William Morris & his Circle: a selective bibliography of publications, 1960-62

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This bibliography of publications on William Morris and his circle, covering a three-year period, offers convincing evidence that the stated aims of the William Morris Society are being fulfilled: 'to deepen understanding and stimulate a wider appreciation of Morris, his friends and their work'. A bibliography comparing publications for the seven-year period since the Society has flourished as an active organization (1955-62) with those of the same period immediately previous to 1955 would, I feel certain, demonstrate how successful the Society has been in publicizing Morris and in stimulating a revival of interest in his multifarious activities. Now that publication has been clearly established as a vital part of the function of the William Morris Society, a continuing interest in all aspects of Morris and his circle can be anticipated.

It is no doubt true that some (though certainly not the majority) of the writings in the following list constitute, as Mr John Purkis put the case in his letter in the first number of the Journal, 'scrabbling about among the foothills' without regard to the mountain. But in defence of so-called fragmentary studies by specialists, it is worth mentioning that revivals do not begin with vast, synthesizing analyses. In order to see the whole man it is often essential to have an intimate familiarity with the separate components – frequently even with the trivialities – of his wholeness. This principle is nowhere better exemplified than by so complex a figure as William Morris, who defies all taxonomical attempts to give him a convenient label. If it is a truism that one should not lose sight of the forest while examining the trees, the corollary that forests are in fact composed of trees is no less worth remembering.

The following bibliography includes publications appearing
between 1 January 1960 and 31 December 1962. No attempt at absolute completeness is suggested, although an effort has been made to incorporate all items of major importance. In general, ephemeral publications, such as the extensive number of press-notices of the Morris and Company Centenary Exhibition, have been relegated either to annotations or cross-references (in this instance to the handlist of such notices circulated by the Honorary Secretary). Publications in countries other than England and America have been included when information was available, and a systematic check for such materials has been made, without guarantee, however, that those items included represent even a reasonable proportion of materials actually published. The organization and arrangement of the bibliography are self-evident.

I TRANSACTIONS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS OF THE WILLIAM MORRIS SOCIETY

a. Reports, reprints, and continuing publications


*News From Anywhere.* No. 3 (March 1961), [8 pp.] No. 4 (February 1962), [8 pp.] Published by Joseph R. Dunlap, William Morris Society Eastern Secretary, USA.


b. Transactions and other publications


Tributes to Peter Floud / The Published Writings of Peter Floud / The Wallpaper Designs of William Morris, an Article by Peter Floud. London: WMS, 1960. Issued in blue cardboard portfolio. The tributes are by R. C. H. Briggs, Ada Buck Polak, Alf Bøe and Stephen Tschudi Madsen. Floud's article is reprinted from The Penrose Annual (see Section IIb). A leaflet announcing the establishment of the Peter Floud Memorial Fund, printed at the Dolmen Press, Dublin, was issued in 1960. Leaflets describing the competition were issued in 1961 and 1962.

II GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

a. Separate publications on William Morris, including reprints and dissertations


--. News from Nowhere. An illustrated, serialized abridgement made by Walter Kendall appeared through five issues (8 August to 27 September 1962) in New Dawn (Manchester), the journal of the Union of Shop Distributors and Allied Workers.


b. Articles on William Morris


——. ‘Leonardo of Retailing’, Gazette of the John Lewis Partnership, XLIV (17 March 1962), 158-60. With a lengthy quotation from an article on Morris by Emma Lazarus in the Century, July 1886, and extracts from a letter from Morris to Emma Lazarus, dated 21 April 1884.


complete set of articles, written by Floud in 1956 and revised 'in the light of
research carried out by the late Mr. Floud and herself [Barbara Morris] since
the articles were first written', occupies pages 15-24 of this number and is
profusely illustrated with both black-and-white and coloured illustrations.
The first three articles, although not directly concerned with Morris, are
extremely important to the historical development of an area in which Morris
was most active. These are: 'The British Calico-Printing Industry, 1676-1840',
'The English Contribution to the Chemistry of Calico Printing before
Perkin', and 'The Development of Design in English Printed Textiles'.

---. 'The Wallpaper Designs of William Morris', The Penrose Annual, LIV
(1960), 41-5+8 pp. illus. Reissued in portfolio by the Society, 1960 (see
Section 1b).

Girouard, Mark. 'Red House, Bexley Heath, Kent', Country Life, CXXVII,
No. 3302 (16 June 1960), 1382-5. Reprints of this article were circulated to
all members of the Society.

Gray, Donald J. 'Arthur, Roland, Empedocles, Sigurd, and the Despair of
Heroes in Victorian Poetry', Boston University Studies in English, V (Spring
1961), 1-17. A study of four Victorian heroes who are unable to realize their
ambitions to reshape the world.

Personal reminiscences.


Kocmanová, Jessie. 'Some Remarks on E. P. Thompson's Opinion of the
Poetry of William Morris', Philologica Pragensia. No. 3. University of
Prague, 1960.

---. 'Two Uses of the Dream Form as a Means of Confronting the Present
with the National Past', William Morris and Svatopluk Cech, Brno Studies in
English, II (1960), 113-48. (Czech and Russian Summaries, pp. 149-52.)

Lamb, Ainslie. 'William Morris—the Socialism of Culture', The Radical
[Melbourne, Australia], September 1961, p. 7.

Lowe, W. F. 'Restoration of Morris Windows at the Victoria and Albert

Mayfield, John S. 'Unequivocal William Morris', Courier [Syracuse Uni-
versity Library Association], II (July 1962), 16. Reprinting a letter from
Morris to Dr. F. J. Furnivall.

Morris, Barbara. 'William Morris. A Twentieth Century View of his Woven
Textiles', Handweaver & Craftsman, XII (Spring 1961), 6-11, 54-5. Illustrated
with eight of Morris' original designs.

---. 'William Morris, His Designs for Carpets and Tapestries', Handweaver
& Craftsman, XII (Fall 1961), 18-21+. Illustrated.


Munby, Lionel M. 'William Morris' Romances and the Society of the

'News and Notes', Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America, LIV

Perrine, Laurence. 'Morris' Guenevere: An Interpretation', Philological
Quarterly, XXXIX (April 1960), 234-41. Morris does not condone Guenevere’s conduct. ‘The poem is not Morris’ defence of Guenevere, but Guenevere’s defence of herself. Morris has merely taken one of Malory’s characters in a moment of stress and brought her intensely alive. His task has been not to excuse or to blame, but to vivify.’ (p. 241.)


Stingle, Richard. ‘William Morris’, Association of Canadian University Teachers of English Report, 1960, pp. 4-10. ‘... to read Morris aright, it seems to me, is to read him in terms of symbolic image and not in terms of allegory.’ (p. 5.) A lecture read at the annual meeting of ACUTE in Kingston, Ontario, June 1960.


‘William Morris, Esq.’, Interior Design, XXXII (February 1961), 132-3. See also ‘19th Century Painting’ in the same number (pp. 134-5), dealing with the Pre-Raphaelites.

Watkinson, Roy. ‘William Morris, a Socialist Artist’, Magyar Epitómövészet, 1962-64, pp. 44-5. In the same issue appeared an article by Nagy Elemer on ‘The Studio of William Morris’ (pp. 47-9). Both articles are in Hungarian.


c. Catalogues of exhibitions and sales

Morris and Company, 1861-1940. A Commemorative Centenary Exhibition. London: The Arts Council, 1961. Catalogue and Introduction by Barbara Morris. Eight plates. Opening at the Victoria and Albert Museum on 11 April 1961, the exhibition toured England from the middle of June to the end of the year. Newspaper and periodical notices of the exhibition (many of them illustrated) were too numerous for separate listing; and despite their inherent interest, for purposes of consistency, both signed and unsigned notices have been excluded from the present bibliography. Duplicated lists of press notices
have been circulated among members and are available from the Society. (See also Ib, Briggs.)


Pre-Raphaelite Art. Paintings, Drawings, Engravings, Sculptures, Tapestries, Chintzes, Wallpapers. An Exhibition Arranged by the State Art Galleries of Australia. [Catalogue of the Exhibition.] Sydney, March-October 1962. A travelling exhibition, the first of the Pre-Raphaelites to be held in Australia. Nineteen-three items were exhibited, emphasis being given to examples of Pre-Raphaelite art in Australian collections.


Catalogue of Valuable Printed Books. London: Sotheby, 15-17 October 1962. Lots 605-685 consisted of books from the library of Sir Sydney Cockerell. Of particular interest were Lot 617, comprising MS catalogues of woodcut and early printed books in Morris’ library, Lot 618 comprising MS lists of and notes on manuscripts, pictures, printed books, etc., in the collection of Sir Sydney Cockerell and including a list of inscribed and presentation books and proofs printed at the Kelmscott Press in that collection, and Lot 641, an annotated catalogue of the sale of the more valuable part of Morris’ library in 1898.

Catalogue of Nineteenth-Century and Modern First Editions, etc. London: Sotheby, 3 and 4 December 1962. Lots 1-80 consisted of books from the library of Sir Sydney Cockerell. Of particular interest were Lot 38, a very rare issue of the first edition of The Well at the World’s End, and Lot 79, an autograph manuscript notebook containing poetical and prose drafts, sketches for decorative patterns and notes on illuminated MSS by Morris.

Also included in this sale were literary properties of Rossetti, W. B. Scott, Christina Rossetti, etc., belonging to Miss E. M. Courtney-Boyd (3, 4 December 1962), though only two presentation copies of Morris to W. B. Scott were included. The Sotheby Sale of Pre-Raphaelite pictures from the collection of Mr. William Alwyn (14 November 1962) should also be noted.

The Work of William Morris. London: William Morris Society (at the

Catalogue of Nineteenth-century and Modern First Editions, Presentation Copies, Autograph Letters, and Literary Manuscripts. London: Sotheby, 29-30 May 1961. Lots 506-509 are of special interest to Morris students, particularly the run of forty-five A.Ls. from Morris to Fairfax Murray and the fifty-three A.Ls. from May Morris to Murray regarding Morris material in Murray’s collection which she desired for her work on her father. Almost all the items in this portion of the sale, from the collection of Arthur Murray, are of Pre-Raphaelite interest. Of special importance are the 464 letters from D. G. Rossetti to Charles A. Howell. Other Rossetti and Pre-Raphaelite items appeared among the property of the late Signora Agresti.

d. Books and articles relating to the Morris circle


Beazley, Elizabeth. ‘Watts Chapel’, Architectural Review, CXXX (September 1961), 167-72. Illustrated. The chapel, at Compton, Surrey, was designed by Mary Watts, the wife of the artist. ‘[The Chapel] forms part of an interesting (historically rather than architecturally) group of buildings which must be one of the few remaining monuments in brick and mortar to the ideals of William Morris and the Arts and Crafts Movement.’ (p. 167.)

Bennet, Mary. ‘The Pre-Raphaelites and the Liverpool Prize’, Apollo, LXXVI (December 1962), 748-53. Profusely illustrated.

Dearden, James S. ‘Some Portraits of John Ruskin’, Apollo, LXXIII (December 1960), 190-5; ‘Further Portraits of John Ruskin’, Apollo, LXXIV (June 1961), 171-8. Twenty-three reproductions (some in colour) of portraits ‘in the Ruskin Galleries, Bembridge School, Isle of Wight and Brantwood, Coniston’.

Doughty, Oswald. A Victorian Romantic, Dante Gabriel Rossetti. 2nd ed. London: Oxford University Press, 1960. First edition, 1949. This is the volume which Philip Henderson (in his Writers and Their Works volume on Morris) called ‘the first attempt to penetrate the mystery surrounding Morris’ [!] private life’. Doughty’s biography remains the most thorough and balanced life of Rossetti available; but considering the paucity of actual revisions and additions in this second edition, it might have been more accurate to describe the work as a reprinting.

who were driven 'under his own poetic enthusiasm and the urgency of the moment, into temporary poetic production'. (p. 209.)


Eckardt, Wolf von. 'The Bauhaus', Horizon, IV (November 1961), 58-75. Whereas Morris and his followers were protesting against the increase of machine production, Gropius and his Bauhaus group sought a ground on which art and industry might unite. An interesting article, profusely illustrated.


Gaul, Victoria. 'Ayrshire's Little Castle', Scottish Field, CVIII (January 1961), 55-8. A brief description, with illustrations, of Penkill Castle, the home of Alice Boyd, and of its literary and artistic associations, particularly with the Pre-Raphaelites. Some of Morris' art works, including tapestries, are still at Penkill and are mentioned in the article.


Kegel, Charles H. 'Lord Manners and the Young England Movement: Romanticism in Politics', Western Political Quarterly, XIV (1961), 691-7. On Southey, Carlyle, Morris, etc.


Packer, Lona Mosk. 'F. S. Ellis and the Rossettis: A Publishing Venture and Misadventure, 1870', Western Humanities Review, XVI (Summer 1962), 243-53. Christina Rossetti's decision to change publishers (from Macmillan to Ellis) in 1870 was influenced primarily by D. G. Rossetti's attempt 'to gather together under one publishing banner ... 'a little knot of congenial writers', that is, a literary coterie of producing poets', including Morris, the Rossettis, Swinburne, and W. B. Scott. The article is a chapter from the author's recently published biography of Christina Rossetti.


Savarit, Jacques. Tendances mystiques et ésotériques chez Dante-Gabriel Rossetti. With a 'lettre-frontispice' by André Maurois and a Preface by François Fosca. (Études anglaises. No. 8.) Paris: Didier, 1961. (diss. Genève, 1960.) A psychological biography which examines Rossetti's literary works against the background of the romantic tradition of mysticism, his Italianate heritage and temperament, his family life in his formative years, the succession of women on whom he depended, and his final seclusion, illness, and addiction to chloral. With a section on Jane Burden.


——. 'Victorian Stained Glass', Apollo, LXXVI (December 1962), 760-5. Illustrated, including one reproduction of Morris & Co. glass.


Werner, Alfred. 'The Sad Ballad of Simeon Solomon', Kenyon Review, XXII (Summer 1960), 392-407. In the main a biographical account of this minor fringe-Pre-Raphaelite.