The British Heroic Age: A History, 367-664

First published between 1932 and 1940, this is a three-volume study of the historical development of literature. It explores the oral and written literatures of regions from Iceland and the British Isles, to Russia, the Balkans, Africa, India and the Pacific, placing them in their historical context and examining similarities between them. The authors discuss both ancient and recent texts, illustrating the connections within each group and considering the question of whether all literary growth is influenced by common factors. Praised on publication as ‘... a work that is not, probably could not be, superseded’ (International Journal of Comparative Sociology), the book remains a benchmark for those studying comparative literature or the history of literary criticism.

Volume 1 analyses a range of medieval British and Icelandic poetry and sagas, drawing analogies with the literature of early Greece and focusing particularly on the concept of heroic literature.

Farthest north, farthest south - in the heroic age of polar exploration at the beginning of the twentieth century, the race was ferociously contested. British, American, Swedish and Norwegian expeditions all vied for the greatest prize of all - the poles - knowing that they might forfeit their lives in the attempt. On the way they faced horrific conditions, frostbite and starvation rations, exhaustion and too often also the bitter clashes of personality that beset men under extreme stress. In these days of modern technology, it is almost impossible for us to imagine the hardship these explorers endured. Sledgers camped overnight in subzero agony, their sweat-soaked furs frozen into icy suits of armour as soon as they stopped moving. With no vitamins and no easily preserved food they faced scurvy and worse. This hair-raising account covers every aspect of the polar great game, the renowned names such as Robert Peary, Roald Amundsen, Salomon Andrée, Fridtjof Nansen, Ernest Shackleton, and Robert Scott are all here, their ponies, dogs and sledges, their daily experiences, and always, the addictive quest for polar immortality. Studies of the influence of the middle ages on aspects of European and American life and culture from 16c to the present day.

Maryland, cited by the Court thousands of times over the years, are still part of the working discourse of constitutional law in America. Drawing on a new and definitive edition of Marshall's papers, R. Kent Newmyer combines engaging narrative with new historiographical insights in a fresh interpretation of John Marshall's life in the law.”

"The author explores the question of King Arthur's existence in several original approaches to the subject. Examining the extant literature and other evidence, the author searches for the truth of the who, when and where of King Arthur, concluding that Arthur was an historical entity, placing him in a specific area, narrowing his period of activity"--

"A rollicking narrative ... Superb"--Ben Wilson, Times

"A brilliant telling of the history of the common seaman in the age of sail, and his role in Britain's trade, exploration, and warfare British maritime history in the age of sail is full of the deeds of officers like Nelson but has given little voice to plain, "illiterate" seamen. Now Stephen Taylor draws on published and unpublished memoirs, letters, and naval records, including court-martials and petitions, to present these men in their own words. In this exhilarating account, ordinary seamen are far from the hapless sufferers of the press gangs. Proud and spirited, learned in their own fashion, with robust opinions and the courage to challenge overweening authority, they stand out from their less adventurous compatriots. Taylor demonstrates how the sailor was the engine of British prosperity and expansion up to the Industrial Revolution. By exploring the South Seas with Cook to establishing the East India Company as a global corporation, from the sea battles that made Britain a superpower to the crisis of the 1797 mutinies, these "sons of the waves" held the nation's destiny in their calloused hands."

Drawing on historical documents, legends, archeology and literature, this history describes the disintegration of Roman Britain that reached a climax in the decades after the Britons overthrew Constantine's government and were refused Roman rule. Beginning with the weakening of Roman Britain, the author chronicles the breakdown of the empire's social, political and economic order and the re-emergence of British political, economic and social structure as well as a parallel development among the Germanic invaders. The roles of religion, disease, the military, the Irish and the Picts during the 4th through 7th centuries are examined. This study synthesizes advances in post-Roman studies since Leslie Alcock's 1971 classic Arthur's Britain. The British Heroic Age: A History, 367-664 McFarland

In this book, the author makes use of the methodology he developed in Origins of Arthurian Romances (McFarland 2012) in order to reevaluate the post-Roman history of Britain. He begins by delving into the historical contexts of the key traditional players of the fifth century—Hengest and Gwrtheyrn. A better understanding of these two characters allows for a reexamination of the persons and events of the fifth, sixth, and seventh centuries. The text that follows entirely reimagines how those centuries can be seen from a chronological as well as a military and political standpoint. The fifth century was not a time of British and Germanic fragmentation as they separated from Rome, but one of slow integration and a result of the formation of kingships that were a result of the economic realities of surviving without the dying giant.

A comprehensive history of the first three decades of underwater exploration in antebellum America. Beginning in 1837, some of the most brilliant engineers of America's Industrial Revolution turned their attention to underwater technology. Inventors developed practical hard-helmet diving suits, as well as new designs of submarines, diving bells, floating cranes, and underwater explosives. These innovations were used to clear shipping lanes, harvest pearls, mine gold, and wage war. All of these underwater technologies were brought together by entrepreneurs, treasure-hunters, and daring divers in the 1850s to salvage three infamous shipwrecks on Lake Erie, each of which had involved the loss of hundreds of lives, as well as the worldly goods of the passengers. The prospect of treasure, combined with the national notoriety of these disasters, soon attracted the attention of local adventurers and the country's leading divers and marine engineers. In The Heroic Age of Diving, Jerry Kuntz shares the fascinating stories of the pioneers of underwater invention and the brave divers who employed the new technologies as they raced with—and against—marine engineers to salvage the tragic wrecks of Lake Erie. "Jerry Kuntz has filled in a previously blank page in the story of diving—and done it well. The Heroic Age of Diving tells the story not only of the development of salvage technology but also the human side of this always-dangerous and often-deadly career. This is not a tale for the faint of heart ('helmet squeeze' is a gruesome fate), but one well worth reading for those interested in early technology and the men brave (or foolish) enough to gamble their lives using it. This book is a window on an unexplored (and unexpected) world, and the author deserves great credit for bringing it back into the light." --- Chuck Veit, author of Raising Missouri: John Gowen and the
Salvage of the U.S. Steam Frigate Missouri, 1843–1852 “The Heroic Age of Diving is both very interesting and very important. Having spent over twenty years researching and publishing general diving history, I am confident that this book will fill an important gap in the nation’s diving history.” — Leslie Leaney, Colfounder, Historical Diving Society.

John Marshall (1755–1835) was arguably the most important judicial figure in American history. As the fourth chief justice of the United States Supreme Court, serving from 1801 to 1835, he helped move the Court from the fringes of power to the epicenter of constitutional government. His great opinions in cases like Marbury v. Madison and McCulloch v. Maryland are still part of the working discourse of constitutional law in America. Drawing on a new and definitive edition of Marshall’s papers, R. Kent Newmyer combines engaging narrative with new historiographical insights in a fresh interpretation of John Marshall’s life in the law. More than the summation of Marshall’s legal and institutional accomplishments, Newmyer’s impressive study captures the nuanced texture of the justice’s reasoning, the complexity of his mature jurisprudence, and the affinities and tensions between his system of law and the transformative age in which he lived. It substantiates Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.’s view of Marshall as the most representative figure in American law.

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Popular notions and dictionary definitions narrowly and inadequately characterize gastronomy as nothing more than lavish indulgence in expensive food and wine. But the definitions of scholars such as nineteenth-century author of ‘The physiology of taste’ Jean-Anthelme Brillat-Savarin and contemporary food historian Barbara Santlich suggest a more fluid notion of gastronomy that allows for a full range of human eating experiences and menus in any number of contexts—even a context as extreme as Antarctica. Evidence gleaned from diaries, journals, and published accounts written by members of historical age (1900–1920) British and Australian Antarctic expeditions suggest these men were intellectually engaged with their food and eating experiences. This paper argues that their experiences in the harsh, isolated and distinctly inhuman setting that is Antarctica were gastronomic; that they contribute to and expand existing definitions of gastronomy, and substantiate the idea that the gastronomic experience is not limited by circumstance or menu. In researching this material, it became evident that these explorers’ engagement with food and eating could be categorized on three levels: feasts and celebrations, everyday nourishment they received while living in their tents, and disastrous experiences characterized by dietary monotony and malnutrition. These levels, here labelled ‘feasting,’ ‘nourishment,’ and ‘subsistence’ form the framework for the investigation, and one chapter is devoted to each level. Within each chapter, definitions are outlined for ‘feasting,’ ‘nourishment’ and ‘subsistence’ and their relationships to gastronomy are established. Evidence from the research material—primarily incidents and anecdotes recorded in diaries and published accounts—is then evaluated according to these definitions and their relationship to gastronomy.

HISTORIA: A Gateway to Ancient and Medieval History and Archaeology! This book introduces the reader to one of the most important and moving literary works to come out of Dark Age Britain: TheGododdin of Aneirin. The Gododdin is not only a praise poem and elegy for three hundred British warriors who made a heroic last stand against the invaders of their island, it is also an important source for understanding the culture, people, and events of the seventh century. In this book, the reader will learn about the poem itself, the historical background, as well as the archaeological evidence that has come to light. The Gododdin is an inspiring, tragic tribute to ‘three hundred gold-torqued warriors’, composed by a man who was their contemporary and friend who sought to ensure their sacrifice would never be forgotten. If you are studying The Gododdin itself, or have an interest in Celtic, Arthurian, or Dark Age studies, then you will enjoy this short study of the heroic last stand of three hundred men against thousands, an act of historical bravery worthy of the successors of Arthur himself.

A new edition of an invaluable collection of literary sources, all in translation, for Celtic Europe and early Ireland and Wales. The selections are divided into three sections: the first is classical authors on the ancient celtic—a huge selection including both the well-known-Herodotos, Plato, Aristotle, Livy, Diogenes Laertius, and Cicero—and the obscure-Pseudo-Scymnus, Lampridius, Vopsicus, Clement of Alexandria and Ptolemy I. The second is early Irish and Hiberno-Latin sources including early Irish dynastic poetry and numerous tales from the Ulster cycle and the third consists of Brittonic sources, mostly Welsh.

Giles Worsley notes that architectural styles do not always supersede one another but can co-exist, although one style may be dominant. Focusing on the Palladian classical tradition, introduced by Inigo Jones in the 1610s, he shows that this tradition did not die out with Jones’s death and revive only during the first half of the eighteenth century, as is commonly assumed, but remained viable until the end of the eighteenth century, rivalling the baroque and rococo styles. Worsley argues that neo-classicism, generally seen as a generic description of architecture in the late eighteenth century, was actually prevalent in British architecture in varying degrees of strength as early as 1615. He examines the architecture of Scotland, Ireland and North America in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and shows how styles were influenced by English Palladianism. He also places Palladianism in a European context, pointing out that it was not an isolated phenomenon but was an important feature of Italian, French, Dutch and German architecture during this time. The book thus not only sheds fresh light on British architecture but also provides a new outlook on European and American architecture as a whole.

The work was written as a doctoral thesis, we are not told where. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR
"In the Seven Woods: Being Poems Chiefly of the Irish Heroic Age" is a 1903 collection of poetry by W. B. Yeats. It represents the first book of Yeats' "middle period", within which he moved away from his earlier Romantic ideals and pre-Raphaelite imagery, turning instead towards an obviously more space and anti-romantic position much like Walter Savage Landor. The poem in this collection most often included in anthologies, however, is "Adam's Curse", which contains much of his old ideals. Also included in this volume is the play: "On Baile's Strand: A Play". William Butler Yeats (13 June 1865 - 28 January 1939) was an Irish poet and one of the most prolific literary figures of the 20th-century. At the forefront of both the British and Irish literary movements, he co-founded the Abbey Theatre and was, along with Lady Gregory, Edward Martyn and others, a driving force behind the Irish Literary Revival. In his later life, Yeats also served as a Senator in Ireland. Many vintage books such as this are becoming increasingly scarce and expensive. We are republishing this volume now in an affordable, modern, high-quality edition complete with a specially commissioned new biography of the author.
There are three archetypal and widespread Arthurian stories—the abduction of Guinevere, the Holy Grail, and Tristan. Through the author's painstaking research of the literature and comparative literature of the stories, and by studying the history, laws, and archaeology of the post-Roman period, a new methodology was found for approaching sources. This led to strong reasons for making a number of groundbreaking conclusions. Arthurian literature is a potential wealth of information on Arthur’s Britain. More importantly, the nature of the holy grail has been in the grail literature and related materials all along.

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