The Nineteenth-Century Serials Edition

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ncse titles:
• *Monthly Repository of Theology and General Literature* (1806-1838)
• *Publishers’ Circular* (1880-1890)
• *Tomahawk* (1867-1870)
• *English Woman’s Journal* (1858-1864)
• *Leader* (1850-1859)
• *Northern Star* (1838-1852)

ncse features:
• Metadata and concept maps to trace commonalities within and between titles
• Delineation of content in searching—letterpress adverts and illustrations
• Full-text searchable OCR with facsimile images
• Contextual and scholarly materials
• Foregrounds periodical as a genre

ncse highlights:
• Diversity of periodical forms
• Diversity of material (in terms of content)
• Challenges distinctions between newspapers and periodicals

Police report from the *Northern Star, May 2, 1846* concerning a violent disturbance in a pub

Commentary piece on the effects of drink of the working classes in the *English Woman’s Journal*, 1858, p. 306
Content: thematic relationships

Detail from ncse’s working concept map
Content: indexical relationships

- Linguistic analyses to study genre/address
- Lists generated by text mining of proper nouns could be cross referenced with extant databases of
  
  *People* - to determine relationships between those involved in, and those who are the subjects of nineteenth-century print culture
  
  *Places* - to determine geographical locus of address etc
  
  *Publications* - to research cross citation etc
  
  *Events* - to trace reportage over time and between publications

People: The funeral of Wellington as reported in three different newspapers. Mark-up would ensure that searches for Wellington the person were not confused with Wellington the boot or pie!
TO THE IMPERIAL CHARTISTS.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—In a leader in last week's Star, the Editor, in speaking of my joining the Repeal Association, says that he is glad that I got a “rap on the knuckles” for my over zeal. It was not the first I have had; nor, I fear, will it be the last. I however entirely agree with the Editor that it was merited; while I think a majority will pity those who gave it more than they received it.

I am now going to write about our own party; and I have the consolation to know that when I write for men engaged in a holy struggle for liberty, instead of “a rap on the knuckles,” receive correction in the mildest form in which sound reason and good feeling can administer it.

We must now re-organize! We must start from that point where we were stopped!

The preliminary step which I propose is the appointment of a General Secretary, pro tem; whose nominations shall be sent preparatory to the election of an Executive; and as we now place confidence somewhere; and as Mr. Whewell has already filled that office during the absence of the late Secretary; and as he was elected in his own order, and discharged the duties to the satisfaction; I propose that he shall be the man and that when the votes are to be taken for an Executive that a delegate shall be appointed from each Chartist district in London, to aid and assist him in making his return.
Form: relationships between text and context

In this archive display of search results isolates content from its context and some of the content of the segment (see highlight left) is lost. On selecting full page view users can only zoom in on segments of content rather than elements of form.

Source: British Library digitisation of the Penny Illustrated Paper:
http://www.collectbritain.co.uk/system/paper/
A ‘family tree’ of the *Monthly Repository*

- 1805: *Universal Theological Magazine*
- 1806: *Monthly Repository of Theology and General Literature*
- 1827: *Monthly Repository and Review of Theology and General Literature*
- 1831: *Monthly Repository and Review*
- 1832: *Unitarian Chronicle*
- 1833: *Unitarian Magazine and Chronicle*
- 1835: *Christian Teacher and Chronicle*
Genre: structural relationships

Multiple Editions of the *Northern Star*
In circumscribing their readership periodicals often share or imitate forms adopted by other titles. As it struggled to maintain its circulation the Northern Star changed form, imitating the more respectable Leader. Such changes of format and paper size are obscured by non-annotated digitisations and by approaches which privilege text over context.
Genre: the verbal and the visual


“Samson Agonistes,” Tomahawk, 1, 27 July 1867, p.136
Spoof and satire in the *Tomahawk*

Poor reproduction and OCR in the *Monthly Repository* forces us to attend to more than the words on the page.