

HEADLONG HALL

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649460977

Headlong Hall by T. Love Peacock

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

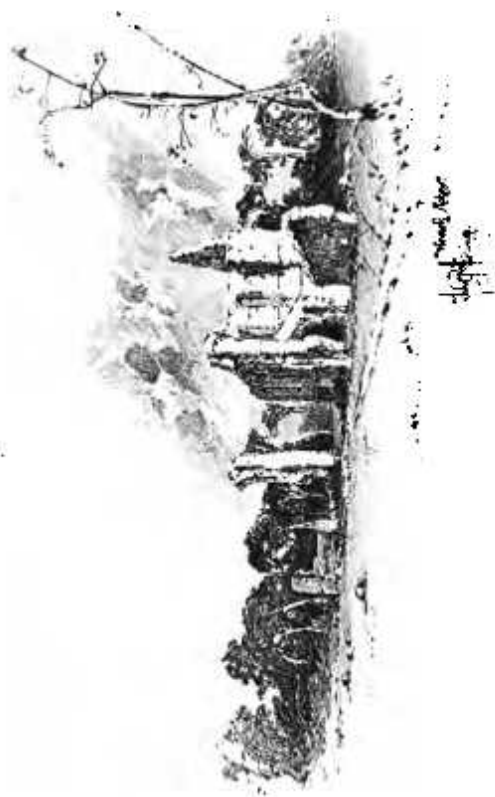
This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this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

www.triestepublishing.com

T. LOVE PEACOCK

**HEADLONG
HALL**

HEADLONG HALL.



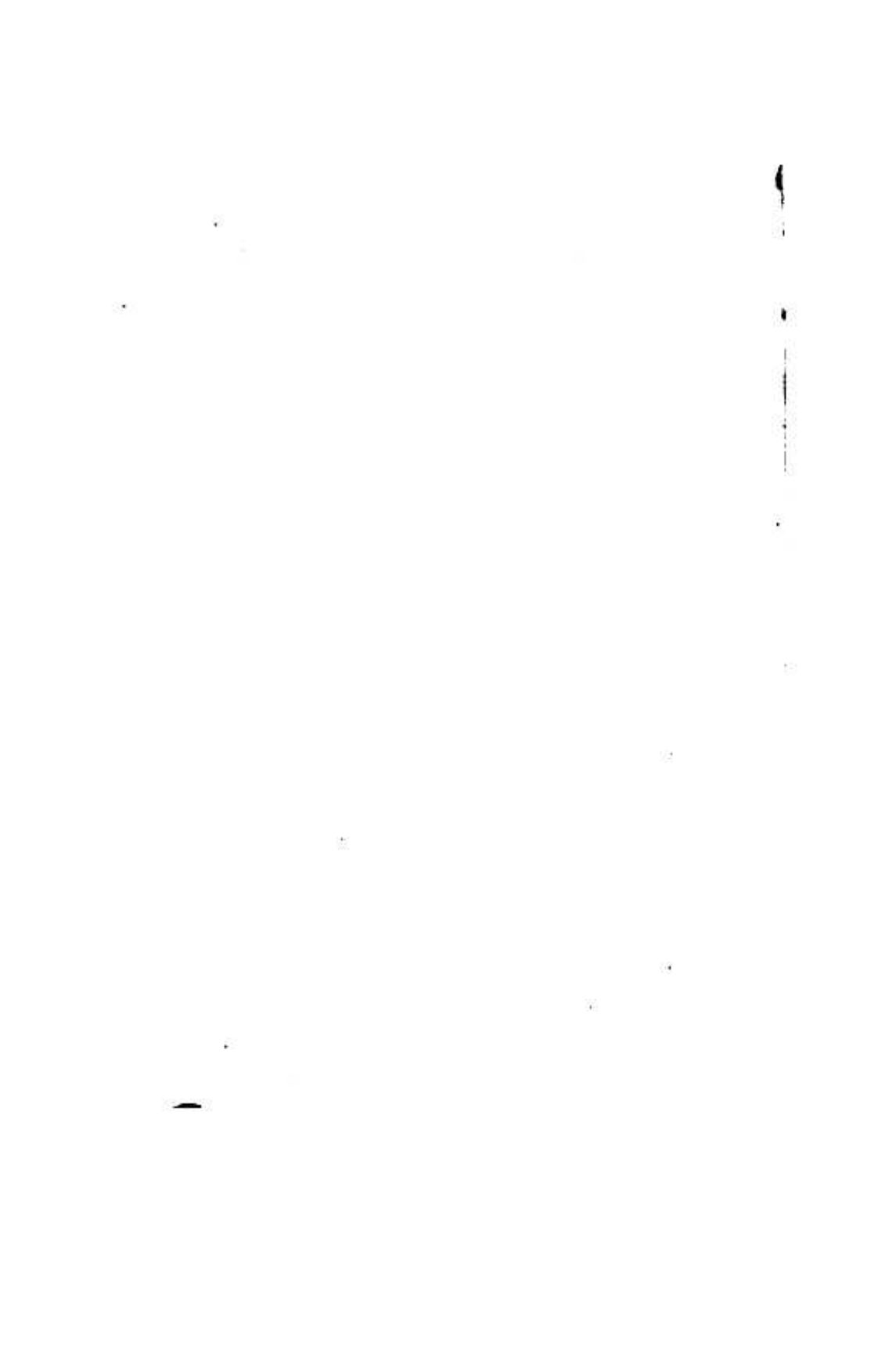


1-16-09 to M. W. . Referred 2-28-36 gjm

CONTENTS.

Chap.		Page.
	INTRODUCTION	7
I.	THE MAIL	49
II.	THE SQUIRE. THE BREAKFAST	56
III.	THE ARRIVALS	63
IV.	THE GROUNDS	70
V.	THE DINNER	78
VI.	THE EVENING	94
VII.	THE WALK	103
VIII.	THE TOWER	114
IX.	THE SEXTON	121
X.	THE SKULL	128
XI.	THE ANNIVERSARY	133
XII.	THE LECTURE	138
XIII.	THE BALL	145
XIV.	THE PROPOSALS	161
XV.	THE CONCLUSION	172

172737





INTRODUCTION.

FEW modern authors, whose works have survived them, and whose lives have been prolonged beyond the ordinary span, have so well complied with the ancient precept *λῆθι βίωσας*—live by stealth—as Thomas Love Peacock. The early poems which bore his name attracted little attention, the novels which might have made a known author famous were anonymous, and their writer could not have been easily identified with the *Examiner of East India Correspondence*, a situation, its importance considered, itself one of the most unostentatious and impersonal in the world. The life thus screened from observation offered, indeed, but little to observe. Genius and the friendship of a greater genius, however, have made it interesting to a wider circle than the personage himself expected or perhaps desired. Without violence to his known wishes and preferences, a brief memoir, mainly founded on what his attached grand-daughter and the editor of his collected works have thought it right to relate, and supplemented by a few letters and particulars in the

possession of the present writer, may not inappropriately minister to the curiosity respecting a man of exceptional character, which an edition of his choicer writings, destined, as is hoped, to a wider popularity than its predecessors, should not fail to create.

Thomas Love Peacock was born at Weymouth, October 18, 1785. His father was a glass merchant in London, partner of a Mr Pellatt, presumably founder of the celebrated firm; his mother was the daughter of Thomas Love, formerly master of a man-of-war, and whom Lord Rodney's great victory had deprived of a leg. Another Love, the eccentric and corpulent bookseller of Weymouth, must have been a relation: so that Peacock's tastes for good literature, good living, navigation, and shipbuilding, seem all distinctly traceable to his mother's side of the family. Of the father we know nothing but his calling, and that he left his son an orphan at the age of three. Mrs Peacock went to live with her father at Chertsey, and from eight to thirteen Peacock was at a school at Englefield Green, kept by a Mr Wicks, of whom he wrote later in life, "The master was not much of a scholar; but he had the art of inspiring his pupils with a love of learning." Mr Wicks is said to have prognosticated his pupil's future eminence, and indeed Peacock's juvenile compositions, some of which have been privately printed by Sir Henry Cole, exhibit just the sort of formal precocity which a schoolmaster would appreciate, and are by no