



Contents and Abstracts

The Shandean Volume 32 (2021)

212 pp., 18 ills. mostly colour

The marbling on the cover of *The Shandean* Volume 32 (2021) is from the 1775 'New Edition', volume 3, p. 22 of *Tristram Shandy*.

The Shandean, an annual volume devoted to Laurence Sterne and his works published by the Laurence Sterne Trust - ISSN 0956 3083.

www.shandean.org - theshandean@xs4all.nl

Articles:

- **Flavio Gregori, Making and Unmaking Man: Further Reflections on Sterne's Allusions to Charron's *Of Wisdome***

This article reconsiders the role that the allusions to Pierre Charron's treatise *De la sagesse*, in its English translation by Samson Lennard, *Of Wisdome*, have in *Tristram Shandy*. Charron was a disciple of Montaigne and an advocate of philosophical scepticism in early seventeenth-century France. He was influential, especially in the Jansenist circles, but his reception was, and still is, not uniform, as some regarded him as an anti-dogmatic apologist of Christian values, while for others he was simply an impious free thinker. After an overview of Sterne's references to Charron, noticed by François Pellan and Melvyn New, the article concentrates on a further possible allusion to *Of Wisdome* in the last chapter of volume 9 of *Tristram Shandy* that mentions Plato and Diogenes together. The article maintains that the odd coupling of those two ancient philosophers might have derived from a chapter in *Of Wisdome* that Sterne already used in the famous incipit of his *Tristram Shandy*. In this view, beginning and end of *Tristram Shandy* appear to join in calling attention to two of the main themes that run through it, thus providing a sort of ideal dénouement to a story that set the duty of caring and nurturing against men's instinct for 'undoing and killing one another [and] ruining and destroying our own kind', as Montaigne had said and Charron, and then Sterne, restated in their own ways.

- **Melvyn New, Two English Travellers in France in the 1760s: Laurence Sterne and James Ducarel**

Andrew and James Ducarel were Huguenots brought to England as children in 1721; Andrew remained his entire life, working as an ecclesiastical and maritime attorney alongside antiquarian interests. James, less successful, returned to France (probably to avoid debts) in 1761 and during the next decade corresponded with his brother, describing the France that Sterne sojourned in twice during these years. The correspondence undergirds the 'realism' of Tristram's and Yorick's experiences: e.g., on his arrival, James immediately hires 'a very Compleat Valet de Chambre [...] who [...] Combs my wigs, shaves me. Goes 2 leagues & back again to Carry a letter'. Also, James and Sterne meet some of the same travellers abroad, encounters that help further to identify Sterne's subscribers.

- **Madeleine Descargues-Grant, A Translator's Seething brain: Guy Jouvét's Translation of Sterne's Works**

Guy Jouvét has translated Sterne's works in a highly idiosyncratic way, which is here analysed and discussed.

- **David Pascoe, Sterne and 'That Dreary *Double Entendre*'**

This article considers Sterne's habits of *double entendre* as they are conceived and denounced in W.M. Thackeray's lecture on the writer, first published in *English Humourists of the Eighteenth Century* (1853). Thereafter, the argument follows a (coastal) path through Freud's experiences in Northern English seaside resorts, memories of which emerge in some of his most famous writings on dreamwork, and anticipate his theories about double meaning in literature, which he sees exemplified by *Tristram Shandy*. The article proceeds to take in the comic art of Donald McGill, whose *double entendres*, both textual and visual, echo, if only unconsciously, several passages in Sterne's novel. Finally, it is shown that, for all Thackeray's vituperation towards Sterne's dependence on *double entendre*, there was, in fact, a deeply shared sensibility between the two writers, a *double entente* which sustained Thackeray in his late work.

- **Dana Lew, Yorick's Regional Jargon: Sentimentality, Sterne, and the Cumberland Book Trade**

The Sterne-related versifications in Ewan Clark's 1779 *Miscellaneous Poems* are here introduced, transcribed, and annotated for the first time. The introduction features the fullest modern biography of the minor Cumbrian poet, provides a detailed overview of his regional publishers and their reformist politics, and examines the volume's subscription list, which includes several political grandees with radical Whig affiliations. This essay offers critical analysis about Clark's Sternean adaptations, surveys his prominent sentimentalist aesthetic, and considers his political aims in relation to transatlantic news networks established by his publishers and rising tensions in parliament at the height of the American Revolution.

- **Philip Trotter, 'Wearing Presumption's Garb': Isaac Brandon's *Fragments: In the Manner of Sterne***

Three fragments from Isaac Brandon's volume of Shandean imitations are here introduced, transcribed, and annotated. The introduction situates the volume in its publication and reception contexts, and further considers the book in relation to radical Whig politics of the 1790s. *Fragments: In the Manner of Sterne* was erroneously attributed to William Combe in 1935 by L.P. Curtis, though there exists plentiful documentary evidence indicating Isaac Brandon's authorship; this evidence is here collected and analysed for the first time in order to settle the question of attribution.

Sterneana:

- This year's marbling, a receipt of royalties, FDR's copy, a poem by Bert Leston Taylor, an overpriced book, Vito Palumbo's composition, Charles Northend's dialogue, and a fat old uncle.

- **Tony Roberts, Fourteen Sterne Poems**

These poems were written over a six month period during lockdown this year. Actually, the first poem predates the project and resulted from a trip to St. Petersburg in 2018. The idea lay quietly for a while and then, with the pandemic, it occurred to me to wonder how the Sternean spirit might react to the constraints of today and the bungling efforts of the Tory government to deal with the disease.

- **Peter de Voogd, Parian Maria**

Maria of Moulines, as she appears in *Tristram Shandy*, has seldom been depicted. A curious statue of her was produced in statuary porcelain known as Parian in 1880. It is here described.

Notes:

- **Robert Walker, Woodmas, Woodmoss, and Laurence Sterne**

Two further possible and probable identifications of subscribers to Sterne's work are here discussed.

- **Peter de Voogd, Daniel Chodowiecki's Sentimental Dozen**

Daniel Niklaus Chodowiecki is well-known for his twelve illustrations of *Tristram Shandy* first published in the 1776 Hamburg edition of Bode's translation. Far less known is the fact that he also designed twelve fine illustrations of *A Sentimental Journey* in 1783, most of which never found their way in a book. They are here reproduced with commentary.

Reviews:

- W. B. Gerard and M-C. Newbould, eds. *Laurence Sterne's A Sentimental Journey: A Legacy to the World*, by Thomas Keymer
- Scott Black, *Without the Novel*, by Donald R. Wehrs
- Laurence Sterne, *Tristram Shandy* (Folio Edition), by Peter de Voogd
- James Robert Wood, *Anecdotes of Enlightenment*, by Roger Maioli
- Helen Williams, *Laurence Sterne and the Eighteenth-Century Book*, by Tina Lupton
- Ryan Stark, *Biblical Sterne: Rhetoric and Religion in the Shandyverse*, by Jack Lynch

Briefly Noted:

- Martin Rowson, *Yorick's Progress*
- Sophy Nys, *Alas ... to The End*

2020 Sterne Scholarship:

- Bibliography compiled by Brian Norton