

THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO *GULLIVER'S TRAVELS*

Jonathan Swift's satirical masterpiece, *Gulliver's Travels*, has shocked and delighted readers worldwide since its publication in 1726. At turns a humorous and harrowing indictment of human behaviour, it has been endlessly reinterpreted by critics and adapted across media by other artists. *The Cambridge Companion to Gulliver's Travels* comprises seventeen original chapters by leading scholars, written in a theoretically informed but accessible style. As well as providing detailed close readings of each part of the narrative, this *Companion* relates *Gulliver's Travels* to the political, religious, scientific, colonial, and intellectual debates in which Swift was engaged, and it assesses the form of the book as a novel, travel book, philosophical treatise, and satire. Finally, it explores the *Travels'* rich and varied afterlives: the controversies it has fuelled, the films and artworks it has inspired, and the enduring need authors have felt to 'write back' to Swift's original, disturbing, and challenging story.

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Edited by Daniel Cook , Nicholas Seager
Frontmatter
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Abbreviations

<i>BJECS</i>	<i>British Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies</i>
<i>Correspondence</i>	<i>The Correspondence of Jonathan Swift, D.D.</i> , 5 vols., ed. David Woolley (Frankfurt-am-Main: Peter Lang, 1994–2014)
<i>ECS</i>	<i>Eighteenth-Century Studies</i>
Ehrenpreis	Irvin Ehrenpreis, <i>Swift: The Man, His Works and the Age</i> , 3 vols. (London: Methuen, 1958–83)
<i>ELH</i>	<i>English Literary History</i>
<i>GT</i>	Jonathan Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> , ed. David Womersley, The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012)
<i>Irish Political Writings after 1725</i>	Jonathan Swift, <i>Irish Political Writings after 1725: A Modest Proposal and Other Works</i> , ed. D. W. Hayton and Adam Rounce, The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018)
<i>JECS</i>	<i>Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies</i>
<i>Journal to Stella</i>	Jonathan Swift, <i>Journal to Stella</i> , ed. Abigail Williams, The Cambridge Edition of the Works

List of Abbreviations

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	of Jonathan Swift (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013)
<i>MLQ</i>	<i>Modern Language Quarterly</i>
<i>MLR</i>	<i>Modern Language Review</i>
<i>MP</i>	<i>Modern Philology</i>
<i>Münster 1</i>	<i>Proceedings of the First Münster Symposium on Jonathan Swift</i> , ed. Hermann Real and Heinz J. Vienken (Munich: Wilhelm Fink Verlag, 1985)
<i>Münster 2</i>	<i>Reading Swift: Papers from the Second Münster Symposium on Jonathan Swift</i> , ed. Richard H. Rodino and Hermann J. Real (Munich: Wilhelm Fink Verlag, 1993)
<i>Münster 3</i>	<i>Reading Swift: Papers from the Third Münster Symposium on Jonathan Swift</i> , ed. Hermann J. Real and Helgard Stöver-Leidig (Munich: Wilhelm Fink, 1998)
<i>Münster 4</i>	<i>Reading Swift: Papers from the Fourth Münster Symposium on Jonathan Swift</i> , ed. Hermann J. Real and Helgard Stöver-Leidig (Munich: Wilhelm Fink, 2003)
<i>Münster 5</i>	<i>Reading Swift: Papers from the Fifth Münster Symposium on Jonathan Swift</i> , ed. Hermann J. Real (Munich: Wilhelm Fink, 2008)
<i>Münster 6</i>	<i>Reading Swift: Papers from the Sixth Münster Symposium on Jonathan Swift</i> , ed. Kirsten Juhas, Hermann J. Real, and Sandra Simon (Munich: Wilhelm Fink, 2013)
<i>Münster 7</i>	<i>Reading Swift: Papers from the Seventh Münster Symposium on Jonathan Swift</i> , ed. Janika Bischof, Kirsten Juhas, and Hermann J. Real (Munich: Wilhelm Fink, 2019)

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List of Abbreviations

N&Q
OED
PMLA

Poems

PQ
Prose Writings

RES
SEL

SP
SStud
Tale

TSLL

Notes and Queries
Oxford English Dictionary
Publications of the Modern Language Association of America
The Poems of Jonathan Swift, 3 vols., 2nd ed., ed. Harold Williams (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1958)
Philological Quarterly
The Prose Writings of Jonathan Swift, 16 vols., eds. Herbert Davis et al. (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1939–68)
Review of English Studies
Studies in English Literature, 1500–1900
Studies in Philology
Swift Studies
 Jonathan Swift, *A Tale of a Tub and Other Works*, ed. Marcus Walsh, The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010)
Texas Studies in Language and Literature

Note on the Text

Parenthesised quotations from *Gulliver's Travels* refer to the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift volume of *Gulliver's Travels*, edited by David Womersley (Cambridge University Press, 2012). They give part, chapter, and page number in the form II, ii, 150. Citations of prefatory sections or ancillary material in this edition are denoted by *GT*. The place of publication for pre-1800 works is London, unless otherwise stated. Publisher information for pre-1800 works is not provided.

Chronology

- 1660 Restoration of Charles II (May)
Birth of Lemuel Gulliver
- 1665 Second Anglo-Dutch War begins in March (ending July 1667)
Plague in London
- 1666 The Great Fire of London (September)
- 1667 Jonathan Swift's father dies (March or April)
Swift is born in Dublin (30 November)
- 1672 Third Anglo-Dutch War begins in April (ending February 1674)
- 1673 Swift is schooled at Kilkenny (until 1682)
- 1674 Aged fourteen, Gulliver enters Emmanuel College, Cambridge
- 1677 Gulliver is bound apprentice to James Bates
- 1679 The Exclusion Crisis lasts for two years
- 1681 Gulliver studies medicine at Leyden
- 1682 Swift enters Trinity College Dublin
- 1684 Gulliver's voyage to the Levant
- 1685 Death of Charles II; accession of James II (February)
The Monmouth Rebellion (June to July)
- 1688 Gulliver marries Mary Burton
The Glorious Revolution (November)
James II flees to France (23 December)
- 1689 Swift leaves Ireland for England
Ascension of William and Mary
- 1690 Gulliver begins six years of voyages to the East and West Indies
The Battle of the Boyne (1 July)
- 1691 Treaty of Limerick ends civil war in Ireland (3 October)
- 1692 Swift takes the degree of MA at Oxford
- 1694 Returning to Ireland, Swift takes deacon's orders
The Bank of England is founded (27 July)
- 1695 Ordained as a priest, Swift becomes a prebendary at Kilroot near Belfast

Chronology

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- 1696 Moving to Fetter Lane, Gulliver begins an unsuccessful medical practice
 War breaks out between Lilliput and Blefuscu
 Swift resides at Moor Park, in Surrey, as secretary to Sir William Temple
- 1699 Death of Temple (27 January)
 Gulliver sets sail on voyage to Lilliput (4 May)
 Swift returns to Ireland as chaplain to the Earl of Berkeley (August)
 Gulliver is shipwrecked on the coast of Lilliput (5 November), hauled to Mildendo (6 November), and meets the Emperor of Lilliput (7 November)
- 1700 Swift is appointed Vicar of Laracor in Co. Meath (February)
 Swift is appointed prebendary of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin
- 1701 The Act of Settlement (June)
 Swift is in England (April to September)
 Gulliver leaves Lilliput for Blefuscu (18 August)
 Death of James II (16 September)
 Gulliver leaves Blefuscu (24 September)
 Gulliver is rescued by Captain Biddel (26 September)
- 1702 Swift takes the degree of DD at Trinity College Dublin (February)
 Death of William III; accession of Queen Anne (March)
 Swift is in England (April to October)
 Gulliver arrives at the Downs, off the southern English coast (13 April)
 Gulliver sets sail on voyage to Brobdingnag (20 June)
 Gulliver winters at the Cape of Good Hope
- 1703 After encountering storms and monsoons, Gulliver lands in Brobdingnag (17 June)
 Gulliver sets out for Lorbrulgrud (17 August)
 Gulliver arrives at Lorbrulgrud (24 October)
 Swift is in England (November)
 The Great Storm (27 November)
- 1704 The Lindalino Rebellion against Laputa
A Tale of a Tub is published (May)
 Swift returns to Ireland (June)
 The Battle of Blenheim (13 August)
- 1705 Gulliver is seized by an eagle; rescued by Captain Wilcocks
- 1706 Gulliver arrives at the Downs (3 June)
 Gulliver sets sail on voyage to Laputa (5 August)

- xviii *Chronology*
- 1707 Gulliver arrives at Fort St George (11 April)
 Parliamentary union of England and Scotland (1 May)
 Swift spends the next two years in England
- 1708 Gulliver leaves the flying island (16 February)
 The Battle of Oudenarde (11 July)
- 1709 Gulliver arrives in Luggnagg (21 April)
 Gulliver leaves Luggnagg (6 May)
 Gulliver's interview with the Emperor of Japan (28 May)
 Gulliver arrives in Nangasac (9 June)
 Swift returns to Dublin (June)
- 1710 Gulliver lands in Amsterdam (6 April)
 Gulliver arrives at the Downs (10 April)
 Gulliver sets sail on voyage to the land of the Houyhnhnms (7 September)
 Swift is a government propagandist in London for the next four years
- 1711 Gulliver is marooned in Houyhnhnm-land (9 May)
- 1712 The Bandbox Plot against the Lord Treasurer foiled by Swift (4 November)
- 1713 Swift installed as Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin
 The Treaty of Utrecht (11 April)
- 1714 Swift's *Public Spirit of the Whigs* declared libellous (February)
 Death of Queen Anne; accession of George I (August)
 An assembly of the Houyhnhnms discusses Gulliver's qualities (21 September)
 The Houyhnhnms banish Gulliver (31 December)
- 1715 Gulliver leaves Houyhnhnm-land (15 February)
 Gulliver is picked up by Pedro de Mendez (20 February)
 Death of Louis XIV (1 September)
 Gulliver arrives at Lisbon (5 November)
 Gulliver arrives at the Downs, and returns home to Redriff (5 December)
 Jacobite rising in support of James Edward Stuart
- 1720 Gulliver composes his narrative
 The South Sea Bubble crisis
- 1721 Robert Walpole becomes the first prime minister in effect
- 1722 Swift undertakes a six-month tour of the north of Ireland (April)
 Bishop Francis Atterbury is implicated in a Jacobite plot (August)
- 1723 Gulliver moves to Newark
 The trial and exile of Atterbury (May and June)

Chronology

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- 1724 Swift undertakes a four-month tour of southern Ireland (June)
Swift completes Part IV of *Gulliver's Travels* (January)
Drapier's Letters is published in separate pamphlets (March–December)
A bounty is offered for exposing the identity of the author of *Drapier's Letters*
- 1725 Swift is created freeman of the City of Dublin (April)
Swift completes *Gulliver's Travels*
- 1726 Swift is in London (March to August)
The first edition of *Gulliver's Travels* is published (28 October)
- 1727 Gulliver composes the prefatory letter to Richard Sympson, his print agent (2 April)
Death of George I; accession of George II (June)

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