

**A DESCRIPTIVE  
CATALOGUE OF  
THE LIBRARY  
OF CHARLES LAMB**

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A Descriptive Catalogue of the Library of Charles Lamb by Anonymous

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A

Descriptive Catalogue

OF

THE LIBRARY

OF

Charles Lamb

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*Jones sculpsit unct.  
Ch<sup>s</sup> Lamb*

*First portrait of Lamb engraved (from the Maclise  
portrait) in America. Philadelphia, 1835.*

A  
Descriptive Catalogue

OF  
THE LIBRARY

OF  
**Charles Lamb**



NEW YORK  
**The Diddin Club**  
1897

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## CHARLES LAMB'S LIBRARY

CHARLES LAMB at his death bequeathed to his life-long friend, Edward Moxon, the well-known London publisher, his curious collection of books. Moxon, it seems, did not claim his inheritance until after the death of Mary Lamb, during whose last long illness the collection of books, that had formed the solace and delight of her brother's life, had met with neglect and partial dispersion, chiefly among his friends. After her death Moxon selected upwards of sixty volumes from the mass as worthy of presentation because of the notes, etc., which they contained, by Lamb and his friends, and then destroyed the remainder of the library. Charles Welford, then of the firm of Bartlett & Welford, an intimate friend of Moxon's, on learning that the collection was to be sold induced Moxon to let him carry off the prize to America. The books were brought to this country early in 1848, and were placed on exhibition in the store of Bartlett & Welford at Nos. 2 and 4 Barclay Street, in the Astor House, New York. There they were sold piecemeal to the many admirers of the "gentle Elia," who had come from California and Oregon as well as from the Eastern States, and from Labrador to Mexico.

The following list of the books, with notes of the marginalia by Lamb and his friends, was made by Charles Welford\* and was first printed in *The Literary World*, of New York, with an introduction by George L. Duyckinck:

"And you, my midnight darlings, my folks, must I part with the intense delight of having you (huge armfuls) in my embrace; must knowledge come to me, if it come at all, by some awkward experiment of intuition, and no longer by this familiar process of reading?"—ELIA.

- (1) *Auli Gellii, Noctes Atticæ*, Amst., Elz., 1651. 24mo.

"This book was bought at Mr. J. Horne Tooke's sale, and the marginal references are from his pen."—*C. L.'s MS. Note.*

- (2) *Art of Living in London (The)*, A Poem, Lond., 1805. 12mo.

With long MS. note on the author, Mr. Wm. Cooke. "Goldsmith gave the title to the *Art* and revised it all, from Jacky Taylor," and other notes and remarks MS.

- (3) *Bourne (V.)*, Poemata, Latine, partim redita, partim scripta, Lond., 1750. 12mo.

With several Latin poetical extracts, &c., on the fly leaves, and an original Latin poem of six lines, "*Suum Cuique*," signed C. L., printed in Talfourd's life; "the only Latin verse I have made for 40 years. From thence I turned to V. Bourne, what a sweet, unpretending, pretty mannered, matterful creature. Bless him! Latin wasn't good enough for him, why wasn't he content with the language which Gay and Prior wrote in."—*Letter to Southey*, 1815.

- (4) *Burney (James)*, Essay on the Game of Whist, Lond., 1821. 12mo.

"Martin Charles Burney, from the author" (the M. B. of Elia).

- (5) *Bacon's (Lord)*, Works, Lond., 1629. Small 4to.

"This book contains Advancement of Learning (1st edition, 1629), and Essays by Lord Bacon."—*MS. Note.*

\* The names of the present owners, and notes of the sale of Charles W. Frederickson's library, excepted.

- (6) *Cities Great Concern (The)*, A Question of Honor and Arms, whether Apprentiship extinguisheth Gentry, Lond., 1674. 18mo.

"This treatise was written by John Philpot, Somerset Herald, died 1645," and MS. copy of title page on fly leaf.

- (7) *Cleaveland (J.)*, Poems, Orations, and Epistles, and others of his Genuine, Incomparable Pieces, 1st edit., Lond., 1662. 12mo.

MS. notice of the author from Fuller's Worthies.

- (8) *Cleaveland (J.)*, Poems, Orations, and Epistles, and others of his Genuine, Incomparable Pieces, Lond., 1668. 12mo.

MS. notes, and additional poems.

- (9) *Chaucer (Jeffrey)*, The Works of our Ancient and Learned English Poet, and Lidgate's Story of Thebes, Speght's Edition, Lond., 1598, Black-Letter, good sound copy. Folio.

MS. notes and extracts on the fly leaves. "I have not a black-letter book amongst mine, old Chaucer excepted."—*Letter to Ainsworth*, 1823.

Bought at the sale of Charles W. Frederickson's library, by Charles Scribner's Sons, for \$340.

- (10) *Cowley (A.)*, The Works of, complete, Lond., 1693. Folio.

Three folio pages of additions and extracts, marginal corrections, MS.

- (11) *Dunciad (The)*, Variorum, Lond., 1729. 8vo.

"This book contains the *Dunciad* as at first written, with Theobald for hero, and the Art of Politics, in imitation of Horace's *Ars Poet.*"

- (12) *Dennis (Mr.)*, Original Letters, Familiar, Moral, and Critical, by, Lond., 1726. 8vo.

MS. notes and additions.

- (13) *Drayton (Michael)*, The Works of, containing Poly Olbion, The Barons' War, England's Heroical Epistles, &c., 1 vol., best Edition, Lond., 1748. Large folio.

The blank leaves are literally crowded with illustrative extracts from Elizabethan authors, additional