This new collection enables students and general readers to appreciate Coleridge’s renewed relevance 250 years after his birth. An indispensable guide to his writing for twenty-first-century readers, it contains new perspectives that reframe his work in relation to slavery, race, war, post-traumatic stress disorder and ecological crisis. Through detailed engagement with Coleridge’s pioneering poetry, the reader is invited to explore fundamental questions on themes ranging from nature and trauma to gender and sexuality. Essays by leading Coleridge scholars analyse and render accessible his innovative thinking about dreams, psychoanalysis, genius and symbolism. Coleridge is often a direct and gripping writer, yet he is also elusive and diverse. This Companion’s great achievement is to offer a one-volume entry point into his rich and varied world.

Tim Fulford is Professor of English and Director of the Biennial Coleridge Conference. He is the winner of the 2019 Robert Penn Warren/Cleanth Brooks Award for Literary Scholarship.
THE NEW CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO COLERIDGE

EDITED BY

TIM FULFORD
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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS


TOM DUGGETT is Senior Associate Professor (Reader) in Romanticism at Xi’an Jiaotong–Liverpool University (XJTLU; Suzhou, China) and Honorary Fellow of the Department of English, University of Liverpool. He is the author of *Gothic Romanticism* (2010), a study of Wordsworth, Coleridge and the ancient constitution, which received the Modern Language Association of America’s Prize for Independent Scholars for Distinguished Research in Language and Literature (2012). Tom was a guest editor of the special issue of *The Wordsworth Circle* marking the bicentenary of Wordsworth’s *Excursion* and is currently an advisory editor of *Romanticism*. He has also produced a two-volume scholarly edition of Robert Southey’s *Sir Thomas More: or, Colloquies on the Progress and Prospects of Society*, published in the Pickering Masters series in 2018.
Notes on Contributors


Nicholas Halmi is Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Oxford and Margaret Candfield Fellow of University College, Oxford. He is the author of *The Genealogy of the Romantic Symbol* (2007), editor of *Wordsworth’s Poetry and Prose* (2013) and co-editor of *Coleridge’s Poetry and Prose* (2003). He is currently completing a study of historicization and aesthetics in the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries.

Kurtis Hessel is a teaching assistant professor in the Program for Writing and Rhetoric at the University of Colorado Boulder. His research examines the slow development of intellectual disciplines and the changing relationship between literature and chemistry during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. He has published articles in *Studies in Romanticism, European Romantic Review, Configurations* and *The Coleridge Bulletin*.

Felicity James is Associate Professor of Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century English Literature at the University of Leicester. Her research focuses on Charles and Mary Lamb and their friendship circle, including Coleridge and Wordsworth, religious Dissent and life writing. Key publications include the forgotten novel of Elizabeth Hays Lanfear, *Fatal Errors; or Poor Mary-Anne: A Tale of the Last Century* (2019), co-edited
NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS


Ewan James Jones is Associate Professor in English at the University of Cambridge. He is the author of Coleridge and the Philosophy of Poetic Form (2014), in addition to numerous articles on prosody, nineteenth-century verse and computational forms of reading. At the point of writing he is a recipient of a Leverhulme Research Fellowship, through which he is researching poetic and scientific modes of attention.

Gregory Leadbetter is Professor of Poetry at Birmingham City University. His research focuses on Romantic poetry and thought, the traditions to which these relate and the history and practice of poetry more generally. His book Coleridge and the Daemonic Imagination (2011) won the University English Book Prize 2012. His books of poetry include Balanuve (with photographs by Phil Thomson) (2021), Maskwork (2020), The Fetch (2016) and the pamphlet The Body in the Well (2007).

Jacob Lloyd is a tutor and fellow at the Montag Centre for Overseas Studies, Stanford University in Oxford. He completed his DPhil thesis on Coleridge’s political poetics at Balliol College, Oxford. He has published several articles on Coleridge’s poetry and philosophical thought.

Charles W. Mahoney is Professor of English, and Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies at the University of Connecticut. He is currently preparing an edition of Coleridge’s writings on Shakespeare. In 2019, he succeeded Marilyn Gaull as the editor of The Wordsworth Circle.

Thomas Owens is an assistant professor of English at Stanford University. He specializes in literature of the long nineteenth century and is the author of Wordsworth, Coleridge, and ‘the Language of the Heavens’ (2019).

Margaret Russett teaches at the University of Southern California and sometimes, when the stars align, at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul. She is the author of two books on Romantic poetry and prose: De Quincey’s Romanticism (1997) and Fictions and Fakes (2006). She has also published numerous essays on gothic fiction and Romantic poetics, with special emphasis on Coleridge and the ‘suspension of disbelief’.
N O T E S  O N  C O N T R I B U T O R S

K A R E N  S W A N N is the Williams College Morris Professor of Rhetoric, Emerita. She is the author of Lives of the Dead Poets: Keats, Shelley, Coleridge (2019), as well as numerous articles on poetry of the Romantic period. She is currently working on a study of John Clare’s natural history writing.

J O A N N A  E.  T A Y L O R is Lecturer in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Digital Humanities at the University of Manchester. Her research explores intersections between literary geographies, digital cartographies and environmental humanities, the themes of a book, co-authored with Ian Gregory, titled Deep Mapping the Literary Lake District: A Geographical Text Analysis (2022).

A L A N  V A R D Y is Professor of English at Hunter College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York. He is the author of ‘Coleridge on Broad Stand’ in Romanticism and Victorianism on the Net (2012) and is currently completing a book entitled In Transit: Time and Terrain in British Romantic Writing.
CHRONOLOGY

1772 Born at Ottery St Mary, Devon (21 October).
1781 Father dies unexpectedly.
1782 Sent to school at Christ’s Hospital, London.
1792 Jesus College, Cambridge.
1793 Attends the trial of William Frend (May); enlists in the army under the pseudonym Silas Tomkyn Comberbach (December).
1794 Returns to Cambridge; collaboration with Robert Southey; plan to emigrate and set up commune (Pantisocracy); publishes jointly written The Fall of Robespierre; begins Religious Musings.
1795 Political lectures at Bristol in conjunction with Southey; marriage to Sara Fricker, sister of Southey’s bride; political pamphleteering in Bristol in conjunction with Thomas Beddoes; publishes Conciones ad Populum; assistance from Bristol bookseller Joseph Cottle.
1797 Moves to Nether Stowey, Somerset, near Thomas Poole (January). Invites William and Dorothy Wordsworth to live near him in Somerset (June); ‘annus mirabilis’ outpouring of ‘conversation’ poems and ballads begins; writes a play, Osorio; publishes Poems, to Which Are Now Added, Poems by Charles Lamb and Charles Lloyd. Meets Beddoes’s friends Thomas and Josiah Wedgwood.
1798 Meets William Hazlitt (January); accepts offer of annuity from the Wedgwoods, freeing him from the need to earn his living as a Unitarian minister. Fears in Solitude published,
chronology

including ‘Frost at Midnight’; starts writing for The Morning Post; collaboration with Wordsworth and anonymous joint publication of Lyrical Ballads, including ‘The Rime of the Ancyent Marinere’; second son, Berkeley, born in May; visit to Germany with the Wordsworths (September–July 1799).

1799 Attends Göttingen University, studying natural history, philosophy and Biblical criticism. Death of Berkeley (April); goes on walking tour of Harz mountains with fellow students; return to England in July; meets brilliant young chemist Humphry Davy, inhales nitrous oxide at Beddoes’s Pneumatic Institution; meets Sara Hutchinson, sister of Wordsworth’s future bride (October); working for The Morning Post.

1800 Moves to Greta Hall, Keswick, to be near the Wordsworths in Grasmere; second edition of Lyrical Ballads published.

1801 Ill and using opium heavily. In London (December–April 1802) writing for newspapers.

1802 Marriage starts to founder as love for Sara Hutchinson develops; goes on solo walking tour of Lake District, describing it in letters to Sara Hutchinson (August). Writes verse ‘Letter to Sara’, published in redacted version as ‘Dejection: An Ode’; birth of daughter, whom he names Sara.

1803 Poems (1803); Scottish tour with the Wordsworths ends in separation; opium addiction worsens. Writes ‘The Pains of Sleep’. Invites Southey and Southey’s wife to share his home, Greta Hall.

1804 Addiction leads to health problems. Goes to Malta for his health; becomes Acting Public Secretary there. Loneliness, longing for Sara Hutchinson; addiction. Turns away from Unitarianism towards Trinitarian Anglicanism.

1806 Returns to England via Sicily, Naples, Rome, Florence; separates from his wife; stays with Wordsworths at Coleorton, Leicestershire, where Wordsworth reads The Prelude to him. Experiences jealous anger over Wordsworth’s supposed attractiveness to Sara Hutchinson.

1807 Moves between London, Stowey and Bristol.

1808 ‘Lectures on the Principles of Poetry’ at the Royal Institution, invited by Humphry Davy; moves to Allan Bank, Grasmere, to live with the Wordsworths; begins to publish his weekly journal The Friend, dictating copy to Sara Hutchinson.

1809–10 Publishes twenty-eight numbers of The Friend.
**Chronology**

1810 Rift with the Wordsworths caused by his conduct as a housemate (addiction) and by his resentment of Wordsworth’s displeasure at this conduct. Leaves Grasmere, never to return. Platonic affair with Sara Hutchinson also ends.

1811 Writing for *The Courier* newspaper in London. Living in Hammersmith with a Bristol friend, John Morgan, Morgan’s wife, Mary, and sister-in-law, Charlotte Brent.

1811–12 Lectures on drama and Shakespeare in London. Quarrel with Wordsworth patched up but intimacy not resumed.

1813 *Remorse* (a revised version of the drama *Osorio*) is performed at Drury Lane. Coleridge in Bristol and Bath, where in December he has an opium-induced crisis. Supports Mary Morgan and Charlotte Brent in lodgings near Bath, John Morgan having escaped to Ireland to avoid arrest for debt.

1814 Lectures in Bristol; cared for there by a Bristol friend, Josiah Wade. Moves with the Morgans to Calne, Wiltshire (December).

1815 Composes *Biographia Literaria* and a new play, Zapolya, and collects poems for publication (Sibylline Leaves) while in Calne, living with the Morgans. His feelings for Charlotte Brent and return to opium and alcohol use cause tensions.

1816 Leaves Calne for London with the Morgans; further opium crises; moves into the Highgate house of James Gillman, surgeon, who undertakes to treat his opium addiction. Lives with the Gillmans for the rest of his life. Publishes ‘Christabel’ and ‘Kubla Khan’ with help from Byron. Publishes *The Statesman’s Manual*.

1817 Publishes Zapolya, also *Biographia Literaria*, in which he plays down his radical politics and Unitarian religion of the 1790s and early 1800s. Collects poems in *Sibylline Leaves*; lectures on poetry and drama (January–March).

1818 Publishes *The Friend* (3-vol. edition); lectures on literature and philosophy.

1819 Meets Keats; occasional contributions to *Blackwood’s*.

1821 Begins philosophical/theological work, *Opus Maximum*.

1823 Sees his daughter Sara for the first time in ten years. Henry Nelson Coleridge begins recording *Table Talk*.

1825 *Aids to Reflection* published.

1828 *Poetical Works* (3 vols). Tours the Rhine with Wordsworth.

1829 *On the Constitution of Church and State*.

1834 Death at Highgate.

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ABBREVIATIONS

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