

# Victorians Institute Journal

Volume 40

2012

---

## Essays

- # Winter Jade Werner  
"Competing Cosmopolitanisms in *Bleak House*"  
*2012 Winner of the Victorians Institute Graduate Paper Competition*
  
- # Audrey Murfin  
"“Part Alive, Part Putrescent”: Coral, Culture, and Contagion in the Island Writings of Robert Louis Stevenson"
  
- # Jennifer Cadwallader  
"“Of all the Times of the Year”: Festival Time and Ghost-Seeing in *A Christmas Carol*"
  
- # Stephen E. Severn  
"Audience and Textuality in Oscar Wilde’s Additions to *The Picture of Dorian Gray*"
  
- # Michael Kramp  
"Exposing Visual Discipline: Amy Levy’s *Romance of a Shop*, the Decay of Paternalistic Masculinity, and the Powers of Female Sight"

- # Lana L. Dalley  
"Fatal Postponements: Production, Consumption, and the Economic Imagination in George Gissing's *The Odd Women*"
- # Ashley Faulkner  
"Christ among the Doctors: Pedagogy, Pediatrics, and Divinity in Alice Meynell's Criticism"

## Reviews

- # Jennifer Phegley  
Rev. of *Women Writers and Detectives in Nineteenth-Century Crime Fiction: The Mothers of the Mystery Genre*, by Lucy Sussex
- # John Kucich  
Rev. of *The Dream Life of Citizens: Late Victorian Novels and the Fantasy of the State*, by Zarena Aslami
- # Jennifer Green-Lewis  
Rev. of *The Camera as Historian: Amateur Photographers and the Historical Imagination*, by Elizabeth Edwards
- # Herbert F. Tucker  
Rev. of *Meter Matters: Verse Cultures of the Long Nineteenth Century*, ed. by Jason David Hall
- # Kelly Hager  
Rev. of *Courtship and Marriage in Victorian England*, by Jennifer Phegley

- # Barbara Leckie  
Rev. of *Reading for the Law: British Literary History and Gender Advocacy*, by Christine L. Krueger
- # Elsie Michie  
Rev. of *Giving Women: Alliance and Exchange in Victorian Culture*, by Jill Rappoport
- # Katharyn Stober  
Rev. of *Empire*, by Jeremy Paxman

### **The VIJ Digital Annex**

**<http://www.nines.org/groups/vij>**

- # VIJ Digital Annex Table of Contents
- # Award Winning Conference Paper Abstracts
- # *Notes on Contributors*

Cover Design: Greg Fickle

Adapted for Print by Laurel Christensen

Cover Image: Brown, T., Engraver, Halsewelle, K. Painter. *The Pilgrims of the Sun. The Works of The Ettrick Shepherd, with a Memoir of the Author, by the Rev. Thomas Thomson. A New Edition, Revised at the Instance of the Author's Family. Volume II.* Ed. Thomas Thomson. London: Blackie and Son, 1865.

## VIJ Digital Annex Table of Contents

<http://www.nines.org/groups/vij>

### *Texts*

#### Jamie Bridges

“The Mysteries of an American City, or, “I Vonders how that’ll work”: Adapting Lippard’s *The Quaker City*”

*The Quaker City Or, The Monks of Monk Hall*, by George Lippard, is one of America’s first best selling novels by an American author. Published, in its entirety, in 1845 the novel became an overnight sensation garnering Lippard hefty sales and even heftier criticism. In response to the lucrative success of the work, Francis Courtney Wemyss, a savvy theatre manager approached Lippard to acquire a stage adaptation which he could produce at the Chestnut Street Theater in Philadelphia. The novel, a scathing exposé of the Philadelphian elite, was boycotted by members of the public and the production was cancelled on its opening night before the theater was even filled. While no American script seems to have survived, this paper will focus on a British script, credited to the melodramatic playwright Nelson Lee, which I was fortunate to discover in the Lord Chamberlain’s registry of plays. The script, much of the content being lifted verbatim from the proof sheets of the original novel, is an excellent example of how theatrical Lippard’s writing was and how easily it lends itself to dramatization. One must also take note that while the similarities are fascinating, the alterations, which include new scenes, inclusion of new characters and omissions of original characters, and an altered ending all comment on the complex transatlantic relationship between the two nations and their people.