

**THOMAS DOGGETT
DECEASED; A FAMOUS
COMEDIAN. PART 1: THE
MAN, PART 2: THE RACE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649091058

Thomas Doggett deceased; a famous comedian. Part 1: The man, Part 2: The Race by Sir
Theodore Andrea Cook & Guy Nickalls

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

SIR THEODORE ANDREA COOK & GUY NICKALLS

**THOMAS DOGGETT
DECEASED; A FAMOUS
COMEDIAN. PART 1: THE
MAN, PART 2: THE RACE**

THOMAS DOGGETT, DECEASED



FINISH OF THE RACE FOR DODDIE'S COAT AND BADGE.
From the original by Kew-Johnson in the British Museum.

THOMAS DOGGETT
DECEASED

A FAMOUS COMEDIAN

PART I. THE MAN

By THEODORE ANDREA COOK

PART II. THE RACE

By GUY NICKALLS

LONDON
ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE & CO LTD
10, ORANGE STREET, LEICESTER SQUARE, W.C

1908

G
P
2000

**EUTLER & TANKER,
THE SILWOOD PRINTING WORKS,
FRANK, AND LONDON.**



**IN
PIAM
MEMORIAM**

Preface

THE publication of this book was authorized by the Fishmongers' Company, for whom a special edition has been printed in addition to that issued to the public, as a record of what is known of Thomas Doggett, the famous Comedian, deceased, and of the Wager which he endowed to commemorate the accession of George I in 1714. For the pages referring to the sculling-race Mr. Guy Nickalls, formerly amateur champion of the Thames, is responsible. The biography of Thomas Doggett has been written by myself, and is a much enlarged and amended version of a short life I published some years ago in the *Monthly Review*, all the remaining copies of which are in the possession of the Fishmongers' Company.

The thanks of the authors are due, and are hereby very heartily given, to Mr. J. Wrench Towse, Clerk of the Fishmongers' Company, and Mr. White, Clerk of the Watermen's Company; to Mr. A. M. Broadley, whose very valuable collection of pictures, portraits, caricatures, manuscripts, and memoranda, indispensable to any history of Doggett or his Wager, has been freely used; to Mr. John T. Doggett, who secured for me a copy of the *History of the Doggett-Daggett Family* by Mr. Samuel B. Doggett, of Boston, Mass.; to Mr. Hugh Doggett, of Bristol, for an original holograph letter signed by Doggett and in the handwriting of the subject of these pages; to Mr. B. J. Angle for much useful help; to Mr. G. H. Vize for the engraving of Broughton, the famous prize-fighter and winner of this Wager, and for the Chelsea china figure here reproduced made (temp. Geo. II.) at the works near the Old Church, Chelsea, close to the finish of the course; to "Doggett Cobb," Waterman, of Putney, for the interesting document relating

to his ancestor ; to William G. East, the King's Bargemaster, for valuable assistance ; to the Editor of the *Sphere* for the picture of one of the old races ; and to several others whose kindly help and interest have not been less appreciated because they are not more clearly specified.

The only authentic portrait of our hero, Thomas Doggett, which we can discover to exist is the engraving of the actor dancing the Cheshire Round, published in George Daniel's *Merrie England*, after an eighteenth century painting formerly preserved at the *Duke's Head*, Lynne Regis, Norfolk. There is also a small portrait in colours in Mr. Broadley's extra-illustrated volumes on the History of *Richardson's Show*. This seems to me to be another version of the Norfolk original, to which Tory Aston evidently refers in the passage : "Whoever would see him pictured may view him in the character of Sawney at the *Duke's Head*, in Lynne Regis, Norfolk." Nothing can be certainly advanced as to the authenticity of the painting in the Garrick Club to which the name of Doggett has been attached apparently on the authority of the catalogue of the sale at which it was last purchased.

The name "Doggett" has been so spelt in these pages because it is thus given in Doggett's own handwriting both in the signature of his will, and in an original letter here reproduced.

The illustrations, which will, it is believed, throw a valuable light on many points hitherto in dispute, have been chosen with great care from the material available. Fortunately for us the Race inspired Rowlandson in two of his most delightful water-colour drawings of river life. The original, representing the finish in Chelsea Reach, is in the British Museum, and is reproduced here from the blocks (which Mr. John Murray kindly allowed me to purchase) made for the *Monthly Review* article. The other original is in my own possession.

It may be noted that an engraving published in 1853 shows that the famous badge exhibited the word "Liberty" on a scroll above the "wild horse of Hanover," with the words "The Gift of Thomas Doggett, the late Comedian," on another scroll beneath, and the date 1853. This is different from the badge