

Table of Nineteenth Century Critical Writing on Daniel Defoe: Compiled by Dr. Penny Pritchard

Author/Editor Surname(s)	Author or Editor Forename(s)	Title	Year	Pp	Publisher (Place of Pub'n is London unless otherwise specified)	Notes
James	Isaac	Providence Displayed: or, the Remarkable Adventures of Alexander Selkirk	1800	1-3, 148-55	Bristol: Biggs & Cottle	Detailed examination of Selkirk's experiences on Juan Fernandez Island and their relationship to Defoe's text.
Percival	Thomas	A Father's Instructions; Consisting of Moral Tales...	1800 (9th ed.)	243-46	J. Johnson	Brief description of Juan Fernandez and Selkirk's experiences there; praises <i>RC</i> as 'the best and most entertaining moral romance now extant' and links the lessons of <i>RC</i> to William Cowper's 'Verses, Supposed to be written by Alexander Selkirk'.
Trimmer	Sarah	Review of Robinson Crusoe, <i>Guardian of Education</i> , 3	1804	297-300		Positive but conditional estimation of <i>RC</i> in terms of its educational value.
Trimmer	Sarah	Review of the New Robinson Crusoe, <i>Guardian of Education</i> , 3	1804	356-60		Review of Campe's <i>New RC</i> (1789) for educational merits; favours original work over this version because Campe's (Rousseau-inspired) text offers its readers deism or natural, 'not revealed', religion.
Clarke	James Stanier	Naufragia, or, Historical Memoirs of Shipwrecks and of the Providential Deliverance of Vessels (2 vols.)	1805	Vol. I, 1-14	J. Mawman	Examines case for Defoe's theft/plagiarism of Selkirk's story, citing best-known accounts (Woodes Rogers, Steele).
Drake	Nathan	'On Periodical Writing', <i>Essays, Biographical, Critical and Historical, Illustrative of the Tatler, Spectator and Guardian</i>	1805	Vol. 1, 23-4	John Sharpe	Prefatory mention of praise for Defoe's <i>Review</i> , but considers its moribund qualities.
Edgeworth	Maria	'Forester', <i>Moral Tales for Young People</i>	1806 (2nd ed.)	Vol. I, 30	J. Johnson	Opening of novel describes protagonist as 'inclined to prefer the life of <i>RC</i> in his desert island to that of any individual in cultivated society'.
Godwin	William	Preface to <i>Faulkner: A Tragedy</i>	1807	Preface, v-vi	Richard Phillips	Prefatory material discusses attribution of <i>Roxana</i> to Defoe, citing previous editions of the work (including Noble's).
Lamb	Charles	Prologue to <i>Faulkner: A Tragedy</i> (by William Godwin)	1807	Prologue, vii	Richard Phillips	In verse, alludes to Defoe's diversity of subject matter.
'L.B.' [pseudonym for Charles Lamb]		'The Good Clerk, a Character; with some account of The Complete English Tradesman', <i>The Reflector</i> , Vol. 2, No. IV	1811	432-37	John Hunt, Beaufort Buildings, Strand	Interesting for its disgusted tone and dismissal of the mercenary and trading interests of Defoe, otherwise a highly talented novelist. Presented as Article XXIII by 'L.B.' on <i>The Complete English Tradesman</i> .
Weber	Henry William	Introduction, <i>Popular Romances: Consisting of Imaginary Voyages and Travels</i>	1812	xvii-xli	Edinburgh: J. Ballantyne et al.	Places <i>RC</i> in the wider literary tradition of 'romantic voyages', provides an overview of the life of DD, and considers <i>RC</i> 's indebtedness to, and adaption of, the <i>Voyage of Captain Woodes Rogers</i> .
'Hydrographer of the Naval Chronicle'		Preface, <i>Robinson Crusoe</i>	1 815	iii-xvi	J. Mawman	Detailed introduction to <i>RC</i> ; addresses the origins and authorship of the manuscript, DD's role as its 'editor', its relation to the Selkirk papers and the <i>Voyage of Captain Woodes Rogers</i> , and editorial matters.
Jeffrey	Francis	Review of John Wilson's <i>The City of the Plague and Other Poems</i> , <i>Edinburgh Review</i> ,	1816	461-65	Edinburgh	Lengthy review and summary of John Wilson's poem, (loosely) based on <i>A Journal of The Plague Year</i> .

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		Vol. 26				
Lockhart	George	The Lockhart Papers (Anthony Aufrere, ed.) (2 vols.)	1817	Vol. I, 164-68	William Anderson	From an anti-Union position, denying the (alleged) accusation of 'that vile monster and wretch Daniel De Foe' that the behaviour of angry mobs preceding Parliament's session on the Act of Union was instigated by those who opposed the Union.
Nichols [ed.]	John Bowyer	The Life and Errors of John Dunton, Citizen of London (2 vols.)	1818	Vol. II, 423-26, 438	J. Nichols, Son and Bentley	Names DD as an 'Author of credit' in his 'Secret History of those Weekly Writers that deserve a Panegyrick'; he wittily recounts the 'worst' he knows of DD to create a 'Paper Duel' with him.
Anon		'Defoe on Apparitions', Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, Vol. VI, No. XXXII (November 1819)	1819	201-7		Detailed account of Defoe's 'curious volume' <i>Essay on the History and Reality of Apparitions</i> . Highlights DD's ideas on the devil and 'unembodied spirits' and reviews select stories on 'phantoms'.
Robinson	William	The History and Antiquities of Stoke Newington	1820	84-87	John Nichols and Son	Brief description of the life and works of DD, an 'eminent and remarkable...inhabitant' of Stoke Newington.
Barker	C.	Review of Memoirs of Colonel Andrew Newport, Retrospective Review, Vol. 3, Part 2	1821	354-78 (extracts)		Flowery prose celebrating the author and his works of fiction; impressive early description of Defoe's 'realism' and plausible characterisation.
Hone	William	The Right Divine of Kings to Govern Wrong!	1821 [3rd ed.]		William Hone	Presents the satirical <i>Right Divine</i> as a 'partial revival' of Defoe's <i>Jure Divino</i> . Praises the politics of <i>Jure Divino</i> , but criticizes DD as a poet, thus defending reproduction of only revised portions of the original work.
Southern	Henry	Review of The Great Plague in the Year 1665, Retrospective Review, Vol. 6, Part 1	1822	1-4		Accuses Defoe of the (immoral) act of presenting fiction as fact in <i>Plague Year</i> while acknowledging the author's 'genius' and literary acumen in this and other works. Extract from a longer critical essay which includes lengthy quoted passages from primary material.
Hobhouse	John Cam	Speech quoted in Hansard's Parliamentary Debates	1829	Vol. 21, 890-9	Baldwin & Cradock	In a speech proposing the reform/regulation of parish vestries, Hobhouse makes reference to one of Defoe's lesser-known essays regarding the corrupt practice of 'select vestries'.
'An Old Member'		'Letter to the Editor', Christian Observer & Advocate, Vol. 30 (December 1830)	1830	759-60		Objection to inclusion of Defoe's works in a Christian publication on moral grounds (as 'deception' and 'literary fraud', versus the 'fiction' of RC).
		Review of Walter Wilson's Memoirs of the Life and Times of Daniel Defoe, Edinburgh Review, V	1830	397-425	Edinburgh	Valuable comments regarding Defoe's life and works, over and above its observations on Wilson's biography
'L.O.'		'Letters of Daniel Defoe', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, VI (31/12/1864) [Notes]	1864	527-30		Request for a comprehensive 'Life and Writings of Defoe' to be written, and the inclusion of a series of six recently-discovered letters from Defoe to Charles de la Faye (which are reproduced). [N.B. Letters are included here because of ongoing discussion about their/Defoe's 'moral character' (see following entry)].
Lee	William	'Daniel Defoe and "The London Review"', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, VII (21/01/1865) [Replies]	1865	58-61		Response to previous entry, defending policy of (political and moral) non-bias of <i>Notes and Queries</i> in producing the aforementioned collection of Defoe's letters, in contrast to the 'objectionable manner' in which they were previously issued by <i>The London Review</i> . Lee goes on to put the letters into the historical context of Defoe's life and political activities during 1718 (when they were written).

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Lee	William	'Daniel Defoe, the News Writer', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, VII (25/03/1865) [Replies]	1865	244-46		Lee continues his investigation of Defoe's activities during the period in 1718 (see two entries above), and in doing so, defends Defoe's 'moral character as a man, a patriot, and a Christian'.
Lee	William	'Daniel Defoe, the News Writer', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, VII (29/04/1865) [Replies]	1865	343-44		Continued, as above. Lee cites an extract from <i>The Post Boy</i> (1721) and an introductory article in Applebee's <i>Journal</i> (the latter of which he attributes as 'unknown writings' of Defoe).
Lee	William	'A Moral Satire, by Daniel Defoe', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, VII (03/06/1865) [Notes]	1865	431		Lee offers another introductory letter from Applebee's <i>Journal</i> , attributed to Defoe.
Lee	William	'Daniel Defoe, on Assassination of Rulers', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, VIII (08/07/1865) [Notes]	1865	21-23		Lee presents two more letters from Applebee's <i>Journal</i> which he attributes to Defoe, plus additional material, on the subject of 'king-killing'.
Lee	William	'Daniel Defoe, on Assassination of Rulers', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, VIII (05/08/1865) [Notes]	1865	101-3		Lee continues in the same vein as in the previous entry, describing Defoe as a 'great constitutional patriot', 'always a liberal Conservative in politics; and although a Dissenter, yet a firm supporter of the Church of England'. Two more letters from Applebee's <i>Journal</i> are included.
Lee	William	'Servitude: A Poem', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, IX (17/02/1866) [Replies]	1866	141-43		Lee makes the case for attribution yet again, this time for a poem/prose pamphlet. There is also much evidence, here, of Lee's peculiar style of expression regarding the study of Defoe, a mixture of scholarly objectivity and flowery narrative.
'Clarry'		'De Foe: The True-Born Englishman: Banks', Notes and Queries, 3rd Series, XI (20/04/1867) [Queries]	1867	315		This query, regarding the publication date of Defoe's <i>The Villainy of Stockjobbers Detected</i> , remarks that 'Mr Leeman has been anticipated by more than 160 years...the same arguments used by him in defence of his Bill have been published by Defoe, and the same desire shown...to make banks solvent, by Act of Parliament...who have allowed their funds...to be extracted from them by reckless contractors'.
Watson	J.	'Daniel De Foe', Notes and Queries, 4th Series, II (17/10/1868) [Queries with Answers]	1868	373		Brief query requiring the clarification of details regarding Defoe's temporary residence in Yorkshire (as mentioned in Dr. Watson's <i>History... of Halifax</i> [see entry, above] with response).
'R.C.L.'		'Defoe's "History of the Devil"', Notes and Queries, 4th Series, IV (13/11/1869) [Queries]	1869	409		Brief query asking if anyone has ever discovered the identities of the characters nick-named and concealed in Defoe's 'chef-d'oeuvre', and suggests Defoe is 'by far the sharper satirist' than Pope.
'J.W.W.'		'Defoe's "History of the Devil"', Notes and Queries, 4th Series, IV (18/12/1869) : [Replies]	1869	545		Response in the form of a protest to 'any work of Defoe's being called his "chef-d'oeuvre", except our old and generous favourite <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> ', as representative of 'good old notions and institutions' over 'newfangled ideas'.
Lee	William	'Defoe's "Mercurius Politicus": Mesnager's	1870	177-79		Lee, admitting himself to be a 'hero-worshipper' of Defoe, puts forward the arguments for and against Defoe's authorship of <i>Minutes</i>

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		"Negotiations", Notes and Queries, 4th Series, V (12/02/1870) [Replies]				<i>of the Negotiations of Monsieur Mesnager</i> . The article evokes the 'armchair scholarship' and gentlemanly debates between William Lee and James Crossley.
Lee	William	'Defoe's "Mercurius Politicus:" Mesnager's "Negotiations", Notes and Queries, 4th Series, V (19/02/1870) [Replies]	1870	202-3		Continuation of previous article.
Crossley	James	'Lord Macaulay and Daniel Defoe', Notes and Queries, 5th Series, V (22/04/1876) [Queries]	1876	327		Brief but feeling defence, in injured tones, against Macaulay's claim that 'some of [Defoe's] tracts are worse than immoral, quite beastly'. Speculates that this might refer to Defoe's book 'on the marriage bed, which, saving the peculiarity of the title, has nothing in it which can disgust or offend the feelings of any honest man or sincere Christian'.
Aitken	George A.	'Defoe's "Consolidator"', Notes and Queries, 7th Series, VII (25/05/1889) [Queries]	1889	409		Historical queries regarding the identity of characters to whom Defoe alludes in <i>The Consolidator</i> .