The nineteenth century witnessed unprecedented expansion in the reading public and an explosive growth in the number of books and newspapers produced to meet its demands. These specially commissioned essays examine not only the full range and variety of texts that entertained and informed the Victorians, but also the boundaries of Victorian literature: the links and overlap with Romanticism in the 1830s, and the roots of Modernism in the years leading up to the First World War. The Companion demonstrates how science, medicine and theology influenced creative writing and emphasizes the importance of the visual, in painting, in book illustration and in technological innovations from the kaleidoscope to the cinema. Chapters also chart the complex and fruitful interchanges with writers in America, Europe and the Empire, highlighting the geographical expansion of literature in English. This Companion brings together the most important aspects of this prolific and popular period of English literature.

Joanne Shattock is Professor of Victorian Literature at the University of Leicester. She is the General Editor of The Works of Elizabeth Gaskell (2005–6) and edited Women and Literature in Britain 1800–1900 (2001).

A complete list of books in the series is at the back of the book.
CONTENTS

List of illustrations
List of contributors
Chronology

Introduction
JOANNE SHATTOCK

PART I Modes of Writing and Their Contexts

1 Authors and authorship
JOSEPHINE GUY

2 Readers and readerships
MARY HAMMOND

3 Life writing
ALISON BOOTH

4 The culture of criticism
JOANNE SHATTOCK

5 Women’s voices and public debate
SUSAN HAMILTON

6 Writing the past
HILARY FRASER

7 Radical writing
SALLY LEDGER
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Popular culture</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>KATHERINE NEWEY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>PART II INTERSECTIONS AND INCURSIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Science and its popularization</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>GOWAN DAWSON</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Body and mind</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>JENNY BOURNE TAYLOR</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Writing and religion</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ANDREW SANDERS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Visual culture</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>JOHN PLUNKETT</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>PART III THE CENTRE AND THE PERIPHERY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Empire and nationalism</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>PATRICK BRANTLINGER</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Transatlantic relations</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>BRIDGET BENNETT</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>European exchanges</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ALISON CHAPMAN</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Guide to further reading</em></td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Index</em></td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

© in this web service Cambridge University Press   www.cambridge.org
ILLUSTRATIONS


12.1 Handbill for Short’s Observatory, Calton Hill, Edinburgh, c. 1850 (EXEBDC12784).

12.2 Foldout stereoscope, c. 1860 (EXEBDC69034).


12.8 William Morris, *News from Nowhere: Or an Epoch of Rest, Being Some Chapters from a Utopian Romance* (Hammersmith: Kelmscott Press, 1892), frontispiece.
BRIDGET BENNETT is Professor of American Literature and Culture at the University of Leeds. She has published a number of works related to the subject of her chapter in this volume. These include her recent monograph Transatlantic Spiritualism and Nineteenth-Century American Literature (2007) and her edited book (with Janet Beer) Special Relationships: Anglo-American Affinities and Antagonisms, 1854–1936 (2002) as well as several essays. She is currently working on a monograph titled Danger in the National Home.

ALISON BOOTH is Professor of English at the University of Virginia. She is the author of Greatness Engendered: George Eliot and Virginia Woolf (1992) and How To Make It as a Woman: Collective Biographical History from Victoria to the Present (2004). In the digital project Collective Biographies of Women, and in her book-length study of literary tourism ‘Homes and Haunts’, she continues to pursue a historical interpretation of collective biographical discourses in Britain and North America since 1830.


ALISON CHAPMAN is Associate Professor at the University of Victoria, Canada, and has co-edited (with Jane Stabler) Unfolding the South: Nineteenth-Century British Women Artists and Writers in Italy (2003) as well as writing several essays on the Victorians and Italy. She is currently completing a monograph on Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s circle in Florence.

Hilary Fraser holds the Geoffrey Tillotson Chair of Nineteenth-Century Studies at Birkbeck College, University of London. She has written monographs on aesthetics and religion in Victorian writing, the Victorians and Renaissance Italy, nineteenth-century non-fiction prose, and gender and the Victorian periodical, and currently works on women writing about art. ‘The Morals of Genealogy’ (*Raritan*, Spring 2008) reflects on our own writing of the past via an intriguing personal encounter with Harriet Taylor and J. S. Mill.

Josephine Guy is Professor of Modern Literature at the University of Nottingham. She has published monographs on various aspects of nineteenth-century literary history as well as (with Ian Small) a study of the nature of English as a discipline of knowledge. Since 2000, she has been a contributing editor to the Oxford University Press edition of *The Complete Works of Oscar Wilde*. In 2007 she completed an edition of Wilde’s critical writings (vol. IV) and she is currently editing a volume of some of his plays.


Katherine Newey is Professor of Drama and Theatre Arts at the University of Birmingham. She is author of *Women’s Theatre Writing in Victorian Britain* (2003), *John Ruskin and the Victorian Theatre* (co-authored with Jeffrey
LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Richards) and Ruskin, the Theatre, and Victorian Visual Culture (edited with Anselm Heinrich and Jeffrey Richards, 2009). She is co-editor of Nineteenth Century Theatre and Film.

John Plunkett is Senior Lecturer in English at the University of Exeter. His publications include Queen Victoria – First Media Monarch (2003), and, co-edited with Andrew King, Victorian Print Media: A Reader (2005) and Popular Print Media 1820–1900 (2004). He is working on a book on nineteenth-century optical recreations, including the panorama, diorama, stereoscope, magic lantern and peepshow, and directing an AHRC project, Moving and Projected-Image Entertainment in the South-West 1820–1914.

Andrew Sanders is Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Durham. He is the author of The Victorian Historical Novel 1840–1880 (1978) and his studies of Dickens include Dickens and the Spirit of the Age (1999) and Charles Dickens (2003). A third edition of his Short Oxford History of English Literature appeared in 2004. He has written widely on Victorian culture and has edited a number of Victorian novels for various scholarly paperback series.

Joanne Shattock is Professor of Victorian Literature at the University of Leicester. She is General Editor of The Works of Elizabeth Gaskell (2005–6) and edited the volume on Gaskell's journalism. Her books include Women and Literature in Britain 1800–1900 (ed. 2001), and the nineteenth-century volume of The Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature (1999), The Oxford Guide to British Women Writers (1993) and Politics and Reviewers (1989). She is co-editor of The Nineteenth Century monograph series for Ashgate, and is currently co-editing with Elisabeth Jay the Selected Works of Margaret Oliphant (2010–11).

Jenny Bourne Taylor is Professor of English at the University of Sussex. Her books include In the Secret Theatre of Home: Wilkie Collins, Sensation Narrative and Nineteenth-Century Psychology (1988) and Embodied Selves: An Anthology of Psychological Texts 1830–1890 (ed. with Sally Shuttleworth, 1998). She is editor of The Cambridge Companion to Wilkie Collins (2006) and co-editor, with Martin Ryle, of George Gissing: Voices of the Unclassed (2005). She is co-editing Legitimacy and Illegitimacy in Law, Literature and History (2009), and with John Kucich, the third volume of The Oxford History of the Novel in English.
## CHRONOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Contexts</th>
<th>Texts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1830 | Accession of William IV  
Lord Grey prime minister | Alfred Tennyson, *Poems, chiefly Lyrical* |
| 1831 | First meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science | Harriet Martineau, *Illustrations of Political Economy* (1832–4)  
Tennyson, *Poems* |
| 1832 | Great Reform Bill  
*Chambers’ Edinburgh Journal* established  
*Penny Magazine* begins  
*Tait’s Edinburgh Magazine* founded | Harriet Martineau, *Illustrations of Political Economy* (1832–4)  
Tennyson, *Poems*  
Frances Trollope, *Domestic Manners of the Americans*  
Charles Lyell, *Elements of Geology*  
Charles Darwin, *Narrative of the Surveying Voyages of HMS Adventure and Beagle* (concl. 1836) |
| 1833 | Slavery abolished throughout the British Empire  
Oxford Movement begins with John Keble’s sermon, ‘National Apostasy’ | Thomas Carlyle, ‘Sartor Resartus’ pbd in *Fraser’s Magazine*  
Tracts for the Times begins, (concl. 1841)  
Charles Knight’s *Penny Cyclopedia* (concl. 1844) |
| 1834 | Poor Law Amendment Act | Charles Dickens, *Sketches by Boz*, 1st series |
A. W. G. Pugin, *Contrasts* |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Texts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
<td>Death of William IV; accession of Queen Victoria</td>
<td>Carlyle, <em>French Revolution</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Bentley's Miscellany</em> established</td>
<td>Dickens, <em>Oliver Twist</em> in <em>Bentley's Miscellany</em>, 1837–8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1839</td>
<td>Custody of Infants Act</td>
<td>Carlyle, <em>Chartism</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chartist Petition presented to Parliament</td>
<td>Edgar Allan Poe, <em>Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>Robert Peel prime minister</td>
<td>Darwin, <em>Voyage of HMS Beagle</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841</td>
<td><em>Punch</em> founded</td>
<td>Carlyle, <em>On Heroes, Hero-Worship and the Heroic in History</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>Copyright Act extends term to 42 years from publication or 7 years after author's death</td>
<td>Dickens, <em>American Notes for General Circulation</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Illustrated London News</em> begins</td>
<td>Tennyson, <em>Poems</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edwin Chadwick, <em>On the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>Factory Act limits women and children under 18 to a 12-hour working day</td>
<td>Carlyle, <em>Past and Present</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Wordsworth</em> becomes Poet Laureate</td>
<td>Thomas Babington Macaulay, <em>Essays Critical and Historical</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>John Ruskin</em>, <em>Modern Painters</em>, vol. 1</td>
<td>Robert Chambers, <em>Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>G. W. M. Reynolds</em>, <em>The Mysteries of London</em>, 1844–6</td>
<td><em>John Ruskin</em>, <em>Modern Painters</em>, vol. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1845</td>
<td>Irish potato crop fails; Great Famine begins</td>
<td><em>Benjamin Disraeli</em>, <em>Sybil</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Friedrich Engels</em>, <em>The Condition of the Working Class in England</em></td>
<td>Poems by Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Marian Evans</em> (‘George Eliot’), trans. of <em>J. F. Strauss’s Life of Jesus</em></td>
<td>Poems by Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>Lord John Russell prime minister</td>
<td><em>Richard Owen</em>, <em>British Fossil Mammals and Birds</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Repeal of the Corn Laws</td>
<td><em>Anne Brontë</em>, <em>Agnes Grey</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dickens starts <em>Daily News</em></td>
<td><em>Charlotte Brontë</em>, <em>Jane Eyre</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>Chartist demonstration, <em>Kennington Common, London</em></td>
<td>Emily Brontë, <em>Wuthering Heights</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ten Hours Act limits working day to 10 hours for women and children under 18</td>
<td>Tennyson, <em>The Princess</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>W. M. Thackeray</em>, <em>Vanity Fair</em>, serialized 1847–8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Contexts</td>
<td>Texts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1848 | Revolutions in Europe | Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*  
Anne Brontë, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*  
Elizabeth Gaskell, *Mary Barton*  
J. Mill, *Principles of Political Economy*  
J. H. Newman, *Loss and Gain*  
Thackeray, *Pendennis*, serialized 1848–50 |
| 1849 | Charlotte Brontë, *Shirley*  
Henry Mayhew, *London Labour and the London Poor* begins in the *Morning Chronicle*  
Ruskin, *Seven Lamps of Architecture*  
Dickens, *David Copperfield*, monthly parts 1849–50 |
| 1850 | Wordsworth dies  
Tennyson becomes Poet Laureate  
*Household Words* launched by Dickens  
*The Germ* published, Jan.–April, by the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood  
Roman Catholic hierarchy re-established in England | William Wordsworth, *The Prelude*  
Tennyson, *In Memoriam*  
Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Poems*  
Carlyle, *Latter-Day Pamphlets*  
Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter* |
| 1851 | Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace  
Louis Napoleon becomes Emperor of France | Ruskin, *The Stones of Venice*, vol. 1; concl. 1853  
Gaskell, * Cranford*, serialized 1851–3 |
| 1852 | Rebuilt Houses of Parliament open | Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*  
Dickens, *Bleak House*, in monthly parts 1852–3 |
| 1853 | Crimean War (1853–6) | Matthew Arnold, *Poems*  
Charlotte Brontë, *Villette*  
Gaskell, *Ruth* |
<p>| 1854 | Coventry Patmore, <em>The Angel in the House</em> (completed 1856) |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Contexts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1855</td>
<td>Lord Palmerston prime minister</td>
<td>Newspaper Stamp Tax abolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Saturday Review founded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1857</td>
<td>Indian Mutiny</td>
<td>Matrimonial Causes Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>English Woman’s Journal established (1858–64)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859</td>
<td>War of Italian liberation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Langham Place circle and Society for Promoting the Employment of Women formed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Second Palmerston administration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All the Year Round begun by Dickens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Macmillan’s Magazine founded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>William Wilberforce and T.H. Huxley debate at British Association meeting, Oxford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cornhill Magazine, ed. Thackeray, founded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>American Civil War begins (1861–5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Death of the Prince Consort</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chronicology**

**Contexts**
- Marian Evans [George Eliot] trans. of Feuerbach’s *Essence of Christianity*
- Dickens, *Hard Times*
- Gaskell, *North and South*, 1854–5
- Tennyson, ‘Charge of the Light Brigade’
- Robert Browning, *Men and Women*
- Dickens, *Little Dorrit*, monthly parts 1855–7
- Tennyson, *Maud and Other Poems*
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Aurora Leigh*
- Gaskell, *Life of Charlotte Brontë*
- Anthony Trollope, *Barchester Towers*
- Eliot, *Scenes of Clerical Life* in *Blackwood’s Magazine*
- R. M. Ballantyne, *The Coral Island*
- Darwin, *On the Origin of Species*
- Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*
- Eliot, *Adam Bede; ‘The Lifted Veil’* (in *Blackwood’s Magazine*)
- Edward FitzGerald, *The Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám*
- Samuel Smiles, *Self-Help*
- Mill, *On Liberty*
- Tennyson, *Idylls of the King*
- Eliot, *The Mill on the Floss*
- Dickens, *Great Expectations*, serialized 1860–1
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Poems before Congress* *Essays and Reviews*
- Trollope, *Framley Parsonage*, serialized 1860–1
- Ellen Wood, *East Lynne*
- Isabella Beeton, *The Book of Household Management*
- Eliot, *Silas Marner*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Authors/Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1862 | Mary Elizabeth Braddon, *Lady Audley's Secret*  
Collins, *No Name*  
Christina Rossetti, *Goblin Market and Other Poems*  
Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Last Poems*  
Eliot, *Romola*, serialized 1862–3  
Ruskin, *Unto this Last* (in *Cornhill Magazine*) | |
| 1864 | Contagious Diseases Acts  
Robert Browning, *Dramatis Personae*  
Dickens, *Our Mutual Friend*, monthly parts 1864–5  
Gaskell, *Cousin Phillis; Wives and Daughters*, serialized 1864–6  
Tennyson, *Enoch Arden and Other Poems* | |
| 1865 | *The Argosy*, *Fortnightly Review*, *Pall Mall Gazette* founded  
President Abraham Lincoln assassinated  
Arnold, *Essays in Criticism*, 1st series  
Lewis Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*  
Ruskin, *Sesame and Lilies*  
Algeron Swinburne, *Atalanta in Calydon*  
George Eliot, *Felix Holt*  
Christina Rossetti, *Prince's Progress and Other Poems*  
*Poems and Ballads*, 1st series  
E. S. Dallas, *The Gay Science*  
Walter Bagehot, *The English Constitution* | |
| 1867 | Second Reform Bill passed  
Women's Suffrage petition presented to Parliament  
Robert Browning, *The Ring and the Book* (completed 1869)  
Collins, *The Moonstone*  
William Morris, *The Earthly Paradise* (completed 1870) | |
| 1868 | Gladstone prime minister (Dec.)  
Arnold, *Culture and Anarchy*  
Mill, *The Subjection of Women* | |
| 1869 | *Nature*, *The Academy*, *The Graphic* founded  
Suez Canal opened  
Dickens, *Mystery of Edwin Drood* (unfinished) | |
| 1870 | Franco-Prussian War (1870–1)  
Elementary Education Act  
Married Women's Property Act  
*Women's Suffrage Journal* begins  
D. G. Rossetti, *Poems* |
## Chronology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contexts</th>
<th>Texts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Religious Tests abolished at Oxford and Cambridge Trade Union Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Robert Buchanan, ‘The Fleshly School of Poetry’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Darwin, Descent of Man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Eliot, Middlemarch, pbd 1871–2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Thomas Hardy, Desperate Remedies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Edward Lear, Nonsense Songs and Stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking Glass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>D. G. Rossetti, ‘The Stealthy School of Criticism’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Ruskin, Fors Clavigera (concl. 1887)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1871</strong></td>
<td>Swinburne, Songs before Sunrise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1873</strong></td>
<td>Hardy, A Pair of Blue Eyes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1874</strong></td>
<td>Mill, Autobiography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1874</strong></td>
<td>Trollope, The Way We Live Now, monthly parts 1874–5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1874</strong></td>
<td>G. H. Lewes, Problems of Life and Mind, lst series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1874</strong></td>
<td>James Thomson, ‘The City of Dreadful Night’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1876</strong></td>
<td>Mind started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1876</strong></td>
<td>Eliot, Daniel Deronda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1876</strong></td>
<td>Mark Twain, Tom Sawyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1877</strong></td>
<td>Queen Victoria proclaimed Empress of India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1877</strong></td>
<td>Harriet Martineau, Autobiography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1878</strong></td>
<td>Nineteenth Century founded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1878</strong></td>
<td>Zulu War 1878–9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1878</strong></td>
<td>Second Afghan War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1878</strong></td>
<td>Matrimonial Causes Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1878</strong></td>
<td>London University opens degrees to women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1878</strong></td>
<td>English Men of Letters series begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1879</strong></td>
<td>Boy's Own Paper begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1879</strong></td>
<td>Browning, Dramatic Idylls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1879</strong></td>
<td>George Meredith, The Egoist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1882</strong></td>
<td>Married Women’s Property Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1882</strong></td>
<td>R. L. Stevenson, Treasure Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1884</strong></td>
<td>Matrimonial Causes Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1884</strong></td>
<td>George Gissing, The Unclassed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1884</strong></td>
<td>Mark Twain, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1884</strong></td>
<td>Oxford English Dictionary begins (completed 1928)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1884</strong></td>
<td>Society of Authors founded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1884</strong></td>
<td>Meredith, Diana of the Crossways, serialized 1884–5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Chronology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Contexts</th>
<th>Texts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1885 | Criminal Law Amendment Act raises age of consent for girls to 16 | H. Rider Haggard, *King Solomon’s Mines*  
J. W. Cross, *George Eliot’s Life*  
Walter Pater, *Marius the Epicurean*  
Stevenson, *A Child’s Garden of Verses*  
Stevenson, *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*  
Hardy, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*  
Henry James, *The Bostonians*  
Tennyson, *Locksley Hall Sixty Years After* |
| 1886 | Irish Home Rule Bill defeated  
Repeal of Contagious Diseases Acts  
*English Historical Review* founded | Haggard, *She; Allan Quatermain*  
Hardy, *The Woodlanders*  
‘Mark Rutherford’, *Revolution in Tanner’s Lane*  
Stevenson, *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*  
Hardy, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*  
Henry James, *The Bostonians* |
| 1887 | Queen Victoria’s Golden Jubilee | Haggard, *She; Allan Quatermain*  
Hardy, *The Woodlanders*  
‘Mark Rutherford’, *Revolution in Tanner’s Lane*  
Stevenson, *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*  
Hardy, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*  
Henry James, *The Bostonians* |
| 1888 | Matchworkers’ strike  
‘Jack the Ripper’ murders in London | Hardy, *Wessex Tales*  
Mary Ward, *Robert Elsmere*  
Stevenson, *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*  
Hardy, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*  
Henry James, *The Bostonians* |
Gissing, *The Nether World*  
Pater, *Appreciations*  
Twain, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*  
W. B. Yeats, *The Wanderings of Oisin*  
D. H. Lawrence, *Women in Love*  
Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables*  
Felix Salten, *Bambi*  
Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* |
| 1890 | *Review of Reviews* begins | William Booth, *In Darkest England*  
J. G. Frazer, *The Golden Bough*  
William James, *Principles of Psychology*  
W. B. Yeats, *The Wanderings of Oisin*  
G. K. Chesterton, *The Man Who Was Thursday*  
Oscar Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* |
| 1891 | International Copyright Act (Chace Act)  
William Morris founds Kelmscott Press | Arthur Conan Doyle, *Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*  
Gissing, *New Grub Street*  
Hardy, *Tess of the d’Urbervilles*  
Olive Schreiner, *Dreams*  
Oscar Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*  
Gray, *Intentions*  
B. Shaw, *Pygmalion* |
| 1892 | Gladstone prime minister  
Tennyson dies | Gissing, *Born in Exile*  
Rudyard Kipling, *Barrack-Room Ballads* |

© in this web service Cambridge University Press

www.cambridge.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Authors and Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1893 | Second Irish Home Rule bill defeated | Marie Corelli, *Barabbas*
| | | Gissing, *The Odd Women*
| | | Alice Meynell, *Poems*
| | | Wilde, *Lady Windermere's Fan*
| 1894 | Yellow Book founded | George du Maurier, *Trilby*
| | | Gissing, *In the Year of Jubilee*
| | | Kipling, *The Jungle Book*
| | | George Moore, *Esther Waters*
| | | Wilde, *A Woman of No Importance*
| 1895 | Trial and imprisonment of Oscar Wilde | Grant Allen, *The Woman Who Did*
| | | Joseph Conrad, *Almayer’s Folly*
| | | Corelli, *The Sorrows of Satan*
| | | Stephen Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*
| | | Hardy, *Jude the Obscure*
| | | Max Nordau, *Degeneration*
| | | H. G. Wells, *The Time Machine*
| 1896 | Alfred Austin Poet Laureate | A. E. Housman, *A Shropshire Lad*
| | | Arthur Morrison, *A Child of the Jago*
| | | W. M. Rossetti
| | | Wells, *The Island of Dr Moreau*
| 1897 | Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee | Conrad, *The Nigger of the Narcissus*
| | | National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies formed | James, *What Maisie Knew*
| | | Kipling, *Captains Courageous*
| | | Bram Stoker, *Dracula*
| | | Wells, *The Invisible Man*
| 1898 | Death of Gladstone | Hardy, *Wessex Poems*
| | | G. B. Shaw, *Plays Pleasant and Unpleasant*
| | | Wilde, *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*
| | | Wells, *The War of the Worlds*
| 1899 | Boer War begins | Yeats, *The Wind among the Reeds*
| | | James, *The Awkward Age*
| | | Kipling, *Stalky & Co.*
| | | Margaret Oliphant, *Autobiography*
| | | Wilde, *An Ideal Husband; The Importance of Being Earnest* (acted 1895)
| 1901 | Death of Queen Victoria | Hardy, *Poems of the Past and Present*
| | | Kipling, *Kim*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Contexts</th>
<th>Texts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1902 | Boer War ends | Conan Doyle, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*  
James, *The Wings of the Dove*  
Kipling, *Just So Stories* |
| 1903 | *Daily Mirror* started | Samuel Butler, *The Way of All Flesh*  
Conrad, *Typhoon*  
James, *The Ambassadors*  
Shaw, *Man and Superman* |
| 1905 |  | Conan Doyle, *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*  
E. M. Forster, *Where Angels Fear To Tread*  
James, *The Golden Bowl*  
Edith Wharton, *The House of Mirth*  
Wilde, *De Profundis* |
| 1907 |  | Hilaire Belloc, *Cautionary Tales for Children*  
Conrad, *The Secret Agent*  
Edmund Gosse, *Father and Son* |
| 1908 |  | Robert Baden-Powell, *Scouting for Boys*  
Arnold Bennett, *The Old Wives’ Tale*  
Forster, *A Room with a View* |
| 1910 | Death of Edward VII, ascension of George V | Bennett, *Clayhanger*  
Forster, *Howard’s End* |
| 1911 |  | Conrad, *Under Western Eyes*  
D. H. Lawrence, *The White Peacock*  
Katherine Mansfield, *In a German Pension* |
| 1913 | Robert Bridges Poet Laureate  
*New Statesman* begins | Lawrence, *Sons and Lovers*  
Meynell, *Collected Poems* |
| 1914 | World War I begins | Hardy, *Satires of Circumstance*  
James, *Note on Novelists*  
James Joyce, *Dubliners*  
Lawrence, *The Prussian Officer; The Widowing of Mrs Holroyd*  
Meynell, *Collected Essays*  
Yeats, *Responsibilities* |