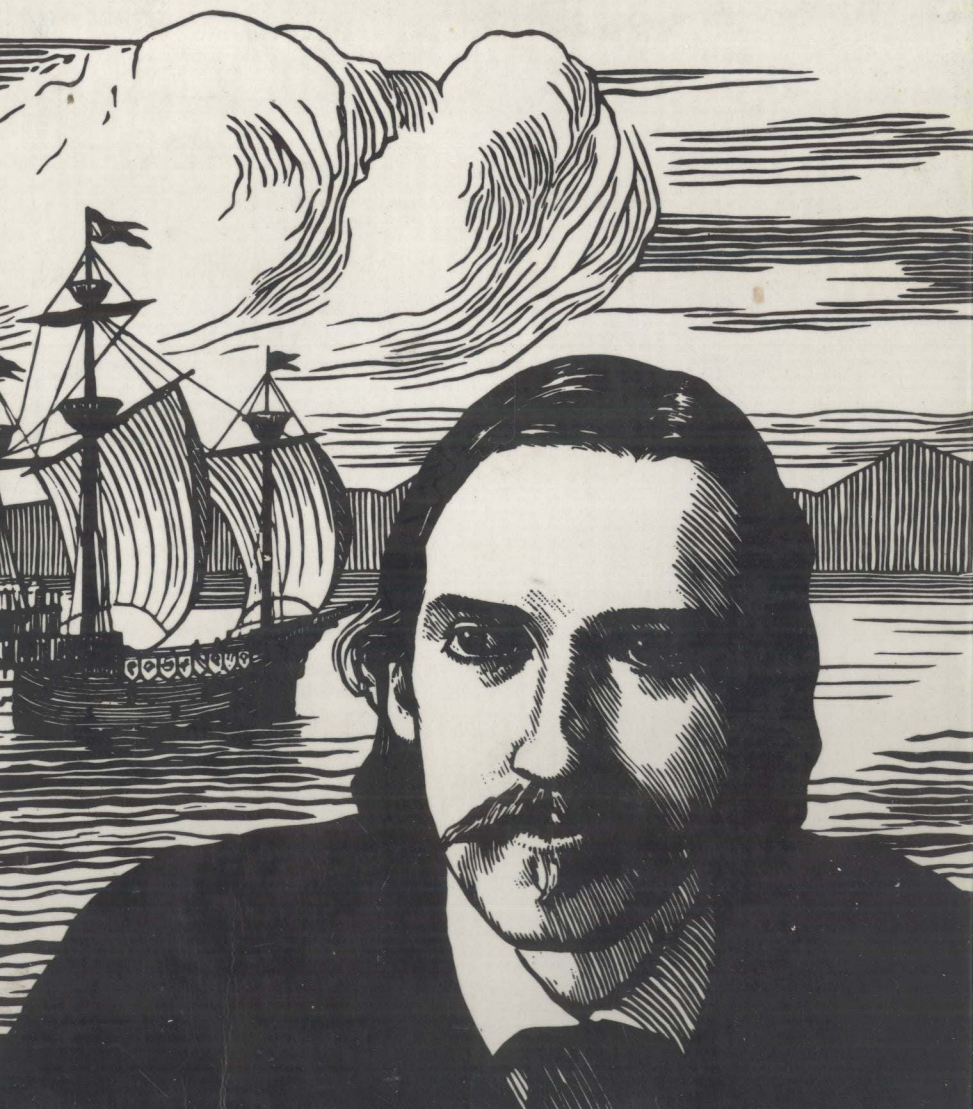


# ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

## THE CRITICAL HERITAGE

Edited by Paul Maixner



# ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

*THE CRITICAL HERITAGE*

*Edited by*  
PAUL MAIXNER

*Late Professor of English*  
*Rhode Island College*

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## General Editor's Preface

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The reception given to a writer by his contemporaries and near-contemporaries is evidence of considerable value to the student of literature. On one side we learn a great deal about the state of criticism at large and in particular about the development of critical attitudes towards a single writer; at the same time, through private comments in letters, journals or marginalia, we gain an insight upon the tastes and literary thought of individual readers of the period. Evidence of this kind helps us to understand the writer's historical situation, the nature of his immediate reading-public, and his response to these pressures.

The separate volumes in the *Critical Heritage Series* present a record of this early criticism. Clearly, for many of the highly productive and lengthily reviewed nineteenth- and twentieth-century writers, there exists an enormous body of material; and in these cases the volume editors have made a selection of the most important views, significant for their intrinsic critical worth or for their representative quality—perhaps even registering incomprehension!

For earlier writers, notably pre-eighteenth century, the materials are much scarcer and the historical period has been extended, sometimes far beyond the writer's lifetime, in order to show the inception and growth of critical views which were initially slow to appear.

In each volume the documents are headed by an Introduction, discussing the material assembled and relating the early stages of the author's reception to what we have come to identify as the critical tradition. The volumes will make available much material which would otherwise be difficult of access and it is hoped that the modern reader will be thereby helped towards an informed understanding of the ways in which literature has been read and judged.

B.C.S.

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To  
J. Thomson King  
*whose gift led me to reconsider Stevenson*

# Acknowledgments

I should like to thank the following for permission to use materials: Associated Newspapers Group Ltd for reviews in the 'Daily Chronicle' and the 'Daily News'; the editors of the 'Contemporary Review', the 'Glasgow Herald', the 'Nation' (New York), 'Punch', the 'Scotsman', the 'Spectator', and 'The Times' for articles and reviews from their pages; the editors of the 'New Statesman' for reviews from the 'Athenaeum'; William Blackwood & Sons Ltd for M.O.W. Oliphant's reviews in 'Blackwood's Magazine'; Joan M. Ling for Sir James Barrie's essay in 'The Edinburgh Eleven'; A. & C. Black Ltd for an excerpt from 'The Letters of Dr John Brown', edited by his son and D.W. Forrest; Mrs C.S. Evans for an excerpt from an unpublished letter by Dr John Brown; Miss D.E. Collins for an article by G.K. Chesterton; Jennifer Gosse for extracts from 'The Life and Letters of Sir Edmund Gosse', ed. Evan Charteris, for an essay from Gosse's 'Questions at Issue', and for extracts from unpublished letters by Gosse; Oxford University Press for extracts from 'The Correspondence of G.M. Hopkins and R.W. Dixon', ed. C.C. Abbott, and 'The Letters of G.M. Hopkins to Robert Bridges', ed. C.C. Abbott, published by Oxford University Press by arrangement with the Society of Jesus; The Bodley Head Ltd for an extract from Vernon Lee's 'The Handling of Words'; Charles Scribner's Sons and John Farquharson Ltd for numerous extracts from 'The Letters of Henry James', ed. Percy Lubbock; The Society of Authors as the literary representative of the Estate of Richard Le Gallienne for reviews by Le Gallienne in 'Retrospective Reviews'; The Clarendon Press for extracts from 'The Letters of George Meredith', ed. C.L. Cline, © 1970 Oxford University Press; J.C. Medley and R.G. Medley, owners of the copyright in George Moore, for an extract from 'The Confessions of a Young Man' and for reviews printed in the 'Hawk' and the 'Daily Chronicle';

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I wish to thank the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland, the Huntington Library, San Marino, California, and the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, for permission to use the materials in their holdings. I should also like to express my deep appreciation for the courtesy and helpfulness of Mr Alan Bell, Assistant Keeper, Department of Manuscripts, National Library of Scotland; Miss Marjorie G. Wynne, Research Librarian, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library; and Mr Robert Reese, State Park Historian, Monterey, California. Furthermore, I wish to acknowledge my debt to Miss Marion Fleisher for the identification of reviews in the 'Athenaeum'; to Mr C.A. Seaton for the same service with regard to reviews in the 'Spectator'; and to numerous friends and acquaintances for checking information in libraries in Scotland, England, and the United States. For grants in support of my research I should like to

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# Note on the Text

The items printed in this volume, whether from books, periodicals, or unpublished materials, follow the originals in every important respect. All omissions have been clearly indicated; in the reviews these consist for the most part of summaries or lengthy quotations from Stevenson's work. Typographical errors, unless they have some special significance, have been corrected without remark and titles have been made uniform. The following abbreviations have been used throughout:

- B                      Unpublished materials in the Beinecke Collection, Yale University Library. Items are indicated by their catalogue number in George L. McKay's 'The Stevenson Library of Edwin J. Beinecke', 6 vols, 1951-64.
- LS                     'The Letters of Robert Louis Stevenson', South Seas Edition, ed. Sir Sidney Colvin, 1925. The four volumes of letters (xxix-xxxii of the edition) are numbered separately; references are to the volume number in respect to the letter series rather than the edition. The South Seas Edition of the letters is the most complete to date.
- Balfour, 'Life'        Sir Graham Balfour, 'The Life of Robert Louis Stevenson', 2 vols, 1901.
- Furnas, 'Voyage'      J. C. Furnas, 'Voyage to Windward: The Life of Robert Louis Stevenson', 1952.

# Chronology of Works

- [1850 Stevenson born.]
- 1878 'Inland Voyage' (April).  
'Edinburgh: Picturesque Notes' (December).  
Periodically in the 'Portfolio', June-December 1878.
- 1879 'Travels with a Donkey' (June).
- 1881 'Virginibus Puerisque' (April). All essays  
but Some Portraits of Raeburn published  
earlier in 'Cornhill', 'Macmillan's',  
'London'.
- 1882 'Familiar Studies of Men and Books'  
(February). Essays published earlier in  
'Cornhill', 'New Quarterly Review', 'Mac-  
millan's'.  
'New Arabian Nights' (July). Stories in  
vol. i published earlier as 'Latter-Day  
Arabian Nights' in 'London', 8 June - 26  
October 1878; stories in vol. ii published  
earlier in 'Cornhill', 'Temple Bar', 'London'.
- 1883 'Treasure Island' (November). Periodically  
in 'Young Folks', 1 October 1881 - 28 Janu-  
ary 1882.  
'Silverado Squatters' (December). Periodi-  
cally in 'Century Illustrated Magazine',  
November-December 1883.
- 1885 'A Child's Garden of Verses' (March). Some  
verses published earlier in 'Magazine of  
Art'.  
'More New Arabian Nights: The Dynamiter'  
(April).  
'Prince Otto' (November). Periodically in  
'Longman's', April-October 1885.
- 1886 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'  
(January).

- 1886 'Kidnapped' (July). Periodically in 'Young  
(continued) Folks', 1 May - 13 July 1886.
- 1887 'The Merry Men' (February). Stories published earlier in 'Cornhill', 'The Broken Shaft', the 'Court and Society Review', 'Longman's'.  
'Underwoods' (July). Some verses published earlier in 'Magazine of Art', 'Cornhill', 'Atlantic Monthly', etc.  
'Memories and Portraits' (November). Essays published earlier in 'Cornhill', 'Longman's', 'Edinburgh University Magazine', etc.
- 1888 'Mémorial of Fleeming Jenkin' (January).  
'The Black Arrow' (June). Periodically in 'Young Folks', 30 June - 20 October 1883.
- 1889 'The Wrong Box' (June).  
'The Master of Ballantrae' (September). Periodically in 'Scribner's Magazine', November 1888 - October 1889.
- 1890 'Father Damien' (July). Published earlier in 'Scots Observer', 3 and 20 May 1890, and in the 'Australian Star', 24 May 1890.  
'Ballads' (December). Several ballads published earlier in 'Scribner's' and 'Scots Observer'.
- 1892 'Across the Plains' (April). Essays appeared earlier in 'Longman's', 'Fraser's', 'Magazine of Art', 'Scribner's'.  
'The Wrecker' (June). Periodically in 'Scribner's', August 1891 - July 1892.  
'A Footnote to History' (August).
- 1893 'Island Nights' Entertainments' (April). Stories published earlier in 'Illustrated London News', 'Black and White', 'National Observer'.  
'Catriona' (September). Periodically as 'David Balfour' in 'Atalanta', December 1892 - September 1893.
- 1894 'The Ebb-Tide' (September). Periodically in 'To-Day', 11 November 1893 - 3 February 1894; 'McClure's Magazine' (USA), February-July 1894.  
Edinburgh Edition, vol. 1 (November). Remaining twenty-seven volumes appeared at intervals to June 1898.  
[Stevenson dies, 4 December.]
- 1895 'Amateur Emigrant' (January). Text of 1880 extensively revised.  
'Vailima Letters' (October).

- 1896 'Fables' (March). Periodically in 'Longman's', August-September 1895.  
 'Weir of Hermiston' (May). Periodically in 'Cosmopolis', January-April 1896.  
 'Songs of Travel' (August). Verses previously printed in 'Pall Mall Gazette', 'New Review', 'Scots Observer', etc. The collection first printed in book form in vol. xiv of the Edinburgh Edition (December 1895).  
 'In the South Seas' (September). Published earlier in full in the New York 'Sun' between February and December 1891; published in part in 'Black and White' during the same period. First printed in book form in vol. xx of the Edinburgh Edition (June 1896).
- 1897 'St Ives' (October). Periodically in 'Pall Mall Magazine', November 1896 - November 1897.
- 1899 'Letters to Family and Friends', ed. Sidney Colvin (November).
- [1901 Graham Balfour, 'Life of Stevenson'.]  
 1895[-1912] Thistle Edition (New York).  
 1906[-1907] Pentland Edition (London).  
 1908[-1912] Biographical Edition (New York).  
 1911 Swanston Edition (London).  
 1922 Vailima Edition (London).  
 1924 Tusitala Edition (London).  
 1924[-1926] Skerryvore Edition (London).  
 1925 South Seas Edition (New York).

# Contents

---

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	xvii
NOTE ON THE TEXT	xx
CHRONOLOGY OF WORKS	xxi
INTRODUCTION	1
‘An Inland Voyage’ (1878)	
1 Unsigned review, ‘London’, May 1878	47
2 SIDNEY COLVIN, unsigned review, ‘Athenaeum’, June 1878	49
3 Unsigned review, ‘Saturday Review’, June 1878	52
4 GEORGE MEREDITH, letter to Stevenson, June 1878	53
5 P. G. HAMERTON, review, ‘Academy’, June 1878	55
6 Unsigned review, ‘Pioneer’ (Allahabad), June 1878	56
7 HENRY JAMES, letter to T. S. Perry, September 1879	57
8 STEVENSON on the response to ‘Inland Voyage’, 1878	58
‘Edinburgh: Picturesque Notes’ (1878)	
9 Unsigned review, ‘Scotsman’, January 1879	59
‘Travels with a Donkey in the Cévennes’ (1879)	
10 STEVENSON, letter to R. A. M. Stevenson, April 1879	62
11 DR JOHN BROWN, letters to Stevenson and Lady Minto, 1879, 1880	63
12 THOMAS STEVENSON, letter to Stevenson, June 1879	64
13 GRANT ALLEN, review, ‘Fortnightly Review’, July 1879	64
14 Unsigned review, ‘Fraser’s Magazine’, September 1879	66
15 Unsigned review, ‘Spectator’, September 1879	69
‘Virginibus Puerisque’ (1881)	
16 W. E. HENLEY, letter to Stevenson, April 1881	75
17 Unsigned review, ‘Pall Mall Gazette’, April 1881	77
18 ARTHUR JOHN BUTLER, unsigned review, ‘Athen-	

aeum', April 1881	80
19 Unsigned review, 'Spectator', June 1881	82
20 Unsigned review, 'British Quarterly Review', July 1881	86
21 E. PURCELL, review, 'Academy', July 1881	88
22 J. A. SYMONDS, letters to H. F. Brown and Stevenson, 1881, 1882	91
'Familiar Studies of Men and Books' (1882)	
23 GEORGE SAINTSBURY, unsigned review, 'Pall Mall Gazette', March 1882	94
24 W. E. HENLEY, review, 'Academy', April 1882	97
25 Unsigned review, 'British Quarterly Review', July 1882	100
26 Unsigned notice, 'Westminster Review', July 1882	102
27 GRAHAM BALFOUR, letter to Stevenson on Whitman and 'Familiar Studies', 1887	104
'New Arabian Nights' (1882)	
28 GEORGE SAINTSBURY, unsigned review, 'Pall Mall Gazette', August 1882	106
29 W. H. POLLOCK, unsigned review, 'Saturday Review', August 1882	109
30 D. C. LATHBURY and MRS LATHBURY, unsigned review, 'Spectator', November 1882	113
31 Unsigned notice, 'Westminster Review', January 1883	118
32 H. C. BUNNER, unsigned review, 'Century Magazine', February 1883	119
33 GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS, letter to R. W. Dixon, August 1883	122
'Treasure Island' (1883)	
34 STEVENSON, letters to Henley, August and September 1881	124
35 THOMAS STEVENSON, letter to R. L. Stevenson, February 1882	126
36 Unsigned notice, 'Academy', December 1883	128
37 ARTHUR JOHN BUTLER, unsigned review, 'Athenaeum', December 1883	130

38	W. E. HENLEY, unsigned review, 'Saturday Review', December 1883	131
39	STEVENSON, letter to Henley, December 1883	136
40	Unsigned review, 'Pall Mall Gazette', December 1883	137
41	Unsigned review, 'Graphic', December 1883	140
42	W. E. HENLEY, letter to Stevenson, February 1884	141
43	Unsigned notice, 'Dial' (Chicago), May 1884	142
44	HENRY JAMES, letter to Stevenson on Humble Remonstrance, December 1884	143
45	STEVENSON, letter to James, December 1884	144
'A Child's Garden of Verses' (1885)		
46	STEVENSON, letter to Edmund Gosse, March 1885	147
47	Unsigned review, 'Saturday Review', March 1885	147
48	R. H. HUTTON, unsigned review, 'Spectator', March 1885	151
49	WILLIAM ARCHER, unsigned review, 'Pall Mall Gazette', March 1885	154
50	STEVENSON, letter to Archer, March 1885	157
51	H. C. BUNNER, review, 'Book Buyer', May 1885	158
52	WILLIAM ARCHER, Robert Louis Stevenson: His Style and His Thought, 'Time' (London), November 1885	160
53	STEVENSON on Archer's assessment, letters to Archer, Thomas Stevenson, and Henry James, October and November 1885	169
'Prince Otto' (1885)		
54	STEVENSON, letters to Henley, W. H. Low, Colvin, and Gosse, 1883, 1884	176
55	W. E. HENLEY, letter to Stevenson, April 1885	179
56	GEORGE MEREDITH, letter to Stevenson, November 1885	180
57	ANDREW LANG, unsigned review, 'Pall Mall Gazette', November 1885	181
58	Unsigned review, 'Saturday Review', November 1885	184
59	W. E. HENLEY, unsigned review, 'Athenaeum', November 1885	185

60	STEVENSON, letter to Henley, November (?) 1885	187
61	EDMUND GOSSE, letter to Stevenson, November 1885	188
62	Unsigned review, 'St James's Gazette', January 1886	190
63	STEVENSON, letter to Gosse, January 1886	192
64	STEVENSON, letter to C. W. Stoddard, February 1886	193
65	E. PURCELL, review, 'Academy', February 1886	194
66	STEVENSON, letter to Harriet Monroe, May 1886	198
'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' (1886)		
67	ANDREW LANG, unsigned review, 'Saturday Review', January 1886	199
68	E. T. COOK, unsigned notice, 'Athenaeum', January 1886	202
69	JAMES ASHCROFT NOBLE, review, 'Academy', January 1886	203
70	Unsigned review, 'The Times', January 1886	205
71	Unsigned parody, 'Punch', February 1886	208
72	J. A. SYMONDS, letter to Stevenson, March 1886	210
73	F. W. H. MYERS, criticism and proposed revisions of 'Jekyll and Hyde', letters to Stevenson, 1886, 1887	212
74	JULIA WEDGWOOD, notice, 'Contemporary Review', April 1886	222
75	Unsigned review, Secret Sin, 'Rock', April 1886	224
76	GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS, letter to Robert Bridges, October 1886	228
77	STEVENSON, letter to John Paul Bocock, November 1887	230
'Kidnapped' (1886)		
78	EDMUND GOSSE, letter to Stevenson, July 1886	232
79	Unsigned review, 'St James's Gazette', July 1886	233
80	R. H. HUTTON, unsigned review, 'Spectator', July 1886	235
81	Unsigned review, 'Saturday Review', August 1886	237
82	T. WATTS-DUNTON, unsigned review, 'Athenaeum', August 1886	240



83	STEVENSON, letter to T. Watts-Dunton, September 1886	245
84	WILLIAM JAMES, letter to Alice James, September 1886	247
85	WILLIAM MORRIS, letter to G. B. Shaw, October 1886	248

‘The Merry Men and Other Tales and Fables’ (1887)

86	STEVENSON, letters to Lady Taylor, January 1887	249
87	STEVENSON, from Note for ‘The Merry Men’, 1887	250
88	E. T. COOK, unsigned review, ‘Athenaeum’, March 1887	251
89	R. H. HUTTON, unsigned review, ‘Spectator’, March 1887	253
90	ANNIE R. M. MORGAN, unsigned review, ‘Nation’ (New York), May 1887	254

‘Underwoods’ (1887)

91	STEVENSON, letter to Henley, April 1883	259
92	JOSEPH KNIGHT, unsigned review, ‘Athenaeum’, September 1887	259
93	WILLIAM SHARP, review, ‘Academy’, October 1887	264
94	STEVENSON, letter to Sharp, October (?) 1887	271
95	WILLIAM and HENRY JAMES, letters, September and October 1887	272
96	EDMUND GOSSE, Mr. R. L. Stevenson as a Poet, ‘Longman’s Magazine’, October 1887	273
97	STEVENSON, letter to Gosse, October 1887	280
98	MRS OLIPHANT, unsigned review, ‘Blackwood’s Magazine’, November 1887	281
99	STEVENSON, letter to J. A. Symonds, November 1887	285

‘Memories and Portraits’ (1887)

100	WILLIAM ARCHER, unsigned review, ‘Pall Mall Gazette’, December 1887	286
101	E. T. COOK, unsigned review, ‘Athenaeum’, December 1887	289
102	HENRY JAMES, Robert Louis Stevenson, ‘Century Magazine’, April 1888	290