

**THE SHELLEY SOCIETY'S
PUBLICATIONS. FOURTH SERIES.
MISCELLANEOUS. NO. 1. THE
SHELLEY LIBRARY: AN ESSAY IN
BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649511693

The Shelley Society's Publications. Fourth Series. Miscellaneous. No. 1. The Shelley Library: An Essay in Bibliography by H. Buxton Forman

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

H. BUXTON FORMAN

**THE SHELLEY SOCIETY'S
PUBLICATIONS. FOURTH SERIES.
MISCELLANEOUS. NO. 1. THE
SHELLEY LIBRARY: AN ESSAY IN
BIBLIOGRAPHY**

The Shelley Society's Publications
Fourth Series. Miscellaneous. No. 1.

THE SHELLEY LIBRARY
An Essay in Bibliography

by

H. Buxton Forman

I

Shelley's own books pamphlets & broadsides
posthumous separate issues and
posthumous books wholly
or mainly by
him

LONDON
Published for the Shelley Society
by Reeves and Turner 196 Strand
1886



THE SHELLEY LIBRARY.

I

**HIS OWN BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND BROADSIDES;
 POSTHUMOUS SEPARATE ISSUES; AND
 POSTHUMOUS BOOKS WHOLLY
 OR MAINLY BY
 SHELLEY.**

B

C.

~~18452.57~~
✓ A

18452.57
A

OCT 4 1886

Shapleigh fund.



THE SHELLEY LIBRARY.

I.

HIS OWN BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND BROADSIDES;
POSTHUMOUS SEPARATE ISSUES; AND
POSTHUMOUS BOOKS WHOLLY
OR MAINLY BY
SHELLEY.

THE first division of this work deals with the *editions principes* and with all separate reproductions of them. A collection of the first editions of Shelley's Works is not by any means a complete collection of all he left, because a large number of his compositions, both verse and prose, first appeared in newspapers, magazines, *Lives*, miscellaneous books, or collected editions. These will be described hereafter in several groups.

A first look at the present group will surprise many readers, who, though perhaps acquainted with the mass of Shelley's writings, were not aware how many separate appearances he made. It is not unlikely that many things remain to be discovered, such as the private issues of juvenile compositions mentioned in "A Newspaper Editor's Reminiscences," in *Fraser's Magazine* for June 1841. This hitherto unidentified worthy says at page 702 of the magazine in question, when speaking of Sir Bysshe Shelley, "It was his purse which supplied young Bysshe with the means of printing many of his fugitive pieces. These issued from the press of a printer at Horsham . . .; and although they were not got up in good style, the expense was much greater than Shelley could have afforded, if he had not received assistance from his grandfather." It may be doubted whether anything of great intrinsic merit or interest is any longer missing; but one may own without shame a curiosity to behold anything and everything that ever issued from the hand of the poet whose after achievements made his life and himself of the deepest interest. Gladly would I de-

4 *Editiones principes and reproductions thereof.*

scribe here any of those trifles which are thought to have issued from the press at Horsham; but for the present there is no help for our beginning to trace Shelley's tangible doings from the first half of the year 1810, when he was in his eighteenth year and put forth that veritable curiosity *Zastrozzi*.

ZASTROZZI.

Zastrozzi, which appears to be the first substantive work issued by Shelley, is a duodecimo volume, consisting of 8y-title, *Zastrozzi, a Romance*, with imprint at foot, *Printed by S. Hamilton, Weybridge*, title-page as given below, and 252 pages of text with the head-line *Zastrozzi* throughout.

(1)

ZASTROZZI,
A ROMANCE.

BY

P. B. S.

—That their God
May prove their foe, and with repenting hand
Abolish his own works—This would surpass
Common revenge.

PARADISE LOST.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR G. WILKIE AND J. ROBINSON,
57, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1810.

Generally when copies are found they are from circulating libraries, dirty and dilapidated; but they appear to have been issued in blue boards backed with drab, bearing the label "*ZASTROZZI, A ROMANCE. Price 5s.*"

Medwin (*Shelley Papers*, 1833, page 10) says Shelley told him that some chapters of it were written by Harriet Grove, the poet's cousin and first love. Mr. D. F. MacCarthy (*Shelley's Early Life*, 1872, pages 11 and 12) records that it was published on the 5th of June 1810, and advertised in *The Times* on the 5th and 12th.

There are at least three extant letters of Shelley's (two of them hitherto unpublished) bearing on the date of *Zastrozzi's* composition and publication. In one dated the 7th of May 1809 (Prose Works, Volume III, page 329), he says he means to finish and publish "a Romance," of which he has already written "a large portion," but does not expect "any pecuniary advantage."

The next letter, which is among the *Montagu Letters* in the Bodleian Library, is addressed to Edward Graham, Esq., No. 29 Vine Street, Piccadilly, and is as follows:—

Eton, April 1, 1810

My dear Graham—

I will see you at Easter,—next Friday I shall be in London, but for a very short time—unable to call on you till Passion week—Robinson will take no trouble about the reviewers, let every thing proper be done about the venal villains and I will settle with you when we meet at Easter.—We will all go in a posse to the bookseller's in Mr. Grove's barouche & four—Shew them that we are no Grub Street garretteers—but why Harriet more than any one else—a faint essay I see in return for my enquiry for Caroline—

We will not be cheated again—let us come over Jock,¹ for if he will not give me a devil of a price for my Poem & at least £60 for my new Romance in three Volumes² the dog shall not have them.

Push the reviewers—10£ will be sufficient I should suppose, and that I can with the greatest ease repay when we meet at Passion week. Send the reviews in which *Zastrozzi* is mentioned to Field Place, the British review is the hardest, let that be pouched well—My note of hand if for any larger sum is quite at your service, as it is of consequence in fiction to establish your name as high as you can in the literary lists—

Adieu

Yours most devotedly

Percy Bysshe Shelley

Let me hear how you proceed in the business of Reviewing.

P. B. S.

This curious letter, wildly practical for a boy of seventeen, seems to indicate that the book was on the eve of publication—perhaps just published. In the third letter, dated the 29th of

¹ J. Robinson, the publisher, I presume.

² Probably *St. Ives*: Shelley expressed surprise when Stockdale told him it would only make one volume.

6 *Editiones principes and reproductions thereof.*

May 1810, also from Eton, and to the same correspondent,—a most interesting letter sold by Messrs. Sotheby & Co. on the 18th of January 1877 and not yet, I believe, published,—there is a postscript asking that a copy may be sent to a clergyman "directly," Shelley having "written to say it is coming." This I think almost positively implies that *Zastrozzi* was then published. Had it not been published, there would almost of a certainty have been a good deal about hurrying on the printer, binder, or publisher.

Whether the reviewers were "pouched," and if so what came of it, there is no evidence at present. If *The Critical Review* received a *douceur* from Almoner Graham, it was not taken kindly; for a two-page notice found by Professor Dowden in that review for November 1810 is anything but lenient in its tone towards the youthful romancist. The story and the style are characterized as "so truly contemptible that we should have passed it unnoticed had not our indignation been excited by the open and barefaced immorality and grossness displayed throughout." The virtuous reviewer was unable to say when he had "felt so much indignation as in the perusal of this execrable production. The author of it cannot be too severely reprobated. Not all his 'scintillated eyes,' his 'battling emotions,' his 'frigidific torpidity of despair,' nor his 'Lethæan torpor,' with the rest of his nonsensical and stupid jargon, ought to save him from infamy and his volume from the flames."

Less than thirty years later a literary gentleman of mature years took so different a view of the matter that he reprinted the peccant volume in a collection, not of Shelley's works, but of novels and romances selected on their merits; and *Zastrozzi* may be found figuring as the work of Shelley in No. 10 of *The Romancist, and Novelist's Library* (q.v.).

ORIGINAL POETRY BY VICTOR AND CAZIRE.

The second book of Shelley's whereof we have any trace is a volume of Poems of which no copy is at present forthcoming, but which certainly existed, and is pretty sure to come to the surface sooner or later. The fact that Shelley had issued in the Autumn of 1810 a volume entitled *Original Poetry by Victor and Cazire*, though made public in 1826, was not generally known to Shelley students until Mr. Garnett, having discovered it in