

AN ADDENDUM TO 'JOHN LEIGHTON, BINDING DESIGNER,
AND THE *LYRA GERMANICA*'*

THE *LYRA GERMANICA* BY CATHERINE WINKWORTH has a complex publication history. This reconstruction is based on an investigation of records in the Longman archives held at the Library of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, on correspondence with Douglas Ball (author of *Victorian Publishers' Bindings* (London, 1985)) and on the author's examination of copies in private collections.

The *Lyra Germanica* was published in two series of editions, one with the subtitle 'Hymns for the Sundays and Chief Festivals of the Christian Year' and the other subtitled 'The Christian Life'. The early editions of both series were foolscap octavo and without illustration. Subsequently illustrated editions of both series were published, as foolscap quarto volumes designed by John Leighton.

The first *unillustrated* edition of the series subtitled 'Hymns for the Sundays and Chief Festivals of the Christian Year' was issued on 10 August 1855, priced at 5/- per copy. Of this edition one thousand copies were printed by Whittingham, who also printed subsequent editions. A second edition (2,000 copies) of this series was issued on 12 December 1855 and a third (1,000 copies) in October 1856. On 10 February 1857 a 'New Edition' (1500 copies at 5/- each) was published, followed by further editions in May 1858 (1500 copies) and on 18 November 1858 (2,000 copies). Further editions were issued in August 1859 (3,000 copies), November 1860 (3,000 copies), March 1864 (1,000 copies), February 1865 (1,000 copies) and August 1866 (1,000 copies). Following a reduction of the price to 3/6 in December 1866 two more editions — each 1,000 copies — were issued, one in April 1867 and the other in March 1871.

The first *unillustrated* edition of the series with the subtitle 'The Christian Life' was issued on 4 June 1858. It was printed by Whittingham and was followed by second and third editions. The combined print run of these three editions was probably 3,000 copies. A fourth edition (2,000 copies) appeared in August 1861, followed by a fifth (2,000 copies) in December 1862 and a sixth (1500 copies) in August 1865. Another edition (1,000 copies), which may be the seventh, was issued in September 1868 and the eighth (1,000 copies) in December 1871.

On 6 July 1875 the two works were offered for sale in one sextodecimo volume at 5/- a copy cloth bound, and 14/- bound in antique morocco. Whittingham printed 500 copies of this manifestation of *Lyra Germanica* in July 1875, another 500 in April 1876, and further batches of 500 in August 1877, December 1881 and May 1885. Further editions followed, including those by Longman in 1901, Routledge in 1906 and Newnes in 1907.

The series with the subtitle 'Hymns for the Sundays . . .' was bought outright from Catherine Winkworth by Longman; for the other series she was paid a royalty of £40 for every 1,000 copies sold.

*David C. Miller, 'John Leighton, Binding Designer, and the *Lyra Germanica*', *Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand Bulletin*, 7(1983): 15-26. See also R.H. Carnie, 'John Leighton and the *Lyra Germanica* Again', *Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand Bulletin*, 8(1984): 181-190.

The first *illustrated* edition of the series subtitled 'Hymns for the Sundays . . .' was issued on 13 December 1860, with copies being sent to John Leighton and Miss Winkworth on 20 December. Three thousand copies were printed by Richard Clay. Production costs included: composition £38/6/6; corrections, ornamentations throughout in brass rule and electrotypes £70; printing £233/17/0. Leighton received £700 for his woodcuts and Edmonds was paid £25 for the block for the binding. The total outlay for the publication, including advertising, was £1,366/5/2. On 10 May 1862 a second edition (1,000 copies) was issued. Payments for this edition included: alterations and new ornamentation £1/12/0; revision for press (payment to Leighton) £5/5/0; preparation of cut for tailpiece £1/12/6; printing 1,000 envelopes in buff. The third edition was issued on 25 August 1863 (1,000 copies, but only 750 wrappers). On 4 February 1865 the fourth edition (1,000 copies) was issued, for which Rivière received £3/13/6 for envelope red ink and cutting the block for the cover. In November 1867 the 'fifth' edition was issued. All editions were printed by Clay and were offered at 21/- a copy for cloth binding and 36/- for morocco. In 1874 the stereotypes were melted down and sixteen electros sold.

The first *illustrated* edition of the series with the subtitle 'The Christian Life' appeared on 24 September 1867 (3,000 copies). For this edition Leighton was paid £740/5/0 and Miss Winkworth received £100. Copies were priced at 21/- each (cloth-bound) and 36/- (morocco). No subsequent illustrated editions have been identified.

To turn to the bindings of these works — the foolscap octavo of the first unillustrated edition of the series subtitled 'Hymns for the Sundays . . .' (1855) was bound in crimson cord-grain cloth, with front and back covers blind blocked with frames and border enclosing a central lozenge, signed 'JL' (for John Leighton). A semi-limp board with circuit edges was used. The binders were Leighton, Son and Hodge — their ticket is affixed inside the rear board. The third edition of this series (1860) was bound similarly in parallel cord-grain cloth, but the initials 'JL' were excised from the block and the ticket of binders Edmonds and Remnant was affixed. Douglas Ball has advised me that further binding variants have been seen at the National Library of Wales, but these have not yet been collated.

Of the *illustrated* editions of the series subtitled 'Hymns for the Sundays . . .' the bindings of the 1861 edition (that is, that issued in December 1860), of the third edition (1863) and of the 1868 edition (issued November 1867 and illustrated in my previous article) have been seen. The 1861 binding has a design similar to that illustrated in my previous article, but carries different titles and spine designs. The third edition (1863) is bound in green morocco-grain cloth with maroon onlay. Variants have been recorded by Robert de Beaumont, for example in Catalogue III (November 1979), item 118 and in Catalogue 4 (May 1982), item 197.

Of the *illustrated* editions subtitled 'The Christian Life' the binding shown on page 131 of Ruari McLean's *Victorian Publishers' Book Bindings in Cloth and Leather* (London, 1974), the red morocco-grain cloth binding of the Victorian and Albert Museum Library copy, and the brown morocco leather binding illustrated in my previous article have been sighted.

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