

## READERSHIP IN VICTORIA, c.1835-1865: WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON MRS. ANNIE (BAXTER) DAWBIN AS A REPRESENTATIVE READER

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OF THE £445,000 WORTH of printed books exported by England in 1854, Australia took as much as one-third;<sup>1</sup> a remarkable percentage when one considers the vast extent of the British dominions at that time and the consequent market for English language books throughout Canada, Africa, India, Malaya, the West Indies, Australia and New Zealand, plus the large American market. The extraordinarily high number of well-educated men and women who came to the colony (first in search of land in the 1830s and 1840s, and then in search of gold in the 1850s) and the rapid rise in population during the 1850s, through immigration, account in part for the demand for books from England. Being a relatively new colony, Victoria had not yet established its own publishing industry. Furthermore, as the population consisted mostly of new settlers, it was still a society that looked back to the old world for its cultural and spiritual needs. In addition, the unusually high percentage of literacy among the European adult population was an important factor in the high demand for literature. The census of 1861 revealed that only 11 per cent of the European men in Victoria and 22 per cent of the European women over twenty-one years of age could neither read nor write; that was less than half the proportions in the United Kingdom and better than any other colony or London.<sup>2</sup>

Because of the system of primogeniture in the United Kingdom, some younger sons of the gentry emigrated to Australia in order to obtain land of their own. If the younger sons had not emigrated but had secured positions in the Army or the Church, then sometimes their sons emigrated. Charles Macknight, James Irvine and William Campbell, the three partners who took up a squatter's licence for the 47,228 acres of 'Dunmore' in the Portland District in 1841, had been at school together in Edinburgh and are perhaps typical of the many 'cultured and refined people'<sup>3</sup> who came to Australia in the early part of the nineteenth century. Thomas Alexander Browne (Rolf Boldrewood), himself an emigrant from London and a squatter, appreciated having 'the run of the Dunmore library — no mean collection'.<sup>4</sup> Browne had a few books of his own: 'Byron, Scott, Shakespeare (there was no Macaulay in those days), with half-a-score of other authors, in whom there was *pabulum mentis* for a year or two'<sup>5</sup> but he also enjoyed 'a pleasant evening every now and then, rubbing up [his] classics and having a little "good talk"<sup>6</sup> at Dunmore.

With the gold rush in the 1850s another wave of well-educated men and women, as well as skilled artisans, came to the colony and the demand for books

rose accordingly. In September 1860 'a correspondent at this rising colony'<sup>7</sup> wrote in the London *Bookseller*:

The good folks at home consider Australia generally, Victoria particularly, and Melbourne particularly, as merely a name where people go down for a year or two, live roughly, become uncivilized, and return with a fortune. With this impression, therefore, they would hardly believe in a vast consumption of books; for if they did, it would at once prove that the place was civilized to a very considerable extent. That a vast consumption does take place is evidenced by the number of the trade it supports — something like twenty booksellers, doing a good trade, besides the usual number of hawkers, colporteurs, stalls, etc. etc. But the best proof has just been produced, viz. that the largest importer in Australia [George Robertson of Melbourne] has found it necessary, for the dispatch of his business, and the increase of his stock, to erect a building which would bear comparison with any in [Paternoster] Row.<sup>8</sup>

The introduction of a system of National Schools in 1862 (along the lines of the Irish system — which was far ahead of any system in England) also contributed to the demand for books. The introduction of gas lighting in Victoria in 1855 was another encouragement for people to read. As we have already seen from Thomas Browne's description of the Dunmore library, people on remote farms and cattle stations valued books. Sarah Midgley, the twenty-eight-year-old daughter of a hardworking, devoutly religious Portland farmer, recorded in her journal in March 1860 the welcome arrival of the travelling bookseller in their district:

Mr Westwood came in a conveyance with a selection of books for sale. Mother purchased two books, *The Band of Hope Review* and *Ministering Children*.<sup>9</sup>

In 1867, in a letter to England, Louisa Agnes Geoghegan, a governess at Neuarpia, Apsley observed:

Literature is much more brought forward here, in a general way, than at home because there are no new daily topics — the standing one is sheep — in which the ladies take no part — of course.<sup>10</sup>

For Mrs. Annie Maria (Baxter) Dawbin, however, reading was not a matter of compensating for the lack of new daily topics, but rather a way of life for a woman of her social position and education. Even as a seventeen-year-old bride sailing on the *Augusta Jessie*, in 1834, on her way to Van Diemen's Land with her first husband, Lieutenant Andrew Baxter of the 50th Regiment, she was immensely interested in and delighted by books. 'My darling is reading Goldsmith's *History of England* out loud to me while I work' Annie wrote in her journal<sup>11</sup> on 24 November 1834; and on 5 December 1834 she wrote: 'I don't remember any time in my life that I was happier than now reading *Gallery of Portraits*'.

Born into the British upper-middle-class<sup>12</sup> and educated at an English boarding school, Annie was representative of that class of well-educated settlers who were drawn to Australia in the early part of the nineteenth century. Indeed, Thomas Browne, the 'Dunmore' partners, Mr and Mrs William Routledge and Mr and Mrs Edward Henty were all her friends and neighbours in the Portland Bay District in the 1840s. As the energetic wife of a squatter, Annie helped muster the cattle, train horses and plan and build the homestead. As a well-brought-up English lady she rode to hounds, kept a dairy, wrote long newsy letters to friends and relatives in England, did fine needlework, sketched, played the piano, sang and danced, and was highly literate in both French and English. To Thomas Browne, who first met Annie in 1844, she was 'a chatelaine, whose soft voice and ever varied converse, mirthful or mournful, serious or satirical, practical or poetic, never failed to soothe and interest'.<sup>13</sup>

As Annie cited in her diary most, if not all, of the books she read during the years 1834-1868, she makes a particularly interesting subject for a study of readership in the colony in that period. However, in this paper I shall concentrate on the diary entries for the years 1862-65, when Annie was a resident of Melbourne. Those Melbourne years are particularly interesting as it was a time of great emotional turmoil for Annie. She and her second husband, Robert Dawbin, had come to Melbourne from the Portland District after being evicted by bailiffs from 'Springburn', where Robert had held a squatting licence since 1858. Following the death of his father in England, Robert left Annie alone in the colony while he went to England to claim his inheritance. Annie was not able to purchase her own passage to England until 1865. Living in modest boarding houses, without her husband, Annie's social position was under threat. Furthermore, the changing social expectations of women demanded a more passive demeanour than a woman of Annie's energy, passions and experience was capable of presenting to her urban contemporaries.

Within five days of her arrival in Melbourne by steamer from Portland, Annie had purchased a subscription for six months to Mullen's Library and was appeasing any misgivings she felt for 'this piece of extravagance' by reading 'as quickly as possible, so as to get [her] money's worth'.<sup>14</sup> When Samuel Mullen opened his Select Library in 1859 at 55 Collins Street-east, Melbourne, he modelled it on Mudie's of London. An advertisement Mullen placed in a Melbourne daily newspaper shows that subscriptions were 'at various rates, from one guinea per annum and upwards, according to the number of volumes required'.<sup>15</sup> As Annie appears to have borrowed many works of three volumes and did, in fact, borrow three volumes on 19 March 1862 ('Russell's *India* [2 volumes] and Lamartine's *Mary Stuart*'<sup>16</sup>) she probably had three subscriptions at a cost of about thirty shillings for six months. Taking out three concurrent subscriptions was a convention among subscribers which arose because of the pre-eminence of the three-volume form, or 'the three decker' as it was often called. In turn, the demand the three decker placed on subscribers to purchase

three subscriptions also led to the libraries putting pressure on publishers to ensure that most novels were published in that form, a demand that effectively excluded from earning a living as an author any writer who did not write three deckers. Why Mudie in particular was able to exercise that demand is evident in a publisher's subscription list dated Thursday 10 April, 1862, which shows that out of a total of 1,902 copies of *The Channings* by Mrs Henry Wood which were to be delivered to twelve London booksellers, more than three country booksellers and four foreign booksellers by the following Monday, Mudies had ordered as many as 1,000.<sup>17</sup>

Whether Annie liked any one author in particular is not stated in the diary entries for the years 1862-65, but Lucy Frost has observed from her reading of the thirty-two volumes of the entire (extant) diaries that Annie's favorite poet was Byron and that one particular book to which she constantly returned was Johann Georg Zimmermann's *Solitude Considered with Respect to its Influence upon the Mind and the Heart*.<sup>18</sup> Certainly the books Annie read during her residence in Melbourne indicate a strong tendency towards romanticism, that is towards an emphasis on the individual's emotions and imagination. Most of the books are newly published works and it may be that Annie read the latest works in order to be fashionable, to be seen in company as being well read in newly published fiction. However, Annie's own personality had a bias towards individuality and she passionately and imaginatively embraced any experience life offered. At seventeen she married Andrew Baxter because she 'was only bent on pique'<sup>19</sup> and even though she experienced 'the horrors of an unhappy marriage'<sup>20</sup> she married a second time with equal spontaneity. Having being made a widow in 1855 when Baxter committed suicide, Annie returned to Australia in 1857 to claim what she could from his estate. Whilst on the ship she met Robert Dawbin, was captivated by his good looks, and married him immediately they reached Melbourne. Annie's approach to the problem of Baxter's infidelity reveals her direct, resolute personality:

With a registered Oath, [I told him] that he must consent to take *for ever* one bed and I another, or else, I would go to my Uncle.<sup>21</sup>

In true Byronic spirit Annie embraced the alien bush of the colony with enthusiasm and daring. In 1844, with Baxter, she made the long overland trek from Sydney to Port Fairy, a hazardous journey that took two months. When bailiffs bullied Robert at 'Springburn' in 1861, Annie stuck a pistol in her belt and strode out of the house to the paddock to give Robert support and a few hours later, in a similar manner, she secured the roast dinner from being eaten by the same bailiffs. Annie's spirited, head-on approach to life is reflected in, and was probably inspired by, her reading. Many tales by adventurous travellers of exotic places were among the books she read in 1862-65, travel tales such as W.H. Russell's *My Diary in India* and *My Diary in America*, J. Lewis Farley's *Massacres in Syria*, Bert Seeman's *Viti, a Mission to the Vitian or Fijian Group* and Alexander William Kinglake's *Invasion of the Crimea*.

Even the actual reading of books Annie approached with Byronic energy and enthusiasm. 'I thank Heaven to have received an English education', she wrote in a letter to England in April 1840, 'that is, I'm fond of reading, — (passionately so)'.<sup>22</sup> Within nine days of arriving in Melbourne in 1862 Annie had read Wilkie Collins's *Hide and Seek*, C.M. Yonge's *The Young Stepmother* and J.I. Pritchard's *Mutineers in Rajpootana* and was returning those works to Mullen's 'and choosing others (Russell's *India* and Lamartine's *Mary Stuart*');<sup>23</sup> then in little more than twelve days she had read those three volumes and was reading George Eliot's *Silas Marner*. Wilkie Collins's *Hide and Seek* was 'a great disappointment' to Annie as she 'expected something from the Author of *Woman in White*'.<sup>24</sup> There is no evidence in the journal that Annie read *Woman in White* but she would have been conversant with the essence of Wilkie Collins's mystery because 'all through 1860 . . . every possible commodity was labelled 'Woman in White'; . . . 'Woman in White' cloaks and bonnets, 'Woman in White' perfumes and all manner of toilet requisites, 'Woman in White' Waltzes and Quadrilles'.<sup>25</sup> The other-worldliness of the *Woman in White* particularly captured Annie's imagination, as the following journal entry reveals:

30th Sunday. *L'homme propose, mais ciel dispose*. I have been too poorly to go anywhere but just about home. Poor little Buff has not had his nice walk for three days! On Thursday my legs quite failed me owing to a very bad pain which I had and I thought I must have caught a bad cold, so instead of sitting in cold water, I had hot, and it threw me into a fainting state. In the night I must have been screaming, as I jumped out of bed, and feeling suddenly faint I thought I would sit down: when I woke again it was from feeling the cold oil-cloth of the passage against my temple. A person staying in the house heard me fall, and came with her night light in her hand, looking the very personification of the 'Woman in White'. She was very kind, and quite frightened of my appearance.<sup>26</sup>

Annie may have invented this anecdote in order to give sensational, dramatic action to her diary. Indeed, the image of a heroine stretched out on the floor was a stock scene in much of the sensational literature Annie was reading at that time, particularly in such works as M.E. Braddon's *Lady Audley's Secret*, *Aurora Floyd*, and *Eleanor's Victory* (See Figure 1).

Certainly Annie saw her journal as a work of literature which would 'be left, to be looked at!'<sup>27</sup> Annie sometimes showed her journal to certain friends, and she consciously recorded occurrences 'which would read well!'<sup>28</sup> In 1862 she persuaded Samuel Mullen to send copies of part of her journal to his London agents, Lockwood and Company; and, in 1873 she did indeed publish a work, based in part on her journal, under the title *Memories of the Past by a Lady in Australia*.<sup>29</sup> However, whether Annie did wake 'from feeling the cold oil-cloth of the passage against [her] temple'<sup>30</sup> and did visualise her helper as being like the *Woman in White*, or whether the whole incident was a figment of Annie's imagination, there is no doubt that that particular novel had a strong effect on

her. Even eighteen months later the image of the Woman in White was still so strong in Annie's mind that she told friends she would go to the Lord Mayor's Ball dressed as the Woman in White and, even though she did not go as that character, she recorded in her journal that there was someone at the Ball who looked like 'the veritable "Woman in White"'.<sup>31</sup>



ONE OF THE STOCK SCENES IN A MISS BRADDER'S STORY

Figure 1

From *Queens of the Circulating Library, 1850-1900*,  
ed. Alan Walbank (London: Evans, 1950), p.128.

Usually, though, real-life people interested Annie more than did fictional ones: 'after all', she wrote after reading Pritchard's *Mutineers in Rajpootana*, 'there is more romance in real life than in fiction'.<sup>32</sup> Stories and biographies of romantic figures in history greatly interested her, such figures as Marie Antoinette, Mary Stuart, Catherine the Second of Russia, Henry IV, Philip II of Spain, Giuseppe Garibaldi and Madame Récamier. Mary Stuart interested Annie over many years. In fact, as early as 1834, while on her first voyage to Australia, Annie read a book entitled *Mary Queen of Scots* and in Melbourne in March, 1862, she borrowed M. Lamartine's *Mary Stuart* from Mullen's Library. At the second Lord Mayor's Ball Annie attended in 1863, Mrs Bird's Mary Queen of Scots dress impressed Annie enough for her to record in her journal that it was 'very rich and tasteful'.<sup>33</sup> The great heroic idol of mid-Victorian England, Giuseppe Garibaldi, captured Annie's sympathy and imagination to such an extent that, even though she did not admire his style of poetry, she copied into her journal the thirty-six lines he wrote while he was in South America about his 'Enslaved distant land'.<sup>34</sup> The day the European mail brought news that Garibaldi had been taken prisoner before he could take Rome, Annie wrote: 'It seems so hard on him the liberator, to be pronounced a *rebel!*'<sup>35</sup> and she read that week 'a delightful little work entitled *Garibaldi at Caprera*'.<sup>36</sup>

Just as Annie's romantic nature energetically embraced life in the new colony, made heroes of actively rebellious men and women, and was fascinated by sensational novels, exotic countries, past ages and historic figures, so it was also capable of descending into an indulgence in the sweetness of grief and of being attracted by the grotesque and the macabre. Annie's eyes were 'nearly blinded by tears'<sup>37</sup> when she read 'a sadly tragic and true account of "the massacres of Syria" by J. Lewis Farley'<sup>38</sup> and she delighted in the collection of 'very grievous . . . sudden and sad deaths of public characters',<sup>39</sup> compiled by the Reverend Erskin Neale. Following a visit to the Melbourne cemetery, Annie described a monument which she found 'peculiarly touching': notice how she was attracted to a stock, sentimental motif of a sleeping child clutching a rose:

It was at the graves of three little children, 'Arthur, Edith, and Ethel' — no surname put at all, and in the centre of the little garden surrounded by an iron paling, was a marble tomb on the outside of which was the figure of a child lying asleep, clasping a rose, and the words 'Our little Arthur' written on the side of the tomb. How much those three little words seemed to say! I do like to see a grave yard or cemetery well tended, it shows that altho' those buried there are lost to the surviving friends, they are not forgotten.<sup>40</sup>

The story Annie related in her journal of the 'frightful case in Adelaide about a girl [being] brought to justice for having had a litter of puppies!'<sup>41</sup> is also indicative of Annie in particular, and Victorian society in general, having a romantic fascination with the grotesque. Note too that when Annie went with Mr Wilson to view a dwarf they 'joked her about getting a husband'.<sup>42</sup> Class

superiority, together with a fascination with freak shows, meant that Annie and Mr Wilson would not have considered such a joke as being insensitive or hurtful for the dwarf. Annie also made many visits to the Yarra Bend Asylum. 'People ask me why I *like* to go and see so much misery? These living lessons are better than written ones', Annie wrote in July 1864. Annie's consolation during those very difficult years in Melbourne was in seeing that there were others worse off than herself and in the great attention she received from quite a few gentlemen friends. Often, while reading the journal, one feels that Annie's own sexual frustration led to her fascination with and interference in other people's liaisons and probably accounts for the large amount of sensational, romance fiction she read at that time. Indeed, Annie's description of her feelings for Dr James Neild<sup>43</sup> in January 1864 reads like a passage out of a Miss Braddon or Mrs. Norton novel:

28th Sunday . . . I really do not know what my time is passed in doing! I only know that all my thoughts seem to centre in two evenings of the week, when we have the pleasure of most delightful, too delightful society! I know very well that I should not allow myself to feel what I do when I hear one name mentioned, one voice speaking, or singing, and in shaking one kind hand. I have outlived all that silly belief in Platonics! I cannot bring myself to look on all men as brethren! And I forget how to school my feelings, some unfortunate day the volcano of my pent-up 'sensations' will burst forth in downright earnest. Sometimes I wonder that at my age I am not dead to all these vagaries. But this I do know, that I am quite as impassioned as I ever was in my life: and I cannot help it!<sup>44</sup>

Whether Annie was representative of the nineteenth-century colonial reader is arguable. However, the fact that all the books mentioned in the journal, for the years 1862-65, came from either a circulating library or from her friends' own bookshelves, suggests that they were popular works. Most of the books were being read by Annie within a year or two of their publication and were, therefore, written by people of similar background and age to Annie and a large percentage of the population of Victoria at that time. Such writers as William Makepeace Thackeray, Anthony Trollope, George Eliot, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Charles Reade and Mrs Henry Wood, had, like Annie, grown to adulthood in England at a time when Romantic poetry and Walter Scott's transformation of romance in the novel were being created and widely circulated. Furthermore, many of the books were read out loud to Annie by her husband or a friend, while she did her needlework; therefore, they could not have been esoteric works. Even the French books were lent to Annie by one friend, Mr Baker, and read out loud to her by another friend, Mr Vernon.

Certainly the healthy sales achieved by so many of the English novels Annie read indicates that her reading taste was mainstream. However, what is remarkable about Annie's choice of books during the years 1862-65 is that, apart from Mayhew's *London* — upon which she recorded no comment in her journal



other than listing it among those books read — there is not one book which has as its central theme a concern with the plight of the poor, and certainly none that call for a change in the status quo. Russell expressed criticism in his works of conditions for soldiers, especially in the Crimea, and with Annie's military background as the daughter, sister and wife of army officers she would have been interested and perhaps sympathetic to army conditions. Also, Douglas Jerrold, whose character Annie '[could] not admire sufficiently'<sup>45</sup> was, according to his son, concerned for the underprivileged in society,<sup>46</sup> a concern which can be seen to be reflected in many of his works. However, the works of Dickens, Gaskell and Disraeli, which clearly question the social condition of the lower orders, are glaringly absent from Annie's choice of reading material. This is not to say that Annie was not concerned for the plight of the poor; indeed, she gave her last few pence to a woman who had a sick husband and child to feed (even though it meant that Annie had to go without milk in her tea for three days) and she was happy that she had been able to provide bread for them.<sup>47</sup> However, Annie's romantic impulses clearly did not spill over into a call for social revolution, as they had for the young Wordsworth and for Robert Burns at the end of the eighteenth century, and as they were to for Frederick Engels and Karl Marx in the nineteenth century. As the daughter of an upper-middle-class military man and as an independently spirited, entrepreneurial colonial, Annie's idea of social duty was clearly for amelioration rather than revolution.

Nor is there a work on Annie's list which deals with life in Australia, even though numerous such works were being published in England, for example explorers' journals and emigrants' guides. Like most colonists at that time, Annie's interests naturally looked back to the source of the culture they were striving to create in their new surroundings. To middle-class colonials in particular, Australia was seen as a place to make money and 'dear old England' was the place to which they expected to return if ever that dream was realised. Consequently 'Sandridge', 'the European mail' and 'Mullen's Library', all of which are mentioned often in Annie's journal, were the life lines through which they maintained their English identity in a strange and often alien environment.

*Melbourne*

## NOTES

1. Howitt, William, *Land, Labour and Gold* (London: Longmans, 1858), II, p.224, quoted in John Holroyd, *George Robertson: 1825-1898: Pioneer Bookseller and Publisher* (Melbourne: Robertson and Mullen, 1968), p.17.
2. Serle, Geoffrey, *The Golden Age: A History of Victoria 1851-1861* (Carlton: Melbourne University Press, 1963), p.371.
3. Boldrewood, Rolf [Thomas Alexander Browne], *Old Melbourne Memories* (Melbourne: Heinemann, 1969), p.30. (First published by George Robertson of Melbourne in 1884).
4. *Ibid.*, p.39.
5. *Ibid.*
6. *Ibid.*
7. London *Bookseller*, reprinted in Holroyd, op.cit., p.24.
8. *Ibid.* See also, Johanson, Graeme, "Cultural Cringe" or Colonial Fringe?, *Melbourne Historical Journal*, 17(1985), p.82.
9. McCorkell, H.A. (editor), *The Diaries of Sarah Midgley and Robert Skilbeck* (Melbourne: Cassell, 1967), p.94.
10. Louisa Agnes Geoghegan's letter is printed in Lucy Frost, *No Place for a Nervous Lady: Voices from the Australian Bush* (Fitzroy: McPhee Gribble, 1984), p.193.
11. Dawbin, Annie Maria Baxter. Diaries, 32 vols. Manuscript, Dixon Library, State Library of New South Wales. Vols. 1834-1867 also on film (Ms.7648), La Trobe Library, State Library of Victoria. See also: Frost, op.cit., and Lucy Frost, *A Face in the Glass: the Journal and Life of Annie Baxter Dawbin* (Port Melbourne: Heinemann, 1992).
12. Annie was the daughter of James Hadden, an English army officer who was on the Earl of Chatham's staff. Her mother's beauty made an impression on the Duke of Cumberland and Annie associated with royalty during her formative years.
13. Boldrewood, op.cit., p.198.
14. Dawbin, Diaries, op.cit., 19 March 1862.
15. *Argus* (5 July 1864), p.7.
16. Dawbin, Dairies, op.cit., 19 March 1862.
17. *The Lists of the Publications of Richard Bentley & Son, 1829-1898* (Bishop Stortford: Chadwyck-Healey/Teaneck: Somerset House, 1975), [p.1072].
18. Dr Lucy Frost provided the author with this information during a telephone conversation on 3 September 1985.
19. Dawbin, Dairies, op.cit., 1834. (In Frost, *No Place for a Nervous Lady*, op.cit., p.87).
20. *Ibid.*, 1835. (In Frost, *ibid.*).
21. *Ibid.*, 1840. (In Frost, *ibid.*, p.100).
22. Dawbin, Letter, 1840. (Printed in Frost, *ibid.*, p.94).
23. Dawbin, Diaries, op.cit., 19 March 1862.
24. *Ibid.*
25. Ellis, S.M., *Wilkie Collins, Le Fanu and Others* (London: Constable, 1931), pp.29-30.
26. Dawbin, Dairies, op.cit., 30 March 1862.
27. *Ibid.*, 4 March 1844. (Printed in Frost, op.cit., p.148).
28. *Ibid.*, 22 November 1863.
29. Baxter, Annie, *Memories of the Past by a Lady in Australia* (Melbourne: W.H. Williams, 1873); new edition: Baxter, Annie, *Memories of Tasmania and of the Macleay River and New England districts of New South Wales and of Port Fairy in the Western District of Port Phillip: 1834-1848* (Adelaide, South Australia: Sullivan's Cove, 1980).
30. Dawbin, Diaries, op.cit., 30 March 1862.
31. *Ibid.*, 27 September 1863.
32. *Ibid.*, 15 March 1862.

33. *Ibid.*, 4 October 1864.
34. *Ibid.*, 10 October 1862.
35. *Ibid.*
36. *Ibid.*
37. *Ibid.*, 18 April 1862.
38. *Ibid.*
39. *Ibid.*, 21 May 1862.
40. *Ibid.*, 11 October 1863.
41. *Ibid.*, 29 December 1864.
42. *Ibid.*, 6 January 1865.
43. For an excellent biography of Neild see: Harold Love, *James Edward Neild: Victorian Virtuoso* (Carlton: Melbourne University Press, 1989).
44. Dawbin, Diaries, op.cit., 28 January 1864.
45. *Ibid.*, 21 May 1862.
46. See Jerrold, W. Blanchard, *The Works of Douglas Jerrold* (London: Bradbury, Evans, 1862?), p. xii.
47. See, Dawbin, Diaries, op.cit., 9 June 1862.

Appendix A contains a list of all the books (except those written in French) mentioned or commented upon in the text of Annie Maria (Baxter) Dawbin's journal for the period 10 March 1862 to 7 April 1865. The dates signify the date under which Annie entered the comment regarding the book(s). Appendix B contains a list of books entered in Annie Maria (Baxter) Dawbin's journal in May 1862 or August 1863, but not referred to in the text of the journal. Appendix C contains Annie's comments in her journal regarding French books she read during the years 1863-64.

Bibliographic details for the works listed in Appendices A and B have been gleaned from the following references:

- British Library. *General Catalogue of Printed Books to 1975*. [On CD-ROM]. London: Saztec Europe, 1991.
- British Museum. *General Catalogue of Printed Books to 1955*. Compact Edition. New York: Readex Microprint, 1967.
- The Lists of the Publications of Richard Bentley & Son, 1829-1898*. Bishop Stortford: Chadwyck-Healey, 1975. [On microfiche].
- Ingram, Alison. *The Archives of the House of Grant Richards, 1897-1948*. Comp. Alison Ingram. Cambridge: Chadwyck, Healey, 1981.
- Ingram, Alison. *The Archives of the House of Longman, 1794-1914*. Comp. Alison Ingram. Cambridge: Chadwyck, Healey, 1981.
- The National Union Catalog Pre-1956 Imprints*. London: Mansell, 1978.
- Sampson & Low, Son & Marston. *English Catalogue of Books 1835-63*. New York: Kraus, 1963.
- Sampson & Low, Son & Marston. *English Catalogue of Books 1856-1873*. New York: Kraus, 1963.

## APPENDIX A

English books Annie Maria (Baxter) Dawbin mentioned  
or commented upon in the text of her journal  
10th March, 1862 — 7th April, 1865

**15th March, 1862:**

- Collins, Wilkie. *Hide and Seek: A Novel*. 3 vols., London: Richard Bentley, 1854.  
Yonge, Charlotte Mary. *The Young Stepmother: A Chronicle*. London: Longman, 1861.  
Pritchard, J.T. *Mutineers in Rappootana*. London: Parker, 1860.

**19th March, 1862:**

- Russell, W.H. *My Diary in India, in the year 1858-9*. London: Routledge, 1860.  
Lamartine, Alphonse de. *Memoirs of Mary Stuart*. London: Longman, 1859.

**1st April, 1862:**

- Eliot, George. *Silas Marner: The Weaver of Raveloe*. Edinburgh & London: William Blackwood, 1861.

**18th April, 1862:**

- Farley, J. Lewis. *The Massacres in Syria*. London: Bradbury, 1861.

**21st May, 1862:**

- Jerrold, W. Blanchard. *The Life and Remains of Douglas Jerrold. By his son*. London: Kent, 1858.  
Hunt, Leigh. *The Correspondence of Leigh Hunt. Edited by his eldest son*. 2 vols. London: Smith & Elder, 1862.  
Aytoun, W.E. *Norman Sinclair*. 3 vols. London: Blackwood, 1861.  
Neale, Eskine. *Sunsets and Sunshine*. London: Longman, 1862.

**10th October, 1862:**

- Vecchj, Col. *Garibaldi at Caprera*. Translated. With preface by Mrs. Gaskell. London: Macmillan, 1862.

**28 December, 1862:**

- Vigny, Alfred de. *Cinq-Mars: or a Conspiracy under Louis XIII*. Edition unidentified.

**13th May, 1863:**

- Trollope, A. *Orley Farm*. With illustrations by J.E. Millais. 2 vols. London: Chapman & Hall, 1861, 1862.

**13th May, 1863 and 23rd May, 1863:**

- Colenso, Bishop of Natal (John William). *The Pentateuch and Joshua Critically Examined*. London: Longman, 1862-79.

**23rd May, 1863:**

- Reade, C. *The Double Marriage, or White Lies: A Novel*. 3 vols. London: Trübner, 1857.  
Trollope, A. *Tales of All Countries*. London: Chapman & Hall, 1861.

**28th May, 1863:**

- Braddon, Mary E. *Lady Audley's Secret*. 3 vols. London: Tinsley, 1862.  
Russell, W.H. *My Diary in America: North and South*. 2 vols. London: Bradbury, 1862.

Seemann, Bert. *Viti: An Account of a Government Mission to the Vitian or Fijian Islands in the years 1860-61*. With illustrations and a map. London: Macmillan, 1862.

Kavanagh, Julia. *Madeline: A Tale of Auvergne, Founded on Fact*. London: Richard Bentley, 1861.

**12th July, 1863:**

Sala, George Augustus Henry. *The Two Prima-Donnas*. London: Tinsley, 1862.

**4th July, 1863:**

*Such Things Are*. By the author of 'Recommended to Mercy'. 3 vols. Saunders, 1862.

**12th July, 1863:**

Jeaffreson, John Cordy. *Olive Blake's Good Work: A Novel*. 3 vols. London: Chapman & Hall, 1862.

**31st July, 1863:**

Collins, Wilkie. *No Name*. 3 vols. London: Low, 1862 or 1863.

Burgon, John William. *Letters from Rome to Friends in England*. London: Murray, 1862.

**9th August, 1863:**

Braddon, Mary E. *Aurora Floyd*. 3 vols. London: Tinsley, 1863.

**23rd August, 1863:**

Burnett, F. *Life of Louise Juliane: Electress of Palatine*. London: Nisbet, 1862.

**20th September, 1863:**

Feer, M. W. *Glorious Reign: Henry IV*. Part 3, 2 vols. London: Hurst, 1863.

[Sinclair, Catherine]. *The Woman in Black*. By the author of 'The Man in Gray'. Philadelphia: T.B. Peterson, [186?].

Norton, Mrs. C.E.S. *Lost and Saved: A Novel*. 2 vols. London: Hurst, 1863.

**4th October, 1863:**

Kinglake, Alexander William. *Invasion of the Crimea: Volume 1*. 2 vols. London: Blackwood, 1863.

**17th January, 1864:**

Lawrence, G.A. *Border and Bastille: A Novel*. 2nd edition. London: Tinsley, 1863 or 1864.

Wills, W. G. *Wife's Evidence: A Novel*. 3 vols. London: Hurst, 1863.

**20th February, 1864:**

Reade, C. *Hard Cash*. 3 vols. Low, 1863; 3 vols. London: Ward, Lock, 1864.

Robinson, F.W. *The House of Elmore: A Family History*. 3 vols. London, 1855.

**1st April, 1864:**

Braddon, Mary E. *Eleanor's Victory*. 3 vols. London: Tinsley, 1863.

Wood, Mrs. Henry. *The Channings*. 3 vols. London: Bentley, 1862.

**28th August, 1864:**

Lawrence, G.A. *Maurice Dering; or, the Quadrilateral. A Novel*. By the author of 'Guy Livingstone'. 2 vols. London: Tinsley, 1864.

**15th December, 1864:**

Melville, G. J. Whyte. *Gladiators*. 3 vols. London: Longmans, 1863 or 1864.

**7th January, 1865:**

*Memoirs of Catherine the Second*. 1st edition [English] 1859; Trübner, 1863.

## APPENDIX B

**Books Annie Maria (Baxter) Dawbin listed in May 1862  
or August 1863 but did not refer to  
in the text of her journal**

*Sheridan and his Times by an Octogenarian who stood by his knee in youth, and sat at his table in manhood.* 2 vols. London: Hope, 1859.

Allen, (John). *The Crown of Crowns set upon the head of King Jesus: wherein is displayed His glory as Jehovah by nature and His mediatorial glories . . . Together with a letter to an Arian by John Macgowan.* Third edition. London: L.J. Higham, 1816.

Bell, C. *Aunt Ailie.* London: Warne, 1861.

Collins, Wilkie. *Queen of Hearts.* 3 vols. London: Smith & Elder, 1862.

Collins, Wilkie. *Dead Secret.* 2 vols. London: Bradbury & Evans, 1857; London: Smith & Elder, 1861.

De Chaillu. *Africa Equatorial Explorations.* London: Murray, 1861.

Edwards, Suth. *The Russians at Home.* 2nd edition. London: W. H. Allen, 1861.

Hodgson, C.P. *A Residence at Nagasaki and Hakodate in 1859-1860: With an Account of Japan Generally.* London: Richard Bentley, 1861.

Mayhew, Henry. *London Labour and London Poor.* 1851; 3 vols. London: Griffin, 1861.

(Mohl), Madame M\*\*\*. *Madame Récamier: With a Sketch of the History of Society in France. By Madame M\*\*\*.* London: Chapman & Hall, 1861.

Prescott, William Hickling. *The History of Philip II.* 2 vols. London: Richard Bentley, 1858; 3 vols. London: Routledge, 1861.

Sala, G.A. *The Seven Sons of Mammon.* London: Tinsley, 1864.

Sala, G.A. *Dutch Pictures.* London: Tinsley, 1861.

Shirley, pseud. [John Skelton]. *Nugæ Criticæ. Occasional Papers Written at the Seaside. By Shirley.* London: Hamilton, 1862; Edinburgh: Edmondston and Douglas, 1862.

Thackeray, William Makepeace. *The Four Georges: Sketches of Manners, Morals, etc.* London: Smith and Elder, 1861.

Trollope, Anthony. *Dr. Thorne: A Novel.* 3 vols. 6th edition. London: Chapman & Hall, 1861.

Trollope, Thomas A. *Decade on Italian Women.* 2 vols. London: Chapman & Hall, 1859.

Yonge, Charlotte Mary. *Hopes and Fears.* 2 vols. 1860; London: Parker, 1861.

**APPENDIX C**

**Annie Maria (Baxter) Dawbin's comments regarding  
French books she read in the years 1863-64**

**28th Sunday [May 1863]**

Mr. Baker lends me french books, and I read one last week entitled 'l'enfant de ma femme' — & am now commencing 'Madeleine'.

**17th Friday [June 1863]**

Mr. Vernon . . . reads french à merveille! He is so kind as to read to me every morning.

**31st Friday [July 1863]**

sat reading 'l'amour qui passe et l'amour qui vient'.

**10th Sunday [July 1864]**

my mornings have been agreeably passed in hearing Mr. Vernon read out 'les miserables' in french.

**31st Sunday [July, 1864]**

Every morning Mr. Vernon reads aloud to me in French, and then we sing together and indeed pass the best part of the day in each other's company

**6th Tuesday [December, 1864]**

I had such a nice note from Miss Richardson this morning; she tells me what she thinks of Michelet's 'Oiseau' which book I lent her to read.

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