Cheap Weekly Magazines	1.5d6d. (Mirror of Literature, 1822)
Political tracts	2 <i>d</i> .
Cheap Non-Fiction	6 <i>d</i> . per part
1	4 <i>s</i> .6 <i>d</i> . per complete volume (1827)
Weekly Magazine	6 <i>d</i> 1 <i>s</i> .
Daily Newspapers	7 <i>d</i> .
Recycled	1 <i>d</i> 3 <i>d</i> . Illegally hired/lent to multiple readers
Re-prints (Literature)	1s-12s.(Shakespeare's plays)
Critical Periodicals	2s. (Fraser's)
Monthly Magazines	2s.6d4s.
Numbered Series (Fiction)	2s5s. per weekly installment
Poetry Volume	5 <i>s</i> .
<b>Review Periodicals</b>	6s. (Quarterly Review, Edinburgh)
Literary Annual	12s£3
3 Volume Novel	15-21 <i>s</i> . (1814-1823)
Serialized Novel	20s. total for parts
	21s. complete vol. (Pickwick Papers, 1836)
Scott Novel	31s.6d. (1820)
Circulating Library	35s. (per year for unlimited access)

# **Retail Prices of Reading Materials, 1814-1835**<sup>1</sup>



"Reading the News" from 1830 *Friendship's Offering*. Accompanies prose by Charles Knight, publisher of *The Penny Magazine* (1832) and *The Monthly Review* (1826). Reacts to communal reading though Knight is champion of producing working-class materials.



Booklets of poetry, Bible stories and simple allegories: 1) theological meaning, 2) tales of fictional instruction, 3) designed to inculcate homely virtues and habits of sound living. Attempting to introduce Christianity to working class/poor. Considered wholesome reading material for poor to encourage attaining or maintaining respectability in poverty

<sup>1</sup> Figures amassed from Richard Altick's *The English Common Reader: A Social History of the Mass Reading Public 1800-1900* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1957), 260-293; 318-347. Table published in Katherine D. Harris's article, "Feminizing the Textual Body: Women and their Literary Annuals in Nineteenth-Century Britain." *Publications of the Bibliographical Society of America*. 99:4 (Dec. 2005): 573-622.

## OPERA REMINISCENCES.

311

1 1/2"

Margin

7/8"

Text:

brilliant, and the audience properly enthusiastic. On this occasion Madame Toso was indisposed and sung frebly. Curioni performed his part with unwonted spirit and power, and in the trio, "Nascesti allo pene," excelled himself. Madame Pasta was called forward at the conclusion of the Opera, and took her leave, for the season, with much feeling and grace, amid a tumult of avolance. applause.

1 1/2"

Margin

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Text: 2 3/4"

2 3/8" Margin

### 1828 Keepsake Example of extended margins Text produced from plates for quarto volume

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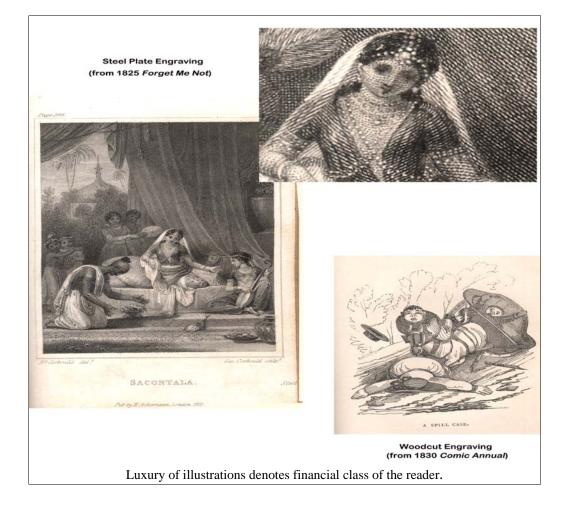
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Office of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge is at \$9, Linesda's has Fields. TABLES ENDERT, PALL-MALL EAST

ample of a cheep we The Penny Magazine (April 1633)



### [APRIL 90, 1833.

Both the working and middle classes could afford only a few *books* a year. However, the increased availability and cheap price of newspapers afforded an opportunity for the lower working classes (unskilled laborers) to access reading materials – whether as the original consumer or as the tenth reader.

Didactic pamphlets	More's Cheap Repository Tracts
Fiction	Radcliffe, Scott's Waverley (1814)
Serialized Fiction	Dickens' Pickwick Papers (1836)
	Master Humphrey's Clock (1840)
Silver-Fork novels	Lister's Granby
Poetry Volumes	Charlotte Smith, Hannah More, Scott, Byron, Landon, Hemans
Non-Fiction Personal Narr	Equiano's Interesting Narrative (1789)
	Wollstonecraft's & Williams' Letters
Juvenile Literature	Barbauld & Wollstonecraft
Conduct Manuals	Wollstonecraft & lots of others until 1820
Textbooks & Reference	Cobbett's Grammar of the English Language (1818)
Two & Threepenny Weekly	Limbird's Mirror of Literature (1822), Penny Magazine (1832),
& Daily Newspapers	Nic Nacs, Diorama, Freebooters, Batatelles & 60 others
Monthly & Quarterly Mag	Town and Country Magazine & Fraser's Magazine
Review Periodicals	Quarterly Review (6s.), Analytical Review, The Literary Gazette,
	Monthly Review, The Gentleman's Magazine
Art Periodicals	Ackermann's Repository of Arts
Women's Periodicals	The Ladies Diary, Lady's Monthly Museum & The Lady's
	Magazine
Literary Annuals	Forget Me Not (1823)
Class Re-Prints	The Family Shakespeare (expurgated, 1818)
	Shakespeare's plays (12s., 1825)

Theatrical Journalism & Temperance Periodicals

# **Some Useful Information**

Book production (excluding periodicals and newspapers)

- 440% rise from 18<sup>th</sup> Century
- Producing printed materials less labor intensive
- Innovations in setting type, creating paper & printing multiple copies
- Division of bookselling from printing (Kilgour 112)

# Income

- Middle-class family (not factory worker) weekly income 48s., or roughly £125 a year
- Beneficed clergyman £300 to £400
- Officer of the line £200 to £400 (Altick 276)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> These authors, titles and dates were amassed from primary research of newspapers, periodicals and printed materials 1789-1860. Some references were taken from J.R. de J. Jackson's enumerative bibliography, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, Richard Altick's appendices in *The English Common Reader* (381-96) and "On Cheap Periodical Literature" in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, June 1825 (483-86).

# The Romantic Novel<sup>3</sup>

- Romanticism is a movement in art and literature that began in Europe in the late 18th century and was most influential in the first half of the 19th century.
- Romanticism fosters a return to nature and also values the imagination over reason and emotion over intellect.
- One strain of the Romantic is the Gothic with its emphasis on tales of horror and the supernatural.

# The Victorian Novel<sup>4</sup>

- The Victorian Age is marked roughly by the reign of Queen Victoria of England from 1837-1901.
- The Victorian reading public firmly established the novel as the dominant literary form of the era. The novel is the most distinctive and lasting literary achievement of Victorian literature.
- Earlier in the century Sir Walter Scott had created a large novel-reading public and had made the novel respectable. He had also strengthened the tradition of the 3-volume novel.
- The publication of novels in monthly installments enabled even the poor to purchase them
- The novelists of the Victorian era:
  - accepted middle class values
  - treated the problem of the individual's adjustment to his society
  - emphasized well-rounded middle-class characters
  - portrayed the hero as a rational man of virtue
  - believed that human nature is fundamentally good and lapses are errors of judgment corrected by maturation
- The Victorian novel appealed to readers because of its:
  - ► realism
  - impulse to describe the everyday world the reader could recognize
  - introduction of characters who were blends of virtue and vice
  - attempts to display the natural growth of personality
  - expressions of emotion: love, humor, suspense, melodrama, pathos (deathbed scenes)
  - moral earnestness and wholesomeness, including crusades against social evils and self-censorship to acknowledge the standard morality of the times
- The Victorian novel featured several developments in narrative technique:
  - full description and exposition
  - authorial essays
  - multiplotting featuring several central characters
  - issuing novels in serial installments led novelists to become adept at subclimaxes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> from http://www.nvcc.edu/home/ataormina/novels/history/19thcent.htm