

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF  
AMERICAN LITERATURE  
美国文学百科全书 (修订版)

VOLUME II  
THE AGE OF ROMANTICISM  
AND REALISM  
1816–1895

*Revised and Augmented by*

*Brett Barney*

*from the first edition prepared by*

*Lisa Paddock*

**Matthew J. Bruccoli and Richard Layman**  
Editorial Directors

**Elizabeth Leverton**  
Series Editor

**Encyclopedia of American Literature, Volume II: The Age of Romanticism and Realism, 1816–1895**

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# ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

VOLUME II

THE AGE OF ROMANTICISM AND REALISM

1816–1895



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—B. B.

# PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION



This four-volume *Encyclopedia of American Literature* is a thorough revision of the three-volume work published by Facts On File in 2002. It adds more than one thousand entries, some four hundred thousand words, and a new volume to the original work. Some one million books have been published in the United States since the first edition of *EAL* appeared; among them are many that require recognition in the encyclopedia, both as primary and secondary resources, some by writers who had not yet published five years ago.

The revised and updated work differs from its predecessor in these respects: 1) entries have been added to reflect the emergence of significant authors, current scholarship, and student interest; 2) bibliographies have been reworked and updated to include newly published primary and secondary works; 3) the scope has been expanded from 2001 to 2007; 4) chronologies, which provide the social, political, and literary context for the encyclopedia, have been substantially expanded; 5) study guides have been added for most frequently

studied authors and literary topics to aid students in organizing their approach to literary appreciation; 6) illustrations have been added to mark and elucidate entries and major figures; 7) epigraphs, taken from writers' works or interviews, have been added to entries on significant figures; and 8) corrections have been made, as necessary.

A circumstance too often ignored by compilers of literary reference works is the ever-changing landscape of the literary world. The usefulness of a reference book is, in large part, determined by the currency of its information. With this augmented, revised, and corrected edition, the editors of the *Encyclopedia of American Literature* undertake to accomplish what all who prepare reference works should aspire to: currency, accuracy, relevance, and maximum utility. It is a work in progress.

Matthew J. Bruccoli  
Richard Layman  
Editorial Directors

# INTRODUCTION



The United States and its literature experienced dramatic changes during the eighty-year period covered by volume II of the *Encyclopedia of American Literature*. Of course, the same might be said of other periods of similar length; America's relatively late arrival as a nation-state with aspirations to become a key player in world affairs has precipitated an accelerated cycle of growth. The years immediately preceding 1815, the revolutionary and early federal period, is often spoken of metaphorically as a national birth and childhood. Likewise, the country's development into a "superpower" in the twentieth century frequently evokes metaphors of adulthood. In the figurative language of human growth, the years 1815 to 1895 represent America's adolescence—a period of turbulence, uncertainty, and anxiety over questions of self-identity, relationships, and goals for the future. It is probably not enough, therefore, to speak of American literature from 1815 to 1895 as a time of remarkable changes without exploring the distinctive nature of those changes.

The War of 1812, fought with Great Britain over the practical terms of American sovereignty, is sometimes called the "second war of independence." In concrete outcomes, the war was ineffective, ended by a declaration of stalemate in the Treaty of Ghent. In psychological terms, though, the war had far-reaching consequences. Many in the U. S. viewed it as an assertion of autonomy, the end of parental control. No longer could the U. S. be dealt with as a de facto British dependent; no longer could the New World be seen as a remote staging ground for European battles. American victory in the war's final major battle on January 8, 1815 underscored the war's symbolic import.

When the *North American Review* began publication a few months later, many of its pages were devoted to examinations of the current state of American literature and to predictions for its future. Walter Channing, in answer to the question "Why is this country deficient in literature?" stated that the problem was twofold: the U. S. lacked a distinctive language, and its people bestowed too much attention on the literary productions of foreigners at the expense of "independent exertion." William Tudor, writing later the same year, responded to the idea "that one reason why we have not produced more good poems" was a lack of things to write about by suggesting American writers should turn to the continent's distinctive history and scenery for material. Channing's and Tudor's thoughts were often reiterated in the decades that followed.

"In the four quarters of the globe, who reads an American book?" This question, posed by Sidney Smith, a critic at the *Edinburgh Review*, came in 1820 as both a rebuke and a challenge to a country anxious to demonstrate its readiness to be considered an adult. Even decades later Smith's taunt continued to goad Americans, despite the international success of authors such as Washington Irving, James Fenimore Cooper, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and Harriet Beecher Stowe. In 1850 Herman Melville was already an internationally respected author. On the eve of publishing *Moby-Dick*, his greatest contribution to world literature, he offered the delayed retort, "[T]he day will come when you shall say, 'Who reads a book by an Englishman that is a modern?'" At about the same time, publisher and economist H. C. Carey responded to Smith even more directly: "Forty years since, the question was asked by the 'Edinburgh Review,' Who reads an American book?"



Judging from the facts here given, may we not reasonably suppose that the time is fast approaching, when the question will be asked, Who does not read American books?" The tone of defiant self-confidence in these statements is worth noting. So too, though, is the future tense—the tacit acknowledgment that in spite of a confidence regarding American literature's bright prospects, at the middle of the century it had not yet proven itself an equal.

Nathaniel Hawthorne, in his prefaces to *The Blithedale Romance* in 1852 and *The Marble Faun* in 1860, continued the suggestion that the nation's newness posed a problem for American fiction writers. The irony of these statements is indicated by Henry James's observation that Hawthorne's own *The Scarlet Letter* was generally seen as "a literary event of the first importance," for "[s]omething might at last be sent to Europe as exquisite in quality as anything that had been received, and the best of it was that the thing was absolutely American; it belonged to the soil, to the air; it came out of the very heart of New England." Yet, this statement by James, from 1879, is itself an indication that American authors continued to be concerned about the signs of American coming-of-age well into the last decades of the century. Amid the continuing anxiety, American authorship did gain status throughout the century. Finally, by the mid 1890s American authors surpassed British authors in U.S. sales. In England, one in ten books sold was by an American.

A variety of changes had made this transformation of authorship in the United States possible. For one thing, the nation was in 1895 a very different entity than it had been in 1815. From a cluster of eighteen states, mostly east of the Alleghenies, plus a vast and largely unincorporated tract acquired in the Louisiana Purchase, the U. S. had grown into a federation of forty-four states that stretched from coast to coast, plus vast tracts in Alaska and in the former Mexican territories of the West. The paths of commerce and communication among the states had likewise been transformed by elaborate systems of canals, railroads, and telegraph lines. The publishing world had also been radically altered by technological innovations. Hand-operated printing presses were replaced by steam-powered cylinder presses, and inexpensive paper was being produced from wood pulp. The net result of such innovations was to make printed reading material simultaneously more abundant and less costly.

During the same period, the nation's reading population also ballooned. This phenomenon had a reciprocal relationship with the increased print production: More readers prompted greater production; more and cheaper books, magazines, and newspapers helped create more readers. Between 1815 and 1895 the country's population grew by about 800 percent, from about 8.4 million to about 68 million. At the same time, a rise in literacy rates further boosted the number of American readers. The advent of government-funded "common schools" was one sign of

an increasing sentiment toward universal literacy. Another important factor in the rise of American literacy rates was the abolition of slavery; through formal efforts such as the Freedmen's Bureau, as well as less formal individual efforts, literacy was promoted among a large population of men and women who had often been discouraged or even legally barred from learning to read and write. Thus, although the question "Who reads an American book?" was presumably meant to focus attention on American authorship, the answer—or rather, the difference between answers at the beginning and at the end of the nineteenth century—depended to a large extent on readership: "Who reads?" The largely elite, white readership that an American author in 1815 might expect to reach had been transformed by 1895 into a more diverse group.

A society's authors are always drawn from its readers, so it is not surprising that American authorship was also transformed during this period. In 1895 one could less safely assume who was suited to authorship than one could in 1815. Many writers still came from Eastern families and had been educated at private schools and colleges, but the large number of writers in this volume who came from working-class or poor backgrounds is remarkable. The "man of letters" might not be white and, in fact, might not be a man. William Apess, Ambrose Bierce, Hamlin Garland, Mary Abigail Dodge, Harriet Farley, William Dean Howells, Lucy Larcom, William Gilmore Simms, Richard Henry Stoddard, Walt Whitman, John Greenleaf Whittier, Ella Wheeler Wilcox, and Harriet E. Wilson were all born into humble circumstances. William Wells Brown, Anna Julia Cooper, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, Elizabeth Keckley, and Ida B. Wells-Barnett were all born slaves.

The events of the nineteenth century—including the Civil War, massive foreign immigration, and rapid western expansion—had, by the mid 1890s, put the lie to a quest for "representative" American literature of the kind that had seemed so important (if always just out of reach) earlier. In its place was Walt Whitman's celebration of the nation's diversity. In 1895 Samuel L. Clemens published "What Paul Bourget Thinks of Us" in the *North American Review*. In this response to a European's critique of American culture, Clemens makes no mention of Smith, Channing, Tudor, or anyone else from the early part of the century, but the outlines of the same adolescent concerns are still visible. Even more prominent, however, is the self-assurance with which Clemens dismisses those concerns. Unlike Melville or Hawthorne or even James a few years earlier, he betrays no uncertainty over whether American literature has reached adulthood. Gone are anxieties over writing an American romance using materials unsuited to the romantic tradition or over expressing a distinctive national character using an undistinguished language. Instead, Clemens invokes realism and the novel to argue that the search for an American language has been misguided all along: "Does

the novelist try to generalize the nation? No, he lays plainly before you the ways and speech and life of a few people grouped in a certain place—his own place—and that is one book. In time he and his brethren will report to you the life and the people of the whole nation. . . . And when a thou-

sand able novels have been written, there you have the soul of the people. . . .” Between Channing and Clemens were eighty years in which enormity and diversity came to be the hallmarks of the nation’s literature, hallmarks that the following entries collectively affirm.

# EDITORIAL PLAN



Because literary careers do not fall neatly into chronological divisions, decisions have been made about the placement of authors in volumes. When, for example, a writer might be placed in volume II or volume III, the decision has been based on the publication of the author's first important or successful book or play.

Small caps indicate cross-referenced entries within this volume; a comprehensive list of entries for all four volumes of the encyclopedia is provided at the end of each volume. Thus, in volume II the name Herman MELVILLE appears in small caps when it is first mentioned in an entry, but Stephen

Crane is presented in regular type because his entry appears in volume III. In the "List of Entries" at the end of each volume, Melville is listed with a roman numeral II beside his name, indicating his placement in the second volume.

An entry on a major figure is followed by a primary bibliography listing the author's principal books and a Study Guide, which advises students and autodidacts how to research the author. In expanding and revising this volume, the editors solicited new or rewritten entries from scholars, whose work is credited with a byline. Entries without bylines were revised from the earlier edition or were written by the editors.

# CHRONOLOGY

## 1816–1895



### 1815

In the last battle of the War of 1812, an American army under General Andrew Jackson defeats a British force at New Orleans on January 8.

Richard Henry Dana Jr. (1815–1882), sailor, novelist, and lawyer.

Joseph Glover Baldwin (1815–1864), humor writer and essayist.

Rufus Wilmot Griswold (1815–1857), editor, journalist, and critic.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815–1902), suffragist, editor, and autobiographer.

T. B. Thorpe (1815–1878), short-story writer and editor.

Philip Freneau, *A Collection of Poems on American Affairs and a Variety of Other Subjects Chiefly Moral and Political*.

The first literary magazine in the nation, the *North American Review*, is founded in Boston. It is published continuously until 1940 and among its early contributors are John Adams, William Cullen Bryant, Henry

Wadsworth Longfellow, Francis Parkman, and Daniel Webster.

### 1816

Evert A. Duyckinck (1816–1878), editor and literary historian.

Parke Godwin (1816–1904), social reformer, literary critic, and editor.

Francis W. Gilmer, *Sketches of American Orators*.

Samuel Woodworth, *The Champions of Freedom, or, The Mysterious Chief*.

### 1817

The administration of President James Monroe (1817–1825) begins.

The University of Michigan is founded.

Harper & Brothers publishing house is founded.

Channing, William Ellery (1817–1901), essayist and poet.

Fields, James Thomas (1817–1881), editor and poet.

Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862), writer.

William Cullen Bryant's poem "Thanatopsis" appears in the *North American Review*.

John Neal, *Keep Cool: A Novel, Written in Hot Weather*.

James K. Paulding, *Letters from the South, Written during an Excursion in the Summer of 1816*.

### 1818

Amelia Bloomer (1818–1894), journalist.

George Copway (1818–1869), autobiographer and nonfiction writer.

Frederick Douglass (1818–1895), abolitionist, journalist, and autobiographer.

Mary Henderson Eastman (1818–1887), novelist and folklorist.

Oliver Gloux (1818–1883), novelist. Elizabeth Keckley (circa 1818–1907), memoirist.

Henry Wheeler Shaw (1818–1885), humorist.

Lucy Stone (1818–1893), suffragist.

William Cullen Bryant's "To a Waterfowl" appears in the *North American Review*.

Edwin C. Holland, *The Corsair*.

John Howard Payne, *Brutus; or, the Fall of Tarquin. An Historical Tragedy*.

## 1819

The University of Virginia is founded.  
 James Russell Lowell (1819–1891), poet, essayist, and diplomat.  
 Herman Melville (1819–1891), fiction writer, and poet.  
 Walt Whitman (1819–1892), poet.  
 Anna Mowatt Ritchie (1819–1870) poet, novelist, and playwright.  
 Julia Ward Howe (1819–1910), poet and editor.  
 James Russell Lowell (1819–1891), poet and critic.  
 E. D. E. N. Southworth (1819–1899), novelist.  
 Mordecai M. Noah, *She Would Be a Soldier; or, The Plains of Chippewa* is staged.  
 Washington Irving, *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent*.  
 Under the name “Croaker and Company,” Joseph Rodman Drake and Fitz-Greene Halleck begin to write satirical verse for the *New York Evening Post*. These poems become known as the “Croaker Papers.”

## 1820

Under the provisions of the Missouri Compromise, Maine enters the Union as a free state and Missouri enters as a slave state. The law also bans slavery in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase north of 36° 30'. This compromise temporarily maintains the balance between slaveholding and nonslaveholding states in the U.S. Senate.  
 Susan B. Anthony (1820–1906), reformer.  
 Maturin Murray Ballou (1820–1895), editor and novelist.

Dion Boucicault (1820?–1890), playwright.  
 Alice Cary (1820–1871), poet and short-story writer.  
 Lucretia Peabody Hale (1820–1900), children's author.  
 James Fenimore Cooper, *Precaution*.  
 Samuel Judah, *The Mountain Torrent*.  
 William Tudor, *Letters on the Eastern States*.

## 1821

Erastus Beadle (1821–1894), novelist.  
 Mary Baker Eddy (1821–1910), religious reformer.  
 Maria White Lowell (1821–1853), poet.  
 Frederick Goddard Tuckerman (1821–1873), poet.  
 William Cullen Bryant, *Poems*.  
 James Fenimore Cooper, *The Spy*.  
 James Gates Percival, *Poems*.  
 Frances Wright, *Views of Society and Manners in America in a Series of Letters from that Country to a Friend in England, during the Years 1818, 1819, and 1820, by an Englishwoman*.  
*The Saturday Evening Post*, a weekly magazine, begins publication; its last issue appears in 1969.

## 1822

William Taylor Adams (1822–1897), educator.  
 Edward Everett Hale (1822–1909), clergyman and author.  
 George Lippard (1822–1854), novelist and political activist.  
 James Parton (1822–1891), biographer and journalist.  
 Fitz-Greene Halleck, “Ainwick Castle.”  
 Washington Irving, *Bracebridge Hall*.  
 John Neal, *Logan: A Family History*.  
 Catharine M. Sedgwick, *A New-England Tale*.

## 1823

George Henry Boker (1823–1890), author, poet, and diplomat.  
 James Fenimore Cooper, *The Pioneers* and *The Pilot*.  
 John Neal, *Seventy-Six*.  
 James K. Paulding, *Koningsmarke. The New-York Mirror* begins publication.  
 The poem “A Visit from St. Nicholas,” also known as “’Twas the Night before Christmas,” appears in the *Troy Sentinel* in upstate New York on December 23. Clement C. Moore later claims authorship.

## 1824

Phoebe Cary (1824–1871), poet and short-story writer.  
 George William Curtis (1824–1892), journalist, essayist.  
 Lucy Larcom (1824–1893), poet and editor.  
 Lydia Maria Child, *Hobomok. Le Souvenir*, the first American gift book.  
*The Springfield Republican* is founded.  
 Washington Irving, *Tales of a Traveller*.  
 John Neal writes a series of articles on American writers for *Blackwood's Magazine* in England.  
 John Howard Payne, *Charles the Second*.  
 James E. Seaver, *A Narrative of the Life of Mrs. Mary Jemison*.

## 1825

The administration of President John Quincy Adams (1825–1829) begins.  
 Rutgers College (former Queen's College) is founded in New Jersey.  
 Richard Henry Stoddard (1825–1903), poet, critic, and man of letters.

Bayard Taylor (1825–1878), poet, travel writer, and novelist.  
 Frances Ellen Watkins Harper (1825–1911), poet, fiction writer, and essayist.  
 Richard Henry Stoddard (1825–1903), poet and editor.  
 D. Appleton & Company is founded in New York City.  
 American Unitarian Association is formed in Boston.  
 William Cullen Bryant, “A Forest Hymn.”  
 Fitz-Greene Halleck, “Marco Bozzaris.”  
 Nicholas Hentz, *Tadeuskund, the Last King of the Lenape*.  
 William Gilmore Simms, *Monody, on the Death of Gen. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*.  
 Daniel Webster delivers his “Bunker Hill Oration” at the dedication of the Bunker Hill Monument in Boston.

## 1826

John William De Forest (1826–1906), novelist.  
 Victor, Frances Fuller (1826–1902), historian, fiction writer, and poet.  
 Charles Henry Smith (1826–1903), journalist and humorist.  
 The American Temperance Society is formed in Boston.  
 Josiah Holbrook founds the American Lyceum in Millbury, Massachusetts.  
*Graham's Magazine* begins publication.  
 James Fenimore Cooper, *The Last of the Mohicans*.  
 Timothy Flint, *Recollections of the Last Ten Years*.  
 James Kirke Paulding, *The Merry Tales of the Three Wise Men of Gotham*.  
 John Howard Payne, *Richelieu*.

## 1827

John Rollin Ridge (1827–1867), novelist, poet, journalist.  
 John Townsend Trowbridge (1827–1916), poet, memoirist, children's writer, and journalist.  
 Lew Wallace (1827–1905), novelist.  
 Anna Bartlett Warner (1827–1915), novelist, children's author, hymnist, and biographer.  
*The Youth's Companion* begins publication in Boston.  
 James Fenimore Cooper, *The Prairie*.  
 Edgar Allan Poe, *Tamerlane and Other Poems*.  
 Catharine Maria Sedgwick, *Hope Leslie*.  
 Sally Wood, *Tales of the Night*.

## 1828

George William Bagby (1828–1883), journalist and humorist.  
 Martha Finley (1828–1909), children's author.  
 Henry Timrod (1828–1867), poet, essayist, and journalist.  
 Harriet E. Adams Wilson (1828?–1863?), novelist.  
*The Southern Review* begins publication in Charleston, South Carolina.  
 James Fenimore Cooper, *The Red Rover*.  
 Timothy Flint, *The Life and Adventures of Arthur Clenning*.  
 Nathaniel Hawthorne, *Fanshawe*.  
 Washington Irving, *A History of the Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus*.  
 Noah Webster, *American Dictionary of the English Language*.

## 1829

The presidential administration of Andrew Jackson (1829–1837) begins.  
 Silas Weir Mitchell (1829–1914), physician, novelist, and poet.  
 Charles Dudley Warner (1829–1900), essayist, editor, and novelist.

The first volume of *Encyclopaedia Americana* is published.  
 Edited by Francis Lieber, the encyclopedia is dedicated to the arts, sciences, literature, history, and politics. Its thirteenth and last volume appears in 1833.  
 The African American abolitionist David Walker writes the pamphlet *Appeal . . . to the Colored Citizens of the World . . .*, urging slaves to revolt.  
 James Fenimore Cooper, *The Wept of Wish-ton-Wish*.  
 Washington Irving, *A Chronicle of the Conquest of Granada*.  
 Edgar Allan Poe, *Al Aaraaf, Tamerlane, and Minor Poems*.  
 John Augustus Stone, *Metamora*.  
 William Cullen Bryant, “To the Fringed Gentian.”

## 1830

John Esten Cooke (1830–1886), novelist, biographer, and historian.  
 Emily Dickinson (1830–1886), poet.  
 Paul Hamilton Hayne (1830–1886), poet, editor, and biographer.  
 George L. Aiken (1830–1876), playwright.  
 Helen Hunt Jackson (1830–1885), novelist, poet, and essayist.  
 George Washington Parke Custis, *Pocahontas*.  
*The Boston Daily Evening Transcript* is founded.  
*Godey's Lady's Book*, a popular magazine among women, begins publication.  
 Sarah Josepha Hale's *Poems for Our Children* is published; among the poems is “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”  
 Oliver Wendell Holmes composes the poem “Old Ironsides,” which arouses public support for the preservation of the famed War of 1812 frigate the USS *Constitution*.  
 James Kirke Paulding, *The Lion of the West*.

**1831**

Amelia Edith Huddleston Barr (1831–1919), novelist.  
 Rebecca Harding Davis (1831–1910), novelist.  
 Mary Mapes Dodge (1831?–1905), children's writer.  
 Ignatius Donnelly (1831–1901), politician, editor, novelist, and historian.  
 Paul Belloni Du Chaillu (circa 1831–1903), explorer, children's writer, and travel writer.  
 Mortimer Thomson (1831–1875), journalist and humorist.  
 Metta Fuller Victor (1831–1885), novelist and editor.  
 William Lloyd Garrison begins publishing the antislavery newspaper *The Liberator* in Boston.  
 Robert Montgomery Bird, *The Gladiator*.  
 James Kirke Paulding, *The Dutchman's Fireside*.  
 Edgar Allan Poe, *Poems*.  
 John Greenleaf Whittier, *Legends of New England in Prose and Verse*.

**1832**

Louisa May Alcott (1832–1888), novelist.  
 Horatio Alger (1832–1899), clergyman and children's author.  
 Hubert Howe Bancroft (1832–1918), historian.  
 Robert Montgomery Bird, *Oralloosa*.  
 William Cullen Bryant, *Poems*.  
 Washington Irving, *The Alhambra*.  
 John Pendleton Kennedy, *Swallow Barn*.  
 Fanny Trollope, *Domestic Manners of the Americans*.

**1833**

Mary Abigail Dodge (1833–1896), essayist.  
 Robert Green Ingersoll (1833–1899), lawyer and orator.  
 David Ross Locke (1833–1888), journalist and editor.

Rowland Evans Robinson (1833–1900), short-story writer.  
 Edmund Clarence Stedman (1833–1908), poet and critic.  
 Black Hawk, *Black Hawk, an Autobiography*.  
 Haverford College is founded in Haverford, Pennsylvania.  
 Oberlin College is founded in Oberlin, Ohio.  
 Knickerbocker Magazine begins publication.  
 The New York Sun begins publication.  
 Parley's Magazine begins publication.  
 Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *Outre-Mer*.  
 John Neal, *The Down-Easters*.  
 William Gilmore Simms, *Martin Faber*.  
 Seba Smith, *The Life and Writings of Major Jack Downing of Downingville*.

**1834**

George Arnold (1834–1865), poet.  
 Charles Farrar Browne (1834–1867), journalist and lecturer.  
 Annie Adams Fields (1834–1915), poet, essayist, and novelist.  
 John Wesley Powell (1834–1902), geologist, ethnologist, and nonfiction writer.  
 Frank Stockton (1834–1902), fiction writer.  
 The Southern Literary Messenger begins publication in Richmond, Virginia. Edgar Allan Poe becomes the editor the next year.  
 The first volume of George Bancroft's *History of the United States from the Discovery of the American Continent to the Present Time* is printed. The tenth and final volume appears in 1874.  
 Davy Crockett, *A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett of the State of Tennessee*.  
 William Gilmore Simms, *Guy Rivers*.

**1835**

Lyman Abbott (1835–1922), theological writer and editor.  
 Charles Francis Adams Jr. (1835–1915), historian and biographer.  
 Samuel Langhorne Clemens (Mark Twain; 1835–1910), novelist and travel writer.  
 Augusta Jane Evans (Wilson) (1835–1909), novelist.  
 Louise Chandler Moulton (1835–1908), poet, children's writer, journalist, editor, and critic.  
 Harriet Prescott Spofford (1835–1921), short-story writer, novelist, and poet.  
 Celia Thaxter (1835–1894), nature writer, poet, children's writer.  
 The New York Herald is founded.  
 The Western Messenger is founded in Louisville, Kentucky.  
 The first of the Crockett Almanacs, a series of anonymous pamphlets, appears in print. These pamphlets help perpetuate the myths surrounding the legendary frontiersman. The last one is published in 1856.  
 Robert Montgomery Bird, *The Hawks of Hawk-Hollow*.  
 Washington Irving, *A Tour on the Prairies*.  
 John Pendleton Kennedy, *Horse-Shoe Robinson*.  
 Augustus Baldwin Longstreet, *Georgia Scenes*.  
 William Gilmore Simms, *The Yemassee and The Partisan*.

**1836**

Henry Mills Alden (1836–1919), editor and nonfiction writer.  
 Thomas Bailey Aldrich (1836–1907), author and editor.  
 Davy Crockett (1786–1836), author and folk figure.  
 Bret Harte (1836–1902), writer.  
 Marietta Holley (1836–1926), humor writer and travel writer.  
 Sarah Morgan Bryan Piatt (1836–1919), poet.  
 The Transcendental Club, an informal gathering of leading

intellectuals in the Boston area, meets for the first time. Among its members are Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Henry David Thoreau.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Nature*.

Richard Hildreth, *The Slave*.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, *Poems*.

William Holmes McGuffey, *Eclectic Readers* (first and second readers).

Maria Monk, *Awful Disclosures of Maria Monk*.

### 1837

The administration of President Martin Van Buren (1837–1841) begins.

Mount Holyoke Female Seminary is founded in South Hadley, Massachusetts. It is one of the first institutions of higher learning for women in the United States.

John Burroughs (1837–1921), naturalist and author.

Edward Eggleston (1837–1902), author.

William Dean Howells (1837–1920), man of letters.

Joaquin Miller (1837–1913), poet. *The Baltimore Sun* is founded.

*The New Orleans Picayune* is founded.

*The United States Magazine and Democratic Review* is founded in New York.

*The Gentleman's Magazine* begins publication.

Ralph Waldo Emerson delivers "The American Scholar" address at Harvard University.

Robert Montgomery Bird, *Nick of the Woods*.

Henry Charles Carey, *Principles of Political Economy* (1837–1840).

James Fenimore Cooper's first volumes of *Gleanings in Europe* are published.

Nathaniel Hawthorne, *Twice-Told Tales*.

William Holmes McGuffey, *Eclectic Readers* (third and fourth readers).

### 1838

Henry Adams (1838–1918), historian, novelist, and memoirist.

John Hay (1838–1905), diplomat and writer.

John Muir (1838–1914), essayist.

F. Hopkinson Smith (1838–1915), short-story writer, novelist, and illustrator.

Albion Tourgée (1838–1905), novelist.

Victoria C. Woodhull (1838–1927), reformer and pamphleteer.

William Hickling Prescott, *History of the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella the Catholic*.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Harvard Divinity School Address."

James Fenimore Cooper, *The American Democrat*.

John Pendleton Kennedy, *Rob of the Bowl*.

Harriet Martineau, *A Retrospect of Western Travel*.

Joseph Neal, *Charcoal Sketches*.

Edgar Allan Poe, *Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym*.

John Greenleaf Whittier, *Ballads and Anti-Slavery Poems*.

### 1839

Henry George (1839–1897), economist and author.

*The Liberty Bell*, an abolitionist gift book, begins publication in Boston.

Caroline Kirkland, *A New Home—Who'll Follow?*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *Hyperion, A Romance and Voices of the Night*.

Edgar Allan Poe, *Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque*.

Daniel P. Thompson, *The Green Mountain Boys*.

Jones Very, *Essays and Poems*.

Nathaniel Parker Willis, *Tortesa the Usurer*.

### 1840

Thomas Nast (1840–1902), cartoonist.

*The Dial*, the magazine of the Transcendental Club and dedicated to literature, philosophy, and religion, begins publication.

Adolph F. Bandelier (1840–1914), archaeologist and novelist.

*The Lowell Offering* begins publication at the Lowell mills in Massachusetts.

*The National Anti-Slavery Standard* begins publication in New York.

James Fenimore Cooper, *The Pathfinder*.

Richard Henry Dana Jr., *Two Years before the Mast*.

John Pierpont, *Airs of Palestine and Other Poems*.

William Gilmore Simms, *Border Beagles; A Tale of Mississippi*.

### 1841

James Montgomery Bailey (1841–1894), journalist and humorist.

The presidential administration of William Henry Harrison begins. He dies within a month of taking office, and he is succeeded as president by John Tyler (1841–1845).

*The New York Tribune* is founded.

Edgar Allan Poe's short story "The Murders in the Rue Morgue" appears in *Graham's Magazine*.

The humorist Thomas B. Thorpe writes "The Big Bear of Arkansas" for the magazine *Spirit of the Times* in New York.

Brook Farm, an experimental community, is founded in Roxbury, Massachusetts. Experiences there are the basis for Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Blithedale Romance*.



*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* begins publication.

*The Ladies' Repository* begins publication in Cincinnati.

James Fenimore Cooper, *The Deerslayer*.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Essays, First Series*.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *Ballads and Other Poems*.

James Russell Lowell, *A Year's Life*.

## 1842

Ambrose Bierce (1842?–1914), journalist, short-story writer, and poet.

Bronson Howard (1842–1908), journalist and playwright.

William James (1842–1910), psychologist and philosopher.

Sidney Lanier (1842–1881), poet and critic.

William Cullen Bryant, *The Fountain and Other Poems*.

James Fenimore Cooper, *The Wing-and-Wing*.

Charles Dickens, *American Notes*.

Edgar Allan Poe, "The Mask of the Red Death" and "The Pit and the Pendulum."

William Gilmore Simms, *Beauchampe*.

Walt Whitman, *Franklin Evans*.

## 1843

Henry James (1843–1916), short-story writer, novelist, and critic.

Charles Warren Stoddard (1843–1909), poet and travel writer.

William Henry Smith, *The Drunkard*.

James Fenimore Cooper, *Wyandotté*.

Edgar Allan Poe, "The Black Cat," "The Gold-Bug," "The Pit and the Pendulum," and "The Tell-Tale Heart."

William Hickling Prescott, *The Conquest of Mexico*.

William Tappan Thompson, *Major Jones's Courtship*.

## 1844

George Washington Cable (1844–1925), author.

Richard Watson Gilder (1844–1909), editor and poet.

John Boyle O'Reilly (1844–1890), journalist, poet, and novelist.

Elizabeth Stuart Phelps (1844–1911), novelist, short-story writer, poet, and essayist.

Sarah Winnemucca (circa 1844–1891), autobiographer and historian.

*Littell's Living Age* is founded.

*Brownson's Quarterly Review* is founded.

William Cullen Bryant, *The White-Footed Deer and Other Poems*.

James Fenimore Cooper, *Afloat and Ashore*.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Essays, Second Series*.

Margaret Fuller, *Summer on the Lakes*.

## 1845

The administration of President James K. Polk (1845–1849) begins.

*The Broadway Journal* is founded.

*The Harbinger* begins publication.

Bronson Alcott founds Fruitlands, a utopian community, in Harvard, Massachusetts.

James Fenimore Cooper, *Satanstoe*.  
Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave*.

Margaret Fuller, *Woman in the Nineteenth Century*.

Anna Cora Mowatt, *Fashion*.

Edgar Allan Poe, *The Raven and Other Poems*.

## 1846

Anna Katharine Green (1846–1935), novelist, short-story writer, and poet.

Julian Hawthorne (1846–1934), novelist, historian, and biographer.

The Mexican War begins; it ends two years later.

Margaret Fuller, *Papers on Literature and Art*.

Nathaniel Hawthorne, *Mosses from an Old Manse*.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, *Poems*.

Herman Melville, *Typee*.

Edgar Allan Poe, "The Literati of New York City," "The Cask of Amontillado," and "The Philosophy of Composition."

Charles W. Webber, *Jack Long, or, Shot in the Eye*.

John Greenleaf Whittier, *Voices of Freedom*.

## 1847

Joseph Pulitzer (1847–1911), journalist and editor.

*The Massachusetts Quarterly Review* is founded.

*The National Era* begins publication in Washington, D.C.

*The North Star* begins publication in Rochester, New York.

*The Union Magazine of Literature and Art* is founded.

George Copway, *The Life, History, and Travels of Kah-ge-ga-gah-bowh*.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Poems*.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *Evangeline*.

Herman Melville, *Omoo*.

James Kirke Paulding, *The Bucktails*.

William Hickling Prescott, *The Conquest of Peru*.

## 1848

H. H. Boyesen (1848–1895), literary critic and scholar.

Joel Chandler Harris (1848–1908), writer.

Alice James (1848–1892), diarist.

The first Women's Rights Convention convenes at Seneca Falls, New York.

The University of Wisconsin is founded.

The College of the City of New York is founded.

*The Independent* is founded in New York.

James Russell Lowell, *The Biglow Papers, A Fable for Critics, and The Vision of Sir Launfal*.

Edgar Allan Poe, *Eureka*.