

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Printing and Publishing History

The interface between authors and their readers is a fascinating subject in its own right, revealing a great deal about social attitudes, technological progress, aesthetic values, fashionable interests, political positions, economic constraints, and individual personalities. This part of the Cambridge Library Collection reissues classic studies in the area of printing and publishing history that shed light on developments in typography and book design, printing and binding, the rise and fall of publishing houses and periodicals, and the roles of authors and illustrators. It documents the ebb and flow of the book trade supplying a wide range of customers with products from almanacs to novels, bibles to erotica, and poetry to statistics.

Travels in Town

Born in 1802 in Elgin, James Grant first established himself as a reporter and then as a leading newspaper editor in Victorian London, heading the Morning Chronicle for two decades before moving on to the Christian Standard. His 1839 *Travels in Town* was designed as a companion piece to his earlier reflections on London, *The Great Metropolis* (1838) and *Sketches in London* (1838). This two-volume work reflects Grant's enthusiasm for 'this modern Babylon' and his lively interest in the intricacies of everyday life there. Volume 1 focuses on central London, observing major streets (including Downing Street) and the British Museum. Interweaving general descriptions with specific local information, Grant even provides his readers with details of the famous museum reading room and how to access its treasures.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

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 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 will bring 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

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the
Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Travels in Town

*By the Author of Random Recollections of the
Lords and Commons, etc.*

VOLUME 1

JAMES GRANT



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the
Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo

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

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108009126

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2009

This edition first published 1839

This digitally printed version 2009

ISBN 978-1-108-00912-6 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

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the
Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

TRAVELS IN TOWN.

BY THE AUTHOR OF

“RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS OF THE LORDS AND
COMMONS,” “THE GREAT METROPOLIS,”

&c. &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

SAUNDERS AND OTLEY, CONDUIT STREET.

1839.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the
Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

P R E F A C E.

THE title of this work may at first sight seem inappropriate. It has been chosen because the volumes contain the results of a very extensive intercourse on the part of the Author, with the inhabitants of this modern Babylon, and of an intimate acquaintance with many of its most interesting institutions. The book is intended as a companion to "The Great Metropolis" and "Sketches in London," and if it only meet with as great success as these two works have done, the Author will have abundant reason to be satisfied with its reception by the public.

LONDON, *November*, 1838.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the
Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS OF VOL. I.

CHAPTER I.

THE STREETS.

Leading entrances to London—Streets near St. Katherine's
Docks—Cheapside—Streets in the vicinity of the Ele-
phant and Castle—Piccadilly—Oxford Street—Gower
Street—Mile-end Road—Whitechapel—The People in
the streets—Difference in the appearance of different
streets—Interesting associations connected with particular
streets—The streets as they appear by day, and as they
appear by night—General remarks . . . page 1

CHAPTER II.

THE PARK.

Its history—Purposes to which it was formerly applied—
Its beautiful appearance—Is the resort of the beauty and
fashion of the metropolis—A question asked and answered
—The place it occupies in fashionable volumes—Intrigues
in the Park—Love sometimes inspired in the Park—An
instance given—The Park during a sudden shower—Con-
trast in its appearance at different times—Aristocratic
notions about the Park page 31

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER III.

TATTERSALL'S AND THE TURF.

Situation and description of Tattersall's—The Yard—The Betting Room—History of Tattersall's—Sketch of Mr. Tattersall—Horse Races—Their origin and history—Newmarket Races—Doncaster Races—Ascot Races—Epsom Races—Miscellaneous remarks—Settling day at Tattersall's—Betting—Making a Book—General observations—The evils of the Turf page 53

CHAPTER IV.

DOWNING STREET.

Its situation and appearance—The Premier's Office; Lord Melbourne, the Duke of Wellington, and Earl Grey—Chancellor of the Exchequer's Office; Mr. Spring Rice, Sir Robert Peel, and Lord Althorp—The Colonial Office and Lord Glenelg—The Foreign Office and Lord Palmerston—Ludicrous interviews with Ministers—Economy in Downing Street page 162

CHAPTER V.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

The Building—Origin and History of the Museum—The Exhibition Rooms—Moral reflections suggested by witnessing their contents—Number of persons who visit the institution page 226

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-00912-6 - Travels in Town: By the Author of Random Recollections of the
Lords and Commons, etc. - Volume 1

James Grant

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

vii

CHAPTER VI.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM—(CONTINUED).

The Reading-Room—Admission into it—Mode of procuring
the books applied for—Number of readers in the Room—
Remarks on their varied Pursuits and varied circumstances
—Application to literary pursuits under the most discour-
aging circumstances—The Library—More liberal grant
of public money to the Library department recom-
mended page 262

CHAPTER VII.

THE NEWSMEN.

Their supposed number—The arduousness and nature of
their duties—Their uproarious disposition—The Expedi-
tion with which they deliver the newspapers—The rough
reception they often meet with from their customers—
Their evening duties—Their great usefulness, and the
claims they have on the public consideration page 297