d. Thomas Holcroft; d. Thomas Paine; d. Anna Seward
Quarterly Review founded
Joel Barlow, *The Columbiad* (Philadelphia, 1807)
William Blake, *Milton*
George Gordon, Lord Byron, *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers*
Thomas Campbell, *Gertrude of Wyoming; a Pennsylvanian Tale*
Maria Edgeworth, *Tales of Fashionable Life*, first issue
Chronology

Margaret Holford, *Wallace; or, the Fight of Falkirk*

1810 Napoleon annexes Holland; deepening recession; George III increasingly incapacitated; b. Frederick Chopin (February 22); b. Elizabeth Gaskell (September 29); b. Robert Schumann (June 8)

Anna Laetitia Barbauld, *The British Novelists*, 50 volumes


George Crabbe, *The Borough*

Jane Porter, *The Scottish Chiefs*

Samuel Rogers, *The Voyage of Columbus*

Walter Scott, *The Lady of the Lake*

Anna Seward, *Poetical Works*, ed. Scott

Percy Bysshe Shelley, *Original Poetry by Victor and Cazire*, *Posthumous Fragments of Margaret Nicholson*, *Zastrozzi*

Robert Southey, *The Curse of Kehama*

William Wordsworth, *Essay on Epitaphs*

1811 George III declared insane, Prince of Wales installed as Regent; Shelley expelled from Oxford; Luddite antifactory riots in the Midlands; b. Franz Liszt (October 22)

Jane Austen, *Sense and Sensibility*

Mary Brunton, *Self-Control*

David Ricardo, *On the High Price of Bullion*

Percy Bysshe Shelley, *The Necessity of Atheism*

1812 Frame-breaking Bill against Luddites; Prime Minister Perceval assassinated in the House of Commons, replaced by Lord Liverpool; war declared with the United States; Napoleon, invading Russia, driven back with disastrous losses; Sarah Siddons retires from the stage; b. Robert Browning (May 7); b. Charles Dickens (February 7)

Anna Laetitia Barbauld, *Eighteen Hundred and Eleven*


Henry Cary trans., Dante, *Purgatory, Paradise*

William Combe, *The Tour of Dr. Syntax in Search of the Picturesque*, illustrated by Rowlandson

George Crabbe, *Tales in Verse*

Maria Edgeworth, *Tales of Fashionable Life*, second issue

Felicia Hemans, *Domestic Affections and Other Poems*

James Montgomery, *The World before the Flood*

Horace and James Smith, *Rejected Addresses*

William Tennant, *Anster Fair*
Chronology

1813 Napoleon in full retreat; Wellington, victorious in Peninsular War, liberates Spain; French driven from Holland, Italy, and Switzerland; Leigh Hunt imprisoned for libel on Prince Regent; Southey appointed poet laureate after Scott turns down post; Wordsworth given sinecure as Distributor of Stamps; b. Giuseppe Verdi (October 10); b. Richard Wagner (May 22)

Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
George Gordon, Lord Byron, *The Giaour, The Bride of Abydos*
Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Remorse*
Hannah Cowley, *The Works*, 3 volumes
James Hogg, *The Queen’s Wake*
Mary Russell Mitford, *Narrative Poems on the Female Character*
Thomas Moore, *Intercepted Letters; or, The Twopenny Post-Bag*
Amelia Opie, *Tales of Real Life*
Robert Owen, *A New View of Society*
Walter Scott, *The Bridal of Triermain, Rokeby*
Percy Bysshe Shelley, *Queen Mab*
Germaine de Staël, *On Germany (De l’Allemagne, 1810)*

1814 Allied armies invade France; Paris falls; Napoleon abdicates, is exiled to Italian island of Elba; Congress of Vienna (September 1814–June 1815) secures conservative world order; American war ended by Treaty of Ghent; British develop first steam warship; George Stephenson invents first locomotive; Edmund Kean’s debut at Covent Garden; b. Mikhail Lermontov (October 15); d. Johann Gottlieb Fichte

*New Monthly Magazine* founded
Jane Austen, *Mansfield Park*
Mary Brunton, *Discipline*
George Gordon, Lord Byron, *The Corsair, Lara*
George Daniel, *The Modern Dunciad*
Maria Edgeworth, *Patronage*
Leigh Hunt, *The Feast of the Poets*
Lady Morgan (Sydney Owenson), *O’Donnel: A National Tale*
Thomas Malthus, *Observations on the Effect of the Corn Laws*
Walter Scott, *Waverley*
Robert Southey, *Roderick the Last of the Goths*
William Wordsworth, *The Excursion*

1815 Napoleon escapes Elba, enters France (March); Battle of Waterloo (June); Napoleon exiled to Atlantic island of St. Helena; Louis XVIII installed as King of France; English national debt stands above £850 million; b. Anthony Trollope (April 24)
CHRONOLOGY

**1816**
Elgin Marbles exhibited, purchased for British Museum; Byron, separated from wife, leaves England; Ugo Foscolo in England; severe economic depression; Spa Fields riot; b. Charlotte Brontë (April 21); d. R. B. Sheridan

Jane Austen, *Emma*

George Gordon, Lord Byron, *Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage*, iii, *Prisoner of Chillon, Siege of Corinth* [and] *Parisina*

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Christabel; Kubla Khan, a Vision; The Pains of Sleep, The Statesman’s Manual*

Felicia Hemans, *The Restoration of the Works of Art to Italy*

Margaret Holford, *Margaret of Anjou*

Leigh Hunt, *The Story of Rimini*

Thomas Love Peacock, *Headlong Hall*

Walter Scott, *The Antiquary, The Black Dwarf, Old Mortality*

Percy Bysshe Shelley, *Alastor, and Other Poems*

Jane Taylor, *Essays in Rhyme, on Morals and Manners*

**1817**
Suspension of *habeas corpus*; suppression of democratic societies; trial of publisher William Hone; Shelley loses custody suit for children; Byron in Venice; d. Princess Charlotte, sole legitimate child of future George IV and heir to throne; d. Jane Austen; d. Germaine de Stael

*Black Dwarf*, Hone’s radical paper, founded; *Blackwood’s Edinburgh Magazine* founded

George Gordon, Lord Byron, *The Lament of Tasso, Manfred*

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Biographia Literaria, Sybiline Leaves, Zapolya*

Maria Edgeworth, *Harrington, Ormond*

William Godwin, *Mandeville*

William Hazlitt, *Characters of Shakespeare’s Plays, The Round Table*

John Keats, *Poems*

James Mill, *The History of British India*

Thomas Moore, *Lalla Rookh*
Chronology

Lady Morgan, France
Thomas Love Peacock, Melincourt
Ricardo, Principles of Political Economy and Taxation
Percy Bysshe Shelley, Laon and Cythna (withdrawn)
Robert Southey, Wat Tyler (unauthorized piracy)

1818
Trial and imprisonment of publisher Richard Carlile; the Shelleys leave England for Italy; b. Emily Brontë (July 30); b. Karl Marx (May 5); d. Mary Brunton; d. “Monk” Lewis
Jane Austen, Northanger Abbey, Persuasion
George Gordon, Lord Byron, Beppo, Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, iv
Susan Ferrier, Marriage
Henry Hallam, A View of the State of Europe during the Middle Ages
William Hazlitt, Lectures on the English Poets, A View of the English Stage
Leigh Hunt, Foliage
John Keats, Endymion
Henry Hart Milman, Samor, Lord of the Bright City
Thomas Moore, The Fudge Family in Paris
Lady Morgan, Florence McCarthy: An Irish Tale
Thomas Love Peacock, Rhododaphne: or The Thessalian Spell
Walter Scott, Rob Roy, The Heart of Midlothian
Mary Shelley, Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus
Percy Bysshe Shelley, The Revolt of Islam

1819
Peterloo Massacre; passage of the Six Acts against radical activity, unions; William Parry's arctic expedition; Columbia, Ecuador, and Venezuela declare independence from Spain; b. Alexandrina Victoria, future Queen of England (May 24); b. George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans) (November 22); b. John Ruskin (February 8); d. James Watt
George Gordon, Lord Byron, Don Juan, i–ii, Mazeppa
Barry Cornwall (Bryan Waller Procter), Dramatic Scenes
George Crabbe, Tales of the Hall
William Hazlitt, Lectures on the English Comic Writers
Thomas Love Peacock, Nightmare Abbey
Walter Scott, The Bride of Lammermoor, A Legend of Montrose
Percy Bysshe Shelley, Rosalind and Helen
William Wordsworth, Peter Bell, The Waggoner
1820 Death of George III; accession of Regent as George IV; divorce trial of his consort, Queen Caroline; revolution in Spain; revolt in Naples; “Cato Street conspiracy” to assassinate government ministers discovered; Walter Scott knighted; Sir Humphrey Davy President of Royal Society; b. Florence Nightingale (May 12); d. Sir Joseph Banks

London Magazine founded

Elizabeth Barrett, The Battle of Marathon

Mary Hanbury, The Four Ages of Poetry

Bernard Barton, Poems

William Blake, Jerusalem: The Emanation of the Giant Albion

Caroline Bowles (later Southey), Ellen Fitzarthur

Thomas Bowdler, The Family Shakespeare

Edward Bulwer-Lytton, Ismael

John Clare, Poems Descriptive of Rural Life and Scenery

Barry Cornwall, Marcian Colonna and Other Poems

William Godwin, Of Population

William Hazlitt, Lectures on the Dramatic Literature of the Age of Elizabeth

John Keats, Lamia, Isabella, The Eve of St. Agnes, and Other Poems

John Sheridan Knowles, Virginius, a Tragedy

Thomas Malthus, Principles of Political Economy

Charles Maturin, Melmoth the Wanderer

Thomas Love Peacock, “The Four Ages of Poetry”

Sir Walter Scott, The Abbot, Ivanhoe, The Monastery

Mary Shelley, Matilda (unpublished)

Percy Bysshe Shelley, The Cenci, Prometheus Unbound, Swellfoot the Tyrant

William Wordsworth, The River Duddon, a Series of Sonnets

1821 Austria suppresses Neapolitan uprising; Greek War of Independence begins; Bolivia, Chile, Peru, and Uruguay declare independence from Spain; b. Charles Baudelaire (April 9); b. Gustave Flaubert (December 12); d. Napoleon; d. Queen Caroline; d. Elizabeth Inchbald; d. John Keats

Manchester Guardian founded

Joanna Baillie, Metrical Legends of Exalted Characters

George Gordon, Lord Byron, Don Juan, iii–v, Marino Faliero [with] The Prophecy of Dante, Sardanapalus, The Two Foscari, and Cain
**Chronology**

1822

Suicide of Lord Castlereagh; Canning succeeds him as Foreign Secretary and Tory leader of the House of Commons; d. E. T. A. Hoffmann; d. Percy Bysshe Shelley

*The Liberal* founded (four issues only)

Thomas Lovell Beddoes, *The Bride's Tragedy*

Caroline Bowles, *The Widow's Tale*

George Gordon, Lord Byron, *The Vision of Judgement*

Kenelm Digby, *The Broad Stone of Honour*

Sir Walter Scott, *Haitian Hill, The Pirate, The Fortunes of Nigel, Peveril of the Peak*

Percy Bysshe Shelley, *Hellas*

John Wilson (Christopher North), *Lights and Shadows of Scottish Life*

William Wordsworth, *Ecclesiastical Sketches*

1823

War between France and Spain; Byron in Greece as representative of London Philhellenes; Mary Shelley returns to England; d. Robert Bloomfield; d. Ann Radcliffe; d. David Ricardo

Rudolf Ackermann produces the first of the Annuals, the Forget-Me-Not

George Gordon, Lord Byron, *The Age of Bronze, Don Juan, vi–xiv, The Island, Werner*

John Franklin, *Narrative of a Journey to the Polar Sea*

William Hazlitt, *Liber Amoris*

Felicia Hemans, *The Vespers of Palermo, The Siege of Valencia; The Last Constantine*

Leigh Hunt, *Ultra-Crepidarius*
Chronology

Charles Lamb, Essays of Elia
Thomas Moore, Fables for the Holy Alliance, The Loves of the Angels
Sir Walter Scott, Quentin Durward
Mary Shelley, Valperga

1824 Opening of National Gallery; London Institute inaugurated; Charles X King of France; d. Byron
Westminster Review founded
George Gordon, Lord Byron, The Deformed Transformed, Don Juan, xv–xvi
Thomas Carlyle trans., Goethe's Wilhelm Meister
Susan Ferrier, The Inheritance
James Hogg, Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner
Laetitia Elizabeth Landon, The Improvisatrice
Walter Savage Landor, Imaginary Conversations, vols. 1–11
Mary Russell Mitford, Our Village (–1832)
James Morier, The Adventures of Hajji Baba of Ispahan
Sir Walter Scott, St. Ronan's Well, Redgauntlet
Percy Bysshe Shelley, Posthumous Poems
Robert Watt, Bibliotheca Britannica

1825 Major financial crash; d. Anna Laetitia Barbauld; d. Henry Fuseli
John Milton, De Doctrina Christiana first published
Anna Laetitia Barbauld, Works
Thomas Carlyle, Life of Schiller
Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Aids to Reflection
William Hazlitt, The Spirit of the Age, Table Talk
Felicia Hemans, The Forest Sanctuary, Lays of Many Lands
James Hogg, Queen Hynde
Laetitia Elizabeth Landon, The Troubadour
Sir Walter Scott, The Betrothed, The Talisman
Robert Southey, A Tale of Paraguay

1826 Fallout from financial distress includes failure of Scott’s publisher, Ballantyne; Liverpool government falls; new elections; George Canning as Prime Minister; d. John Adams; d. Thomas Jefferson; d. Carl Maria von Weber
Burke’s Peerage first published
Elizabeth Barrett, An Essay on Mind, with Other Poems
Benjamin Disraeli, Vivian Grey (–1827)
Chronology

Sir Walter Scott, *Woodstock*
Mary Shelley, *The Last Man*

1827  Greek independence won at Navorino; d. George Canning; Duke of Wellington as Prime Minister; University of London founded; Scott acknowledges he is the Great Unknown (the “author of Waverley”).
d. Ludwig van Beethoven; d. William Blake; d. Ugo Foscolo;
d. Helen Maria Williams
Edward Bulwer-Lytton, *Falkland*
John Clare, *The Shepherd’s Calendar*
Reginald Heber, *Hymns, Written and Adapted to the Weekly Church Service of the Year*
Sir Walter Scott, *The Chronicles of Canongate*
Alfred and Charles Tennyson, *Poems by Two Brothers*

1828  Corporation and Test Acts repealed; d. Franz Schubert
Edward Bulwer-Lytton, *Pelham*
Sir John Franklin, *Journal of a Second Expedition to the Polar Sea*
Felicia Hemans, *Records of Woman*
Leigh Hunt, *Lord Byron and Some of His Contemporaries*
Mary Russell Mitford, *Rienzi*
Sir William Edward Parry, *Narrative of an Attempt to Reach the North Pole*
Sir Walter Scott, *The Fair Maid of Perth*

1829  Catholic Emancipation; d. Sir Humphrey Davy; d. Friedrich Schlegel
Thomas Hood, *The Epping Hunt*
Douglas Jerrold, *Black Ey’d Susan*
James Mill, *Analysis of the Human Mind*
Thomas Love Peacock, *The Misfortunes of Elphin*
Sir Walter Scott, *Anne of Geierstein*

1830  Death of George IV; accession of brother, Duke of Clarence, as William IV; Wellington’s government falls; Earl Grey becomes Prime Minister as head of a Whig government; increasing agitation for parliamentary reform; revolution in France ends Bourbon monarchy; Liverpool to Manchester railway opens; d. William Hazlitt
Fraser’s Magazine, *Hood’s Comic Annual* founded
Edward Bulwer-Lytton, *Paul Clifford*
William Cobbett, *Rural Rides*
Catherine Gore, *Women as They Are, or, The Manners of the Day*
Felicia Hemans, *Songs of the Affections*
Chronology

Douglas Jerrold, *Sally in Our Alley*
Charles Lyell, *Principles of Geology* (–1833)
Thomas Moore, *Letters and Journals of Lord Byron*
Sir Walter Scott, *Tales of a Grandfather*
Mary Shelley, *The Fortunes of Perkin Warbeck*
Alfred, Lord Tennyson, *Poems Chiefly Lyrical*