

Transition to the Victorians

Dr. Katherine D. Harris

Important Events & Dates

- literacy
 - increase of reading materials and incandescent lights
 - cheaper than candles and allowed people to read later in the evening
- communication
 - telegraph, telephone, radio and photography
- 1830 First steam-powered railway
- 1832 First Reform Bill & Corn Laws
 - Reform Bill allowed vote to tenants w/rent of 50 pounds or more yearly
 - don't have to own land
 - Corn Laws tried to protect import of agriculture, but instead raised food prices
- 1833 Abolition of slavery in British Empire
- 1837 Victoria ascends to throne

Victorian Authors & Poets

Charles Dickens	Matthew Arnold ("Dover Beach")
George Eliot (<i>Middlemarch</i>)	Robert Louis Stevenson (<i>Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde</i>)
Thomas Hardy (<i>Jude the Obscure</i>)	Dante Gabriel Rossetti (Pre-Raphaelite)
John Ruskin (architectural critic)	Christina Rossetti ("Goblin Market")
John Stuart Mill (championed women's rights)	William Morris (Pre-Raphaelite; like William Blake)
Alfred, Lord Tennyson (equal to Wordsworth)	Walter Pater (critic)
Elizabeth Barrett Browning ("How do I love thee")	Gerald Manley Hopkins (poet)
John Henry Cardinal Newman (Catholicism)	Frances Trollope (novelist)
Robert Browning ("My Last Duchess")	Anthony Trollope (novelist)
Edward Fitzgerald (<i>The Rubáiyát</i>)	William Makepeace Thackeray (<i>Vanity Fair</i>)
Charles Darwin (<i>On the Origins of Species</i>)	Lewis Carroll (<i>Alice in Wonderland</i>)
George Sand (French)	Edward Lear ("Owl & the Pussycat")
Coventry Patmore ("Angel in the House")	Beatrix Potter (<i>Peter Rabbit</i>)
Charlotte Brontë (<i>Jane Eyre</i>)	Henry James
Emily Brontë (<i>Wuthering Heights</i>)	Rudyard Kipling (<i>Just So Stories</i>)
Elizabeth Gaskell (novelist)	H. Rider Haggard (<i>King Solomon's Mines</i>)
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Sherlock Holmes novels)	Oscar Wilde (<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>)
Florence Nightingale (ultimate nurse)	"Michael Field"
Sarah Stickney Ellis (women's rights/duties)	Bram Stoker (<i>Dracula</i>)
Wilkie Collins (<i>The Moonstone</i>)	D.H. Lawrence (<i>Sons & Lovers</i>)
Caroline Norton (defeated coverture)	E.M. Forester (<i>A Passage to India</i>)
Queen Victoria (letters published; anti-feminist)	

Interesting Victorian Websites

The Victorian Web (<http://www.victorianweb.org/>)

Victoria Research Web (<http://victorianresearch.org/>)

Victorian Women Writer's Project (<http://www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp/>)