



The Wilkie Collins Society

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SOCIETY REPRINTS

Members should have received by now their copy of The Last Stage Coachman. It is hoped that this will be the first of a series of reprints of Collins works which have never otherwise been reprinted. Necessarily it needs to be a fairly short piece but I should be pleased to have suggestions for the 1991 title.

THE DICKENS FELLOWSHIP

I have been asked by the Dickens Fellowship to give a talk on **Wilkie Collins and Charles Dickens**. This will take place on Thursday February 21st 1991 at The Swedenborg Hall, 20 Bloomsbury Way, London, W.C.1., 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm. The President of the Fellowship as suggested that we should regard this as a joint meeting and all members of the Wilkie Collins Society will be made most welcome.

OTHER TALKS

From time to time I receive requests to provide a speaker on Collins for other organisations. The latest invitation is from the Jersey Ladies Literary Luncheon Club for the October - March, 1991 - 92 season. Expenses and a fee will be paid. If any member is interested in this engagement I can let them have further details. In addition, the Alliance of Literary Societies, to which we are affiliated, keeps a list of speakers so that anyone prepared to be contacted for talks may like to let me know for future reference.

NO THOROUGHFARE AND THE LAZY TOUR

Alan Sutton Publishing (Phoenix Mill, Far Thrupp, Stroud, Gloucester, GL5 2BU) have now issued the Special Edition of No Thoroughfare and Other Stories which is also available in their Pocket Classics series. It includes the above two titles as well as four other short stories by Dickens. Also available from the same publishers are:

The Biter Bit and other stories
The Dead Secret
The Haunted Hotel
Heart and Science
Man and Wife
My Ladies Money
A Rogue's Life
The Yellow Mask and Other stories

ITEMS FOR SALE

Two non-members have written to me with Collins items which they wish to sell and may be contacted direct:

David Jackson of 16 Vogrie Road, Gorebridge, Midlothian, Scotland, EH23 4HH, has the Vanity Fair cartoon of Collins, The Novelist who invented sensation. He has suggested a price of about 40.

J.R.Hilton of 6 Woodstock Avenue, Newton-le-Willows, Lanes., WA12 8PR has a copy of Antonina in the Tauchnitz Copyright Edition. It is dated 1863 but as is well known with regard to this series Tauchnitz never changed the date on the title page even in subsequent reprints.

Incidentally, The Bibliographical Society of America has now published the long awaited bibliography by Todd and Bowden on Tauchnitz International Editions. It is very comprehensive, even if one does practically need a PhD to understand fully the complete range of symbols, abbreviations and annotations. However, it would readily solve such minor problems as the one mentioned above.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1991

The membership subscriptions for 1991 is now due. It has been kept at 7 (\$10) - the same rate as last year.

TOPICAL QUOTE

"I am recovering from one of those severe colds which it is the privilege of this great country to confer on the fortunate people who dwell in it."

(Collins letter dated September 28th. 1866.)

Andrew Gasson