

**ENGLISH MEN OF
LETTERS.
FANNY BURNEY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649581528

English Men of Letters. Fanny Burney by Austin Dobson

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

AUSTIN DOBSON

**ENGLISH MEN OF
LETTERS.
FANNY BURNEY**

ENGLISH MEN OF LETTERS

FANNY BURNEY

(MADAME D'ARBLAY)

BY

AUSTIN DOBSON

New York

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

LONDON; MACMILLAN & CO., LTD.

1903

All rights reserved

COPYRIGHT, 1903,
By THE MACMILLAN COMPANY.

Set up, electrotyped, and published November, 1903.

Norwood Press
J. S. Cushing & Co. — Berwick & Smith Co.
Norwood, Mass., U.S.A.

PREFACE

THE main sources for this memoir of Frances or Fanny Burney, — afterwards Madame D'Arblay, — in addition to her novels, the literature of the period, and the works specified in the footnotes, are as follows:—

1. *Memoirs of Dr. Burney, arranged from his own Manuscript, from Family Papers, and from Personal Recollections.* By his Daughter, Madame D'Arblay. In Three Volumes. London: Moxon, 1832.
2. *Diary and Letters of Madame D'Arblay, Author of "Evelina," "Cecilia," etc.* Edited by her Niece. [In Seven Volumes.] London: Colburn, 1842-48. [The edition here used is Swan Sonnenschein's four volume issue of 1892.]
3. *The Early Diary of Frances Burney, 1768-1778. With a Selection from her Correspondence, and from the Journals of her Sisters Susan and Charlotte Burney.* Edited by Annie Raine Ellis. In Two Volumes. London: George Bell and Sons, 1889.

I am indebted to the kindness of Archdeacon Burney, Vicar of St. Mark's, Surbiton, for access to his unique extra-illustrated copy of the *Diary and Letters* of 1842-6, which contains, among other

her place permanently in that galaxy of which Burke had written, for

“Little Burney’s quick discerning”

was duly bracketed with

“Carter’s piety and learning,”—

with the “pathetic pen” of Hannah More, the “pointed wit” of Mrs. Cowley (of *The Belle’s Stratagem*), with

“Smiling Streatfield’s ivory neck,
Nose and notions—à la Grecque,”

and all the varied virtues of Mrs. Chapone, Mrs. Boscawen, Mrs. Thrale, and Mrs. Montagu.¹ Her friends were naturally anxious that she should pursue her triumphs; and “Daddy” Crisp, while piously enjoining her not “to remit her ardour and industry to be perfect,” and sagaciously observing “that there had been more instances than one, where writers have wrote themselves down, by slovenliness, laziness, and presuming too much on public favour for what is past,”—was still very practically alive to the necessities of taking the tide at the flood. “This is the harvest time of your life,”—he wrote; “your sun shines hot; lose not a moment, then, but make your hay directly. ‘Touch the yellow boys,’—as Briggs says—‘grow warm’; make the booksellers come down handsomely—count the ready—the chink.” Nevertheless, it was fourteen years before Miss Burney published another novel; and we must now revert to the chronicle of her life.

¹ The verses from which these quotations are taken appeared in the *Morning Herald* for 12 March, 1782. Long attributed to Sir W. W. Pepys, they are now given to Dr. Burney. But, as regards his daughter, they only express a general feeling.

interesting Mss., the originals of Mrs. Thrale's letter mentioned at page 86 of this volume, and of Burke's letter mentioned at page 124. Archdeacon Burney is the possessor of Edward Burney's portrait of his cousin (page 88); of the Reynolds portraits of Dr. Burney and Garrick from the Thrale Gallery (page 94); of a very fine portrait of Dr. Charles Burney by Lawrence; and of a group by Hudson of Hetty Burney, her husband, Charles Rousseau Burney, and her husband's father, Richard Burney of Worcester.

I am also indebted to Mrs. Chappel of East Orchard, Shaftesbury, granddaughter of Mrs. Barrett, the editor of the *Diary and Letters*, for valuable information as to Burney relics in her possession.

A. D.

75, EATON RISE, EALING, W.,
September 18, 1903.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
CHAPTER I	
THE BURNET FAMILY	1
CHAPTER II	
NO. 1, ST. MARTIN'S STREET	31
CHAPTER III	
THE STORY OF "EVELINA"	61
CHAPTER IV	
THE SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR	88
CHAPTER V	
"CECILIA"—AND AFTER	117
CHAPTER VI	
THE QUEEN'S DRESSER	145
CHAPTER VII	
HALF A LIFETIME	176
INDEX	207

