CABINET 17: THE FINAL FLOURISH

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CABINET 18: INFLUENCE AND LEGACY

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VITRINES

- 1. Modern Scholarship on Dickens
- 2. Dickens and his Illustrators
- 3. Dickens and the Victorian Christmas
- 4. The Victorian Novel

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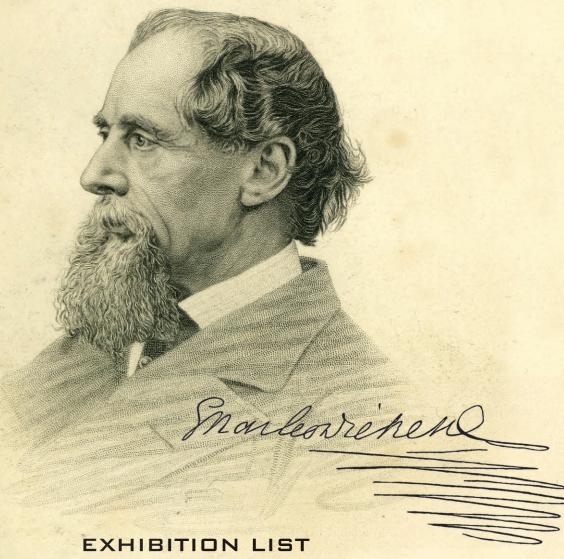
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CELEBRATING

(HARLES) JUNE

1812-1870

A MAN OF HIS AGE



21 SEPTEMBER TO 13 DECEMBER 2012





Charles Dickens was born in Portsmouth, England on 7 February 1812. As a consequence, world-wide celebrations have taken place in 2012, the bicentennial year of his birth. And why not celebrate the birth of the creator of some 989 named characters such as the Artful Dodger, Mr Micawber, Little Nell, Wackford Squeers, Uriah Heep, Peggotty, Fagin, William Dorrit, Scrooge, Pecksniff, Paul Dombey, Sally Brass, and Bucket? These unforgettable characters (and others) appear in classic works such as *Sketches by Boz* (1836), *Pickwick Papers* (1836-37), *Oliver Twist* (1837-39), *David Copperfield* (1850), *Great Expectations* (1860-61), *Our Mutual Friend* (1864-65), and the unfinished *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (1870).

Special Collections, University of Otago Library, is fortunate to hold first and second editions of works by Dickens, as well as scarce published parts and periodicals that offer first time appearances. And many of these works contain memorable images executed by artists who collaborated closely with him. They include George Cruikshank, Hablot Knight Browne ('Phiz'), John Leech, Frank and Marcus Stone, and Luke Fildes. Indeed, who can forget Cruikshank's depiction of Oliver holding out his cup and asking for more gruel?

Dickens was a man of his age; the Victorian times. With his publishers, he capitalized on technologies and innovative marketing strategies by supplying instalments of his works to a growing reading public. He was inundated with letters from readers, many begging him not to kill off Little Nell in *The Old Curiosity Shop*. And on the eve of her coronation, Victoria was so taken with *Oliver Twist* that she recommended it to her minister, Lord Melbourne. In her words, the work was 'excessively interesting'. Dickens also took his works on the road, performing numerous public readings in Britain and overseas.

His writing career spanned 34 years, during which he wrote 15 major novels, his famed Christmas books, travel books, plays, numerous newspaper and periodical contributions, and many miscellaneous pieces. To contextualise his life and works a select number of themes that figure so strongly during the reign of Queen Victoria will be on display. They include the City of London; the poor and dispossessed; *Punch*; the Great Exhibition; and the Crimean War. Dickens and his enduring legacy will also feature.

ITEMS ON DISPLAY

CABINET 1: FRIENDS

Charles Dickens, watercolour portrait by E. Lawn, 1870. Charles Dickens Papers 1845-1881. MS 77-97. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland City Library

Charles Dickens, *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*. London: Chapman and Hall, 1839. Special Collections PR 4565 A1 1839 William Makepeace Thackeray, *The History of Pendennis*. No. 1, November 1848. London: Bradbury and Evans, 1849-1850. de Beer Eb 1849 T

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Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins, *The Lazy Tour of Two Idle Apprentices; No Thoroughfare; The Perils of Certain English Prisoners*. London: Chapman and Hall, 1890. Storage Bliss YI DicS C

Thomas Carlyle, Sartor Resartus (1831); Lectures on Heroes (1840). London: Chapman and Hall, 1858. Truby King Collection PR 4429 A1 1858

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *Poetical Works*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1893. Brasch PS 2250 1893

Daniel Maclise, Oil on canvas painting of Charles Dickens, 1839. Copy of the original, National Portrait Gallery, London.

CABINET 2: DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

Daniel Maclise, Portrait in oils of Catherine Dickens, 1847. Copy of original at Charles Dickens Museum, London.

Maria Clutterbuck [Catherine Thomson Dickens], What shall we have for Dinner? Satisfactorily answered by numerous bills of fare for from two to eighteen persons. London: Bradbury and Evans, 1852; facsimile. Special Collections TX 737 D524 2010 Photograph of Ellen Ternan, c.1875

Ada Nisbet, *Dickens & Ellen Ternan*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1952. Storage PR 4582 NP94 Daniel Maclise, 'Charles Dickens and the Hogarth Sisters', 1843. Pencil on paper. Copy of original from Forster Collection at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

CABINET 3: FIRST FRUITS: SKETCHES AND PICKWICK

[Charles Dickens], *Sketches by Boz. Illustrative of Every-day Life, and Every-day People.* Second Series. London: John Macrone, 1837. Special Collections PR 4570 A1 1836a

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CABINET 4: LONDON & QUEEN VICTORIA

Karl Baedeker, *London and Its Environs: Handbook for Travellers*. 7th rev. edition. [Leipzig]: Karl Baedeker, 1889. Special Collections DA 679 B351 1889

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CABINET 5: DICKENS AND THE POOR

Letters from Charles Dickens to Angela Burdett-Coutts, 1841-1865. Selected by Edgar Johnson. London: Jonathan Cape, 1953. Central PR 4581 A4 1953

Victorian Life in Photographs. London: Thames and Hudson, 1974. Central DA 533 VM36

Henry Mayhew, *London Labour and the London Poor*. Vol. II. London: Griffin, Bohn, and Company, 1861-62. Special Collections HV 4088 L8 MF272

CABINET 6: OLLY & NICK

Charles Dickens, 'Oliver Twist', in *Bentley's Miscellany*. Vol. I. London: Richard Bentley, 1837. Storage Journals AP4.B46
_____, *Oliver Twist*. 1st edition, 3rd issue. London: Richard Bentley, 1838. de Beer Eb 1838 D
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CABINET 7: MASTER HUMPREY'S CLOCK

Charles Dickens, 'The Old Curiosity Shop', in *Master Humphrey's Clock*. 1st edition, Vol. I. London: Chapman and Hall, 1840-1841. de Beer Eb 1840 D

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Camden Pelham [pseud], *The Chronicles of Crime*; *Or, The New Newgate Calendar*. Vol. II. London: T. Miles and Co., 1887. Special Collections HV 6945 P443 1887

CABINET 10: THE GREAT EXHIBITION 1851

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CABINET 11: COPPERFIELD & OTHERS

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CABINET 12: THE CRIMEAN WAR

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CABINET 13: SELECTED PASTIMES

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Copy of an engraving of Charles Dickens at his reading desk for his final performance on 15 March 1870

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