

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-05707-3 - Cranford
Elizabeth Gaskell
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Fiction and Poetry

Reading became an increasingly popular entertainment in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Britain, Europe and America, reaching an ever wider spectrum of society as the cost of printing came down and levels of literacy rose. The novels avidly consumed in this period were not merely escapist fiction. Many of them drew attention to serious social issues such as slavery, child labour and other forms of exploitation that blighted the age of revolutions and empire, some were thinly disguised autobiographies, while others had clear educational aims: thus the line between fiction and non-fiction was a fluid one. Poetry too flourished across a wide range of genres, and the political and social agendas of the Romantic movement in particular led to its being read and appreciated at all levels of society. In this series, the Cambridge Library Collection offers the texts of fiction and poetry as these works were first published and received by an eager reading public.

Cranford

In the delicately impoverished town of Cranford, everyone is keen to know everyone else's business. The community is almost devoid of men, and in their place a solid matriarchy has formed. Manners must be observed, house calls must not exceed a quarter of an hour, and neither money matters nor death may be discussed in public. But the peace is often disturbed. Rumoured burglars, literary disagreements, and the arrival of Captain Brown and his tactless daughters all cause ripples, warmly charted by the conversational narrator, Mary Smith. When the past erupts through the fragile class distinctions and disputed tea sales, the customary perspective of the town shifts in small but perceptible ways forever. First published as a magazine serial from 1851 and then in novel form in 1853, *Cranford* is the best-known work by Elizabeth Gaskell (1810–65). This reissue is of the 1853 second edition.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-05707-3 - Cranford
Elizabeth Gaskell
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-05707-3 - Cranford
Elizabeth Gaskell
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Cranford

ELIZABETH GASKELL



Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-05707-3 - Cranford
Elizabeth Gaskell
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108057073

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2013

This edition first published 1853
This digitally printed version 2013

ISBN 978-1-108-06042-4 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-108-05707-3 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-05707-3 - Cranford
Elizabeth Gaskell
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CRANFORD.

BY THE AUTHOR OF

“MARY BARTON,” “RUTH,” &c.

SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:
CHAPMAN & HALL, 193, PICCADILLY.
1853.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-05707-3 - Cranford
Elizabeth Gaskell
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

REPUBLISHED FROM "HOUSEHOLD WORDS."

CONTENTS.



CHAPTER I.	
OUR SOCIETY	1
CHAPTER II.	
THE CAPTAIN	19
CHAPTER III.	
A LOVE AFFAIR OF LONG AGO	45
CHAPTER IV.	
A VISIT TO AN OLD BACHELOR	61
CHAPTER V.	
OLD LETTERS	81
CHAPTER VI.	
POOR PETER	100
CHAPTER VII.	
VISITING	121
CHAPTER VIII.	
“YOUR LADYSHIP”	139

iv	CONTENTS.	
	CHAPTER IX.	
SIGNOR BRUNONI		162
	CHAPTER X.	
THE PANIC		179
	CHAPTER XI.	
SAMUEL BROWN		203
	CHAPTER XII.	
ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED		223
	CHAPTER XIII.	
STOPPED PAYMENT		238
	CHAPTER XIV.	
FRIENDS IN NEED		258
	CHAPTER XV.	
A HAPPY RETURN		289
	CHAPTER XVI.	
“PEACE TO CRANFORD”		311