EXHIBITION OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS BEFORE 1800

Only a selection of children's books is shown in this Exhibition. The Society's collection numbers over 2500 titles. Of these 120 titles are here listed, all before 1800 except a few editions of "Mother Goose," and two editions of Isaiah Thomas's publications.

- The Protestant Tutor for Children. Boston: Samuel Green, 1685.
- A Token, for the Children of New-England. [By Cotton Mather]. Boston: Timothy Green for Benjamin Eliot, 1700.
- A Little Book for Little Children. Boston: T. Green, for Nicholas Buttolph, 1702.
- A Dying Fathers Last Legacy to an Only Child: or, Mr. Hugh Peter's Advice to his Daughter. Boston: R. Green for Benjamin Eliot, 1717.
- A Token for Children. By James Janeway. Boston: Z. Fowle, 1771.
- Divine Songs, by I. Watts, 15th Edition. Boston: T. and J. Fleet, 1773.

Entertaining Story Book for Little Boys and Girls. Boston: N. Coverly, 1779.

- The Wonderful Life and Surprising Adventures of that Renowned Hero, Robinson Crusoe. Boston: N. Coverly, [1779].
- Divine Songs, by I. Watts. Newburyport: John Mycall, 1784.

The School of Good Manners. Portland: Thomas B. Wait, 1786.

The Life and Most Surprising Adventures of Robinson Crusoe. Philadelphia: Peter Stewart, 1789.

Little Truths. Philadelphia: Joseph Crukshank, 1789.

Three Sermons to Little Children, by Samuel Spring. New York: William Durell, 1790.

The Words of the Wise. Philadelphia: Joseph Crukshank, 1790.

Hymns for the Amusement of Children, by Rev. Christopher Smart. Philadelphia: William Spotswood, 1791.

The Remarkable History of Tom Jones. Boston: Samuel Hall, 1791.

- A Discourse to Children, by Rev. Moses Hemmenway. Portland: Thomas B. Wait, 1792.
- The Puzzling Cap. Boston: N. Coverly, 1792.
- The Adventures of Captain Gulliver. New-York: W. Durell, [1793].
- This History of a Great Many Little Boys and Girls. Boston: Samuel Hall, 1794.

The Life of Judas Iscariot. Philadelphia: 1794.

Tom Thumb's Little Book. Boston: N. Coverly, 1794.

- The Affecting History of the Children in the Woods. Hartford: J. Babcock, 1796.
- The House that Jack Built. Boston: Printed and Sold near Charles River Bridge, [1796].

Wisdom in Miniature. Hartford: J. Babcock, 1796.

- The Life and Adventures of a Fly. Boston: Samuel Etheridge, 1797.
- Collection of Moral and Entertaining Stories. Northampton: 1798.
- A Description of the Most Remarkable Birds. Hartford: John Babcock, 1798.
- A Family Book for Children. Hartford: John Babcock, 1799.

CATECHISMS

The Antiquarian Society has 285 American editions of Catechisms, including many intended for children. Four of the early editions are here exhibited.

- Nashauanittue Meninnunk. Cambridge: Samuel Green, 1691. (John Cotton's "Spiritual Milk for Babes," translated into Indian by Grindal Rawson).
- The First Set of Catechisms and Prayers, by I. Watts. 9th Edition. Boston: J. Blanchard, 1745.

The First Set of Catechisms and Prayers, by I. Watts. 7th Edition. Boston: Rogers and Fowle, 1748.

The Young Child's Catechism, by Isaac Watts. New Haven: Thomas and Samuel Green. [1772].

MINIATURE BIBLES

The Holy Bible in Verse. [No place of imprint], 1717.

The History of the New-Testament. Boston: Mein & Fleeming [1766]. A Curious Hieroglyphick Bible. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788.

The History of the Holy Bible. Boston: J. White and C. Cambridge, 1792.

A New Hieroglyphical Bible. Boston: W. Norman [1796].

HISTORY OF THE HOLY JESUS

This popular book for children is represented in A. C. Bates's Bibliography by fifteen editions previous to 1800. Seven of these early editions are shown in this Exhibition.

The History of the Holy Jesus, 5th edition. Boston: J. Green, 1748.

The History of the Holy Jesus, 15th edition. Boston: I. Thomas for Z. Fowle [1767].

The History of the Holy Jesus, 24th edition. Boston: J. Boyle, 1771.

- The History of the Holy Jesus, 25th edition. Boston: John Boyle, 1774.
- The History of the Holy Jesus, 26th edition. Boston: John Boyle, 1779.
- The History of the Holy Jesus. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.

The History of the Holy Jesus. Second Worcester edition. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1794.

PRIMERS

The Antiquarian Society has a collection of 189 American editions of Primers. Only a few of the earlier editions are shown in this Exhibition.

The New-England Primer Enlarged. Boston: T. and J. Fleet, 1770.

The New-England Primer Improved. Boston: Printed for the Booksellers and Stationers, 1779.

The New-England Primer Improved. Providence: John Carter, 1782.

The Royal Primer. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

The New-England Primer, Amended and Improved. New York: J. Patterson, 1789.

The American Primer Improved. Newbury, (Ver.): Nathaniel Coverly, Jun., for John West, 1792.

The New-England Primer Improved. Litchfield, Collier & Buel, 1794.

- The New-England Primer Improved. Amherst, New Hampshire: N. Coverly & Son, 1795.
- The New-England Primer; Much Improved. Philadelphia: T. Dobson, 1797.
- The American Primer Improved. Medford: Nathaniel Coverly, Jun., 1798.

Mother Goose

- Mother Goose's Melody. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786. [Only a fragmentary copy, lacking the title and first twelve pages].
- Mother Goose's Melody. Second Worcester edition. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1794.
- Tales of Passed Times, by Mother Goose. 7th Edition. New York: J. Rivington, 1795. [Added title-page in French.]
- Mother Gooses's Melody. Third Worcester edition. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1799.

Mother Goose's Melody. [No place of imprint], 1804.

- Mother Goose's Quarto. Boston: Munroe and Francis, [c. 1826].
- Mother Goose's Melodies. Boston: Munroe and Francis, [1833].

Mother Goose Melodies. Portland: S. H. Colesworthy, 1838.

LIST OF JUVENILES PUBLISHED BY ISAIAH THOMAS AND ISAIAH THOMAS, JR.

The following list of children's books printed by Isaiah Thomas and his son, beginning with the year 1785, comprises sixty-two titles, all that are known to have been published. Nearly all of them are in the Antiquarian Society's collection and are shown in this Exhibition. Notes following the titles refer to the known later editions so that the list forms a complete bibliography of this class of Thomas's publications.

The Adventures of a Pincushion. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788.

- The Adventures of Captain Gulliver. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1802.
- An Approved Collection of Entertaining Stories. By Solomon Winlove. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1789.
- A Bag of Nuts. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787. This copy lacks title-page. Library also has second edition, 1798.

- Be Merry and Wise. By Tommy Trapwit. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.
- The Big Puzzling-Cap. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.
- The Blind Child, or Anecdotes of the Wyndham Family. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1796.
- The Brother's Gift: or, the Naughty Girl Reformed. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.

Library also has third edition, 1795, and an edition dated 1805. No copy of the second edition has been located.

A Choice Collection of Riddles. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1793.

The Christian Pilgrim. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1798. 2 vols. Vol. 2 is by error dated 1789.

Library also has second edition, 1807.

The Death and Burial of Cock Robin. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

Divine and Moral Songs for Children. By Isaac Watts. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788.

Entertaining Fables for the Instruction of Children. Second Worcester edition. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1794. First edition, probably dated 1787, lacking in Library.

The Exhibition of Tom Thumb. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

Library has second edition, 1795.

- The Fairing: or, a Golden Toy for Children. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788.
- The Father's Gift: or, the Way to be Wise and Happy. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.
- Food for the Mind: or, a New Riddle Book. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1794.

Hagar in the Desert. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1785.

The History of Little Goody Twoshoes. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

The History of Little King Pippin. Second Worcester edition, Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1795.

No copy of the first edition has been located.

The History of Master Jackey and Miss Harriot. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

The History of Miss Kitty Pride. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1799.

The History of the Holy Jesus. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.

Library also has second edition, 1794; and third [again called second] edition. 1806.

The History of Tommy Careless, or the Misfortunes of a Week. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1795.

Lacking in this Library. The only copy located, owned by Mr. A. C. Bates, lacks the title-page, which is made up for the London 1788 edition.

The Holiday Present: Containing Anecdotes of Mr. and Mrs. Jennet. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

The Holy Bible Abridged. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786. Library also has second edition, 1796.

The House That Jack Built. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.

This copy lacks title-page. Library also has second edition, 1805. Jacky Dandy's Delight. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788.

Library also has second edition, 1794; and third edition, 1805.

- The Juvenile Biographer. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.
- The Lilliputian Masquerade. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

Library also has second edition, 1795; and third edition, 1802.

- The Little Pretty Pocket-Book. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.
- Little Robin Red Breast. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.
- A Lottery Book for Children. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas: 1788.

This copy lacks title-page.

- Memoirs of a Pegtop. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788.
- Moses in the Bulrushes. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1802.
- Mother Goose's Melody. Second Worcester edition. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1794.

Library also has a fragmentary copy of the first edition, 1786; and the third edition, 1799.

The Mother's Gift: or, a Present for all little Children. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787. 2 vols.

The Mountain Piper: or, the History of Edgar and Matilda. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1794.

Library also has second edition, 1802.

The Natural History of Beasts, by Charley Columbus, Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1794. The New England Primer. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, [1802].

Undated, but presumably 1802. Thomas printed two other editions, not now located.

Nurse Truelove's Christmas Box. Second Worcester edition. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1789.

Library lacks first edition, 1786; but has third edition, 1796, and fourth edition, 1806.

Nurse Truelove's New-Year's Gift. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.

Library also has second edition, 1794; and third edition, 1800.

- The Picture Exhibition. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788. Library has second edition, 1805.
- A Poetical Description of Song Birds. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788.

Lacking in this Library.

A Pretty New-Year's Gift. By Solomon Sobersides. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.

Library also has second edition, 1796.

- The Principles of the Christian Religion. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1799.
- The Remarkable History of Augi. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1796.

Library also has second edition, 1799.

The Remarkable History of Tom Jones. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

Library also has fourth edition, 1799.

The Renowed History of Giles Gingerbread. [Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.]

This copy lacks title-page.

The Royal Alphabet; or Child's Best Instructor. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

Lacking in this Library.

- The Royal Primer. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.
- The Sister's Gift: or, The Naughty Boy Reformed. Second Worcester edition. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1789. Library lacks first Worcester edition, 1786.
- Songs and Lullabies of the Good Old Nurses. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1799.
- The Sugar Plumb. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.
- Tom Thumb's Folio. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

Library also has second edition, 1794.

- Tom Thumb's Play-Book. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786. Library also has 1794 edition.
- Tommy Thumb's Song Book. By Nurse Lovechild. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1788.

Library also has second edition, 1794.

Travels of Robinson Crusoe. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.

Library also has 1795 edition, entitled "The Most Surprising Adventures, and Wonderful Life of Robinson Crusoe."

Vice in its Proper Shape. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1789.

Virtue and Vice: or the History of Charles Careful and Harry Heedless. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1787.

This copy lacks title-page. Library also has second edition, 1796; and third edition, 1800.

Wisdom in Miniature. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, Jr., 1795. Library also has second edition, 1796.

The Wisdom of Crop the Conjurer. Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, 1786.

Library also has second edition, 1794.

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.