

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-06711-9 - *Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New*
Walter Crane
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.

Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Published in 1896 at the peak of his career, this work by Walter Crane (1845–1915) was developed from a series of lectures given to the Society of Arts in 1889. Although chiefly remembered as an illustrator of books for children, Crane was a versatile and knowledgeable artist and designer. His practical experience with book illustration and printing methods gives this text the weight of considerable authority. A prominent figure in the Arts and Crafts movement alongside William Morris, he demonstrates here his understanding of historical techniques of illustration since the medieval period. Drawing parallels across the ages, Crane notes in particular how Arts and Crafts aesthetics influenced book illustration in the late Victorian era. Featuring copious reproductions of illustrations ranging in date, style, technique and sophistication, this work reflects Crane's artistic ethos through the exploration of many examples of exquisite craftsmanship.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

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

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

WALTER CRANE



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New
Walter Crane
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

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

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.
It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108067119

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2014

This edition first published 1896
This digitally printed version 2014

ISBN 978-1-108-06711-9 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

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

THE EX-LIBRIS SERIES. EDITED BY
GLEESON WHITE.

THE DECORATIVE ILLUSTRATION
OF BOOKS. BY WALTER CRANE.

a

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)



Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

OF THE DECORATIVE ILLUSTRATION OF BOOKS OLD AND NEW BY WALTER CRANE



LONDON: GEORGE BELL AND SONS
YORK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.
NEW YORK: 66 FIFTH AVENUE
MCCCCXCVI

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PRINTED AT THE CHISWICK PRESS BY
CHARLES WHITTINGHAM & CO. TOOKS
COURT, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, E.C.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE.



HIS book had its origin in the course of three (Cantor) Lectures given before the Society of Arts in 1889; they have been amplified and added to, and further chapters have been written, treating of the very active period in printing and decorative book-illustration we have seen since that time, as well as some remarks and suggestions touching the general principles and conditions governing the design of book pages and ornaments.

It is not nearly so complete or comprehensive as I could have wished, but there are natural limits to the bulk of a volume in the "Ex-Libris" series, and it has been only possible to carry on such a work in the intervals snatched from the absorbing work of designing. Within its own lines, however, I hope that if not exhaustive, the book may be found fairly representative of the chief historical and contemporary types of decorative book-illustration.

In the selection of the illustrations, I have endeavoured to draw the line between the purely graphic aim, on the one hand, and the ornamental aim on the other—between what I should term the art of *pictorial statement* and the art of *decorative treatment*; though there are many cases in which they are combined, as, indeed, in all the most complete book-pictures, they should be. My purpose has been to treat of illustrations which are also book-ornaments, so that purely graphic design, as such, unrelated to the type, and the conditions of the page, does not come within my scope.

As book-illustration pure and simple, however, has been treated of in this series by Mr. Joseph

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE.

Pennell, whose selection is more from the graphic than the decorative point of view, the balance may be said to be adjusted as regards contemporary art.

I must offer my best thanks to Mr. Gleeson White, without whose most valuable help the book might never have been finished. He has allowed me to draw upon his remarkable collection of modern illustrated books for examples, and I am indebted to many artists for permission to use their illustrations, as well as to Messrs. George Allen, Bradbury, Agnew and Co., J. M. Dent and Co., Edmund Evans, Geddes and Co., Hacon and Ricketts (the Vale Press), John Lane, Lawrence and Bullen, Sampson Low and Co., Macmillan and Co., Elkin Mathews, Kegan Paul and Co., Walter Scott, Charles Scribner's Sons, and Virtue and Co., for their courtesy in giving me, in many cases, the use of the actual blocks.

To Mr. William Morris, who placed his beautiful collection of early printed books at my disposal, from which to choose illustrations; to Mr. Emery Walker for help in many ways; to Mr. John Calvert for permission to use some of his father's illustrations; and to Mr. Pollard who has lent me some of his early Italian examples, and has also supervised my bibliographical particulars, I desire to make my cordial acknowledgments.

WALTER CRANE.

KENSINGTON: *July 18th*, 1896.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.



CHAPTER I.—OF THE EVOLUTION OF THE ILLUSTRATIVE AND DECORATIVE IMPULSE FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES ; AND OF THE FIRST PERIOD OF DECORATIVELY ILLUSTRATED BOOKS IN THE ILLUMINATED MSS.

OF THE MIDDLE AGES. I.

CHAPTER II.—OF THE TRANSITION, AND OF THE SECOND PERIOD OF DECORATIVELY ILLUSTRATED BOOKS, FROM THE INVENTION OF PRINTING IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY ONWARDS. 45.

CHAPTER III.—OF THE PERIOD OF THE DECLINE OF DECORATIVE FEELING IN BOOK DESIGN AFTER THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY, AND OF THE MODERN REVIVAL. 125.

CHAPTER IV.—OF RECENT DEVELOPMENT OF DECORATIVE BOOK ILLUSTRATION, AND THE MODERN REVIVAL OF PRINTING AS AN ART. 185.

CHAPTER V.—OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES IN DESIGNING BOOK ORNAMENTS AND ILLUSTRATIONS : CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENT, SPACING AND TREATMENT. 279.

INDEX. 329.



Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

GERMAN SCHOOL, XVTH CENTURY.	PAGE
“Leiden Christi.” (Bamberg, 1470)	3
Boccaccio, “De Claris Mulieribus.” (Ulm, 1473)	7, 11
“Buch von den sieben Todsünden.” (Augsburg, 1474)	15
“Speculum Humanæ Vitæ.” (Augsburg, <i>cir.</i> , 1475)	17
Bible. (Cologne, 1480)	21
“Spiegel onser Behoudenisse.” (Culembourg, 1483)	25
Terence: “Eunuchus.” (Ulm, 1486)	27
“Chronica Hungariæ.” (Augsburg, 1488)	35
“Hortus Sanitatis.” (Mainz, 1491)	39
“Chroniken der Suffen.” (Mainz, 1492)	41
Bible. (Lübeck, 1494)	47
“Æsop’s Fables.” (Ulm, 1498)	53
FLEMISH SCHOOL, XVTH CENTURY.	
“Life of Christ.” (Antwerp, 1487)	31
FRENCH SCHOOL, XVTH CENTURY.	
“La Mer des Histoires.” Initial. (Paris, 1488)	37
“Paris et Vienne.” (Paris, <i>cir.</i> 1495)	51
ITALIAN SCHOOL, XVTH CENTURY.	
“De Claris Mulieribus.” (Ferrara, 1497)	54
Tuppo’s “Æsop.” (Naples, 1485)	55
P. Cremonese’s “Dante.” (Florence, 1491)	56
“Discovery of the Indies.” (Florence, 1493)	57
“Fior di Virtù.” (Florence, 1498)	58
Stephanus Caesenas: “Expositio Beati Hieronymi in Psalterium.” (Venice, 1498)	59
“Poliphili Hypnerotomachia.” (Venice, 1499)	63, 65
Ketham’s “Fasciculus Medicinæ.” (Venice, 1493)	295
Pomponius Melle. (Venice, 1478)	297
ITALIAN SCHOOL, XVITH CENTURY.	
Artist Unknown. Bernadino Corio. (Milan, Minu- ziano, 1503)	67
School of Bellini: “Supplementum Supplementi Chronicarum, etc.” (Venice, 1506)	69
Quatriregio: “The Descent of Minerva.” (Florence, 1508)	71
Aulus Gellius. (Venice, 1509)	73
Quintilian. (Venice, 1512)	75

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

ITALIAN SCHOOL, XVITH CENTURY— <i>continued.</i>	PAGE
Ottariano dei Petrucci. (Fossompone, 1513) . . .	77
Ambrosius Calepinus. (Tusculano, 1520) . . .	121
Artist unknown: Portrait title: Ludovico Dolci, 1561. (Venice, Giolito, 1562)	133
 GERMAN SCHOOL, XVITH CENTURY.	
Albrecht Dürer: "Kleine Passion." (Nuremberg, 1512)	81, 83, 85
Albrecht Dürer: "Plutarchus Chaeroneus." (Nu- remberg, 1513)	87
Albrecht Dürer: "Plutarchus Chaeroneus." (Nu- remberg, 1523)	89
Hans Holbein: "Dance of Death." (Lyons, 1538)	91, 92
Hans Holbein: Title-page: Gallia. (Basel, <i>cir.</i> 1524)	93
Hans Holbein: Bible Cuts. (Lyons, 1538) . . .	95, 96
Ambrose Holbein: "Neue Testament." (Basel, 1523)	97
Hans Burgmair: "Der Weiss König." (1512-14) .	99
Hans Burgmair: "Iornandes de Rebus Gothorum." (Augsburg, 1516)	101
Hans Burgmair: "Pliny's Natural History." (Frank- fort, 1582)	103
Hans Burgmair: "Meerfahrt zu viln onerkannten Inseln," etc. (Augsburg, 1509)	105
Hans Baldung Grün: "Hortulus Animæ." (Strass- burg, 1511)	107, 108, 109, 110
Hans Wächtlin: Title Page. (Strassburg, 1513) .	111
Hans Sebald Beham: "Das Papsthum mit seinen Gliedern." (Nuremberg, 1526)	113
"Biblia Dudesch." (Halberstadt, 1520)	117
Fuchsius: "De Historia Stirpium." (Basel, 1542).	123
Virgil Solis: Bible. (Frankfort, 1563)	131
Johann Othmar: "Pomerium de Tempore." (Augs- burg, 1502)	147
 FRENCH SCHOOL, XVITH CENTURY.	
Oronce Fine: "Quadrans Astrolabicus." (Paris, 1534)	127
 MODERN ILLUSTRATION.	
William Blake: "Songs of Innocence," 1789 . . .	137

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

MODERN ILLUSTRATION— <i>continued.</i>	PAGE
William Blake: "Phillip's Pastoral"	139
Edward Calvert: Original Woodcuts: "The Lady and the Rooks," "The Return Home," "Chamber Idyll," "The Flood," "Ideal Pastoral Life," "The Brook," 1827-29	141, 143
Dante Gabriel Rossetti: "Tennyson's Poems," 1857	151
Dante Gabriel Rossetti: "Early Italian Poets," 1861	153
Albert Moore: "Milton's Ode on the Nativity," 1867	155
Henry Holiday: Cover for "Aglaiia," 1893	157
Randolph Caldecott: Headpiece to "Bracebridge Hall," 1877	158
Kate Greenaway: Title Page of "Mother Goose"	159
Arthur Hughes: "At the Back of the North Wind," 1871	160, 161
Arthur Hughes: "Mercy" ("Good Words for the Young," 1871)	304
Robert Bateman: "Art in the House," 1876	162, 163, 164, 165
Heywood Sumner: Peard's "Stories for Children," 1896	167, 170
Charles Keene: "A Good Fight." ("Once a Week," 1859)	169
Louis Davis: "Sleep, Baby, Sleep" ("English Illus- trated Magazine," 1892)	171
Henry Ryland: "Forget not yet" ("English Illus- trated Magazine," 1894)	173
Frederick Sandys: "The Old Chartist" ("Once a Week," 1861)	175
M. J. Lawless: "Dead Love" ("Once a Week," 1862)	177
Walter Crane: Grimm's "Household Stories," 1882	179
Walter Crane: "Princess Fiorimonde," 1880	181
Walter Crane: "The Sirens Three," 1886	183
Selwyn Image: "Scottish Art Review," 1889	187
William Morris and Walter Crane: "The Glittering Plain," 1894	191, 290, 291
C. M. Gere: "Midsummer" ("English Illustrated Magazine," 1893)	195
C. M. Gere: "The Birth of St. George"	197
Arthur Gaskin: "Hans Andersen," 1893	199

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

MODERN ILLUSTRATION— <i>continued.</i>	PAGE
E. H. New: "Bridge Street, Evesham"	201
Inigo Thomas: "The Formal Garden," 1892	204, 205
Henry Payne: "A Book of Carols," 1893	209
F. Mason: "Huon of Bordeaux," 1895	211
Gertrude, M. Bradley: "The Cherry Festival,"	213
Mary Newill: Porlock	215
Celia Levetus: A Bookplate	217
C. S. Ricketts: "Hero and Leander," 1894	219
C. S. Ricketts: "Daphnis and Chloe," 1893	223
C. H. Shannon: "Daphnis and Chloe," 1893	224
Aubrey Beardsley: "Morte d'Arthur," 1893	225, 227, 228
Patten Wilson: A Pen Drawing	229
Laurence Housman: "The House of Joy," 1895	231
L. Fairfax Muckley: "Frangilla"	233
Charles Robinson: "A Child's Garden of Verse," 1895	235, 237, 239
J. D. Batten: "The Arabian Nights," 1893	241, 242
R. Anning Bell: "A Midsummer Night's Dream," 1895	243
R. Anning Bell: "Beauty and the Beast," 1894	245
R. Spence: A Pen Drawing	247
Alfred Jones: "The Tournament of Love," 1894	249
William Strang: "Baron Munchausen," 1895	251, 253
H. Granville Fell: "Cinderella," 1894	254
John Duncan: "Apollo's Schooldays" ("The Ever- green," 1895)	255
John Duncan: "Pipes of Arcady" ("The Ever- green," 1895)	257
Robert Burns: "The Passer-By" ("The Evergreen," 1895)	257
Mary Sargent Florence: "The Crystal Ball," 1894	261
Paul Woodroffe: "Ye Second Book of Nursery Rhymes," 1896	263
Paul Woodroffe: "Ye Book of Nursery Rhymes," 1895	263
M. Rysselburgher: "Dietrich's Almanack," 1894	264
Walter Crane: "Spenser's Faerie Queen," 1896	269, 281, 283, 285
Howard Pyle: "Otto of the Silver Hand"	270, 271
Will. H. Bradley: Covers for "The Inland Printer," 1894	273, 274

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06711-9 - Of the Decorative Illustration of Books Old and New

Walter Crane

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

MODERN ILLUSTRATION— <i>continued.</i>	PAGE
Will. H. Bradley: Prospectus for "Bradley His Book," 1896	275
Will. H. Bradley: Design for "The Chap Book," 1895	277
Alan Wright: Headpieces from "The Story of My House," 1892	305, 335
The untitled tailpieces throughout this volume are from Grimm's "Household Stories," illustrated by Walter Crane. (Macmillan, 1882.)	

APPENDIX OF HALF-TONE BLOCKS.

- I. Book of Kells. Irish, VIth century.
- II., III., IV. Arundel Psalter. English, XIVth century. (Arundel MSS. 83 B. M.)
- V. Epistle of Phillipe de Comines to Richard II. French, XIVth century. (Royal MSS. 20 B. vi. B. M.)
- VI., VII. Bedford Hours. (MSS. 18, 850 B. M.)
- VIII. Romance of the Rose. English, late XVth century. (Hast. MSS. 4, 425.)
- IX. Choir Book. Siena. Italian, XVth century.
- X., XI. Hokusai. Japanese, XIXth century.

