ncse nineteenth-century serials edition

From Life on the Shelves to Digital Shelf-Life: Representing Journalism as an Historical Artefact in the Digital Domain

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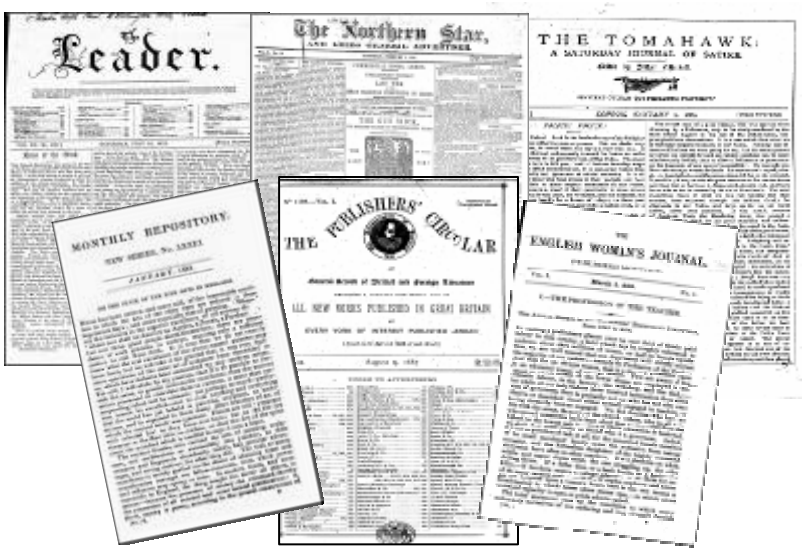
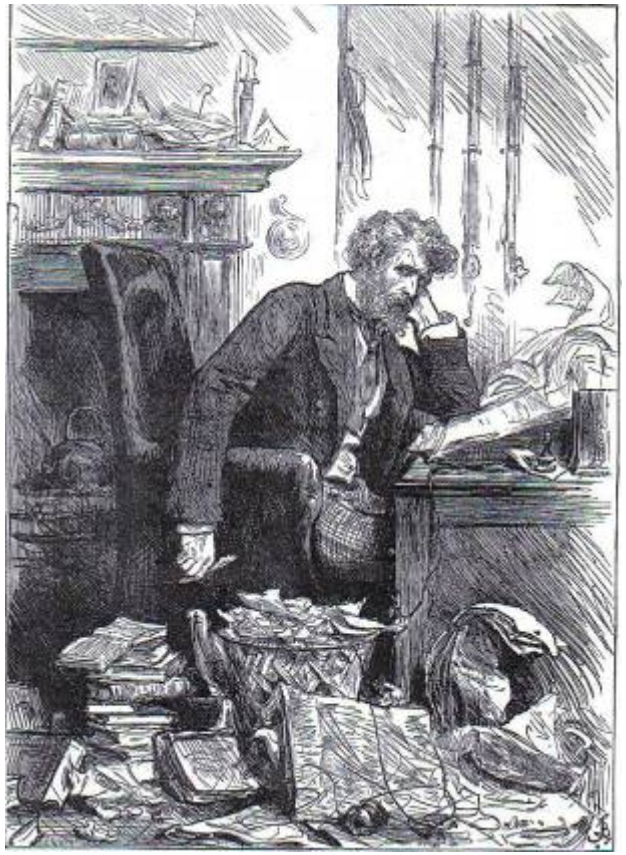
ncse nineteenth-century serials edition



Project deliverables:

- Full-text digital edition of six nineteenth-century serials freely available via the web
- Users navigate facsimile images of pages
- Searching text strings on OCR text
- Searching by bibliographic, generic and thematic metadata
- Contextual and scholarly materials

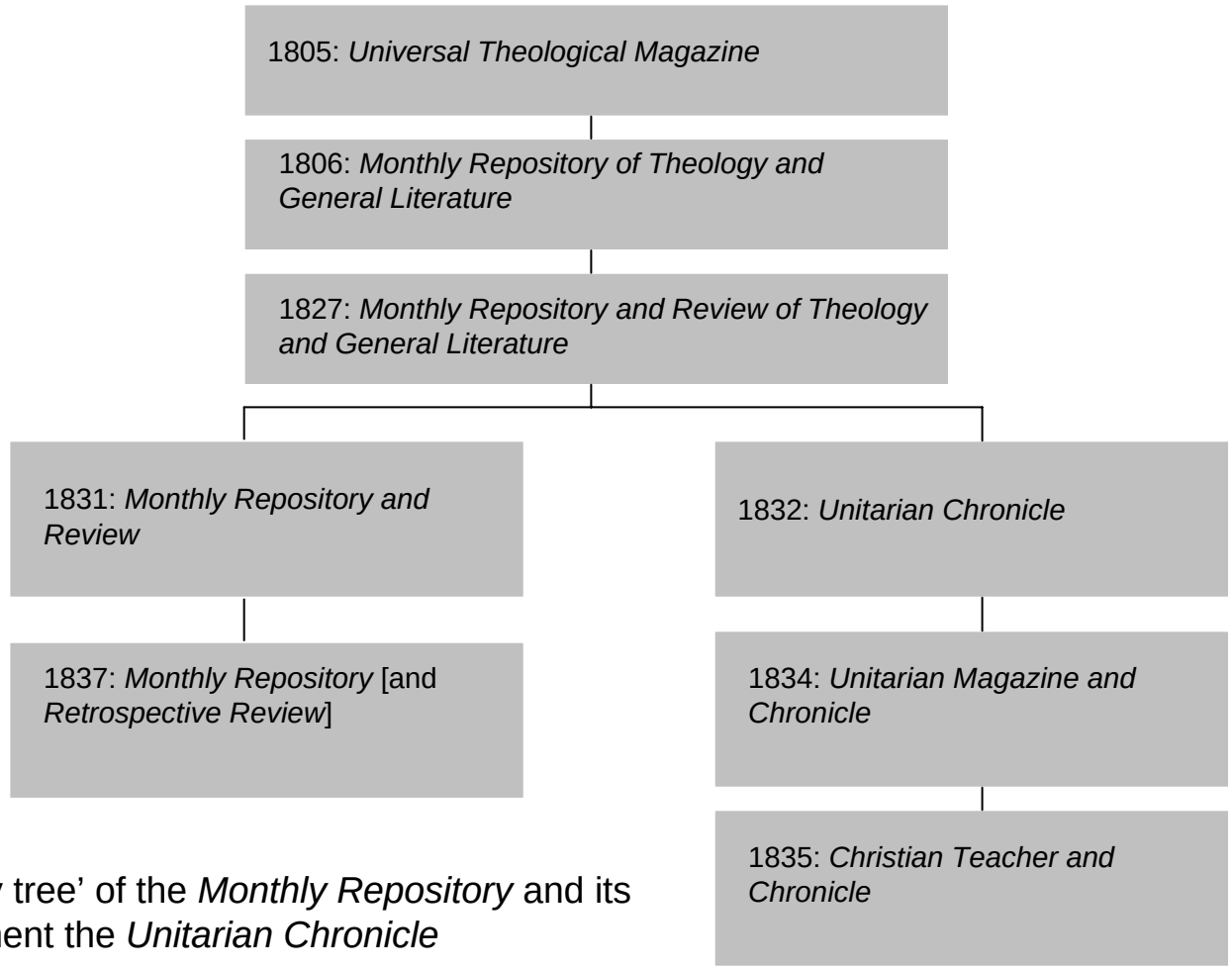


"The Newspaper Editor," *Illustrated London News*, 11 September 1880.

Research objectives:

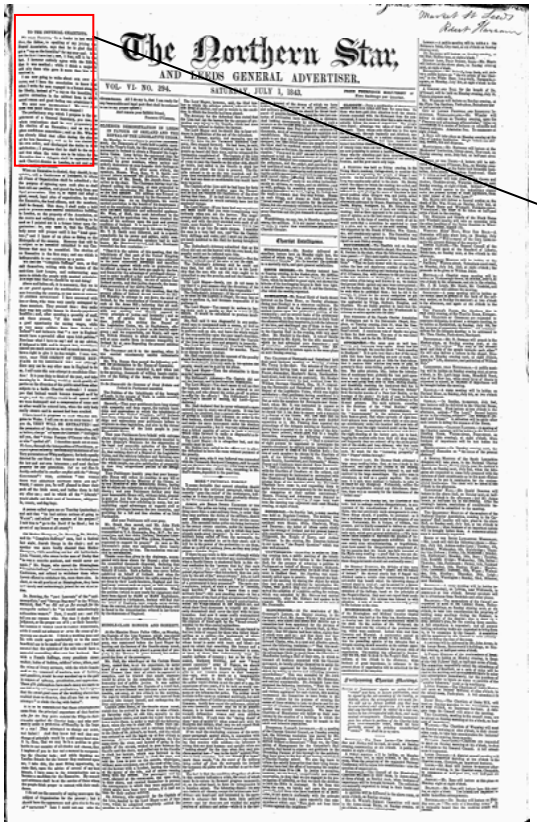
- Compilation of most complete edition possible from public repositories and private collections
- Innovative approach to digital editing
  - New model of scholarly editing in the digital domain
  - Implementation of model through new approaches to digitisation and processing and development of hybrid software and bespoke interface
  - New methods of text processing via text mining and data analysis
  - New collaborative working model

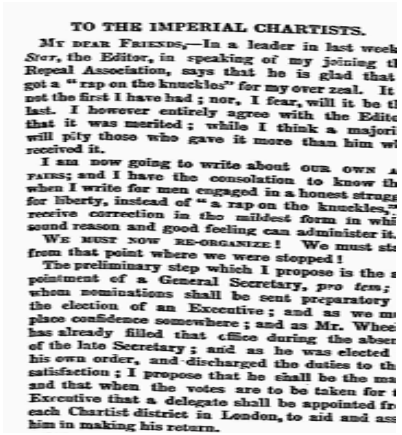
The Challenge of Scale



A ‘family tree’ of the *Monthly Repository* and its supplement the *Unitarian Chronicle*

The Challenge of Depth: Layout


The Northern Star,
AND LEEDS GENERAL ADVERTISER.


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 is 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 him who received it.

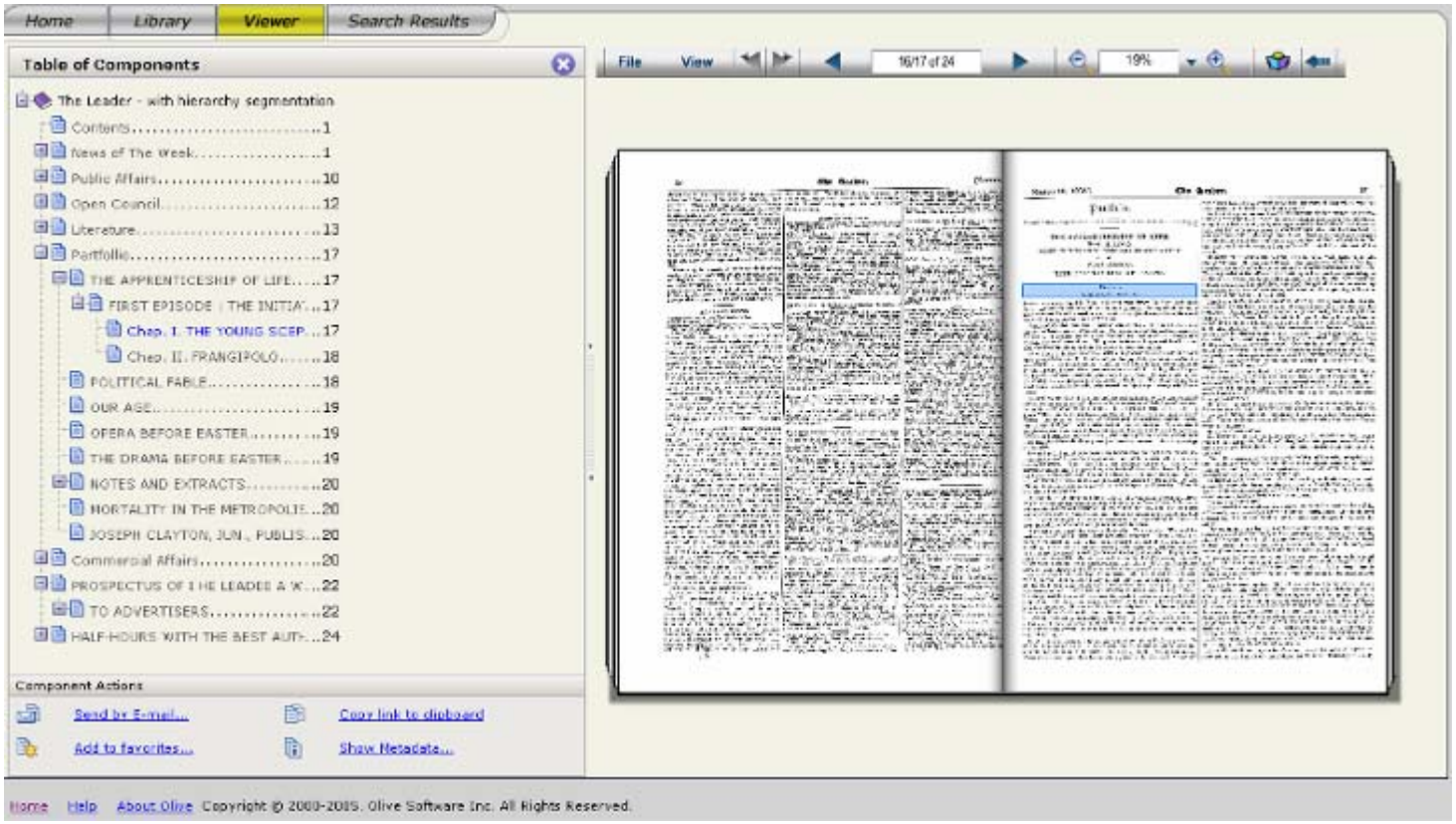
I am now going to write about OUR OWN AFFAIRS; and I have the consolation to know that when I write for men engaged in a honest struggle for liberty, instead of "a rap on the knuckles," I receive correction in the mildest form in which sound reason and good feeling can administer it.

WE MUST NOW RE-ORGANIZE! We must start from that point where we were stopped!

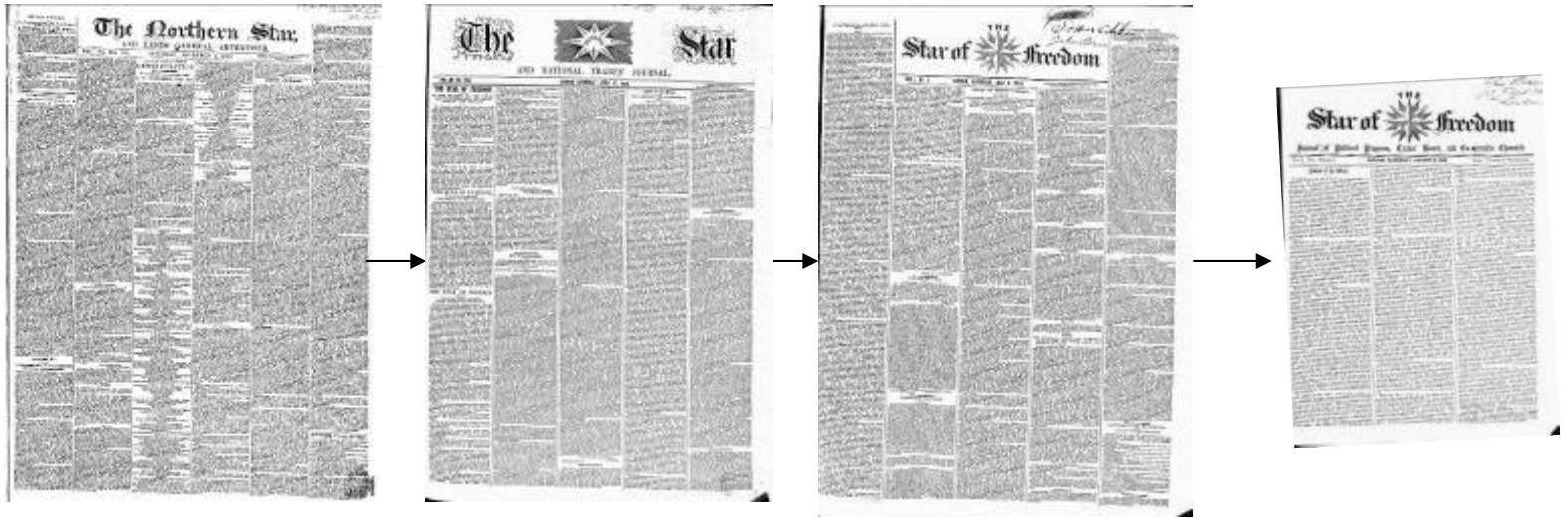
The preliminary step which I propose is the appointment of a General Secretary, *pro tem*; whose nominations shall be sent preparatory to the election of an Executive; and as we must place confidence somewhere; and as Mr. Wheeler has already filled that office during the absence of the late Secretary; and as he was elected by 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 the Executive that a delegate shall be appointed from each Chartist district in London, to aid and assist him in making his return.

The position on Fergus O'Connor's weekly address to readers signals it as important content

The Challenge of Depth: structure

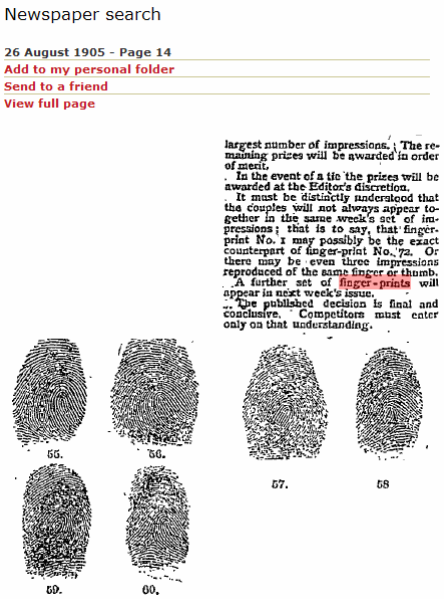


Challenge of Depth: Mobility of form in the *Northern Star*



Changes of format and paper size in the *Northern Star* over its run.

Left: two images of an illustration in the *Tomahawk* taken from microfilm. Right: an image of the same page generated digitally directly from the hard copy.



User's path to content of *Penny Illustrated Newspaper* via search interface

Edition architecture within Olive application:

edition > title > volume > number > department > item

e.g.

ncse > *Leader* > 7 > *Leader*, no. 319, 3 May 1856, edition 1 > ‘Review of the Week’ > ‘Untitled Article’.

Although the hierarchy runs throughout the edition, the first four levels are displayed in a folder tree, and the final two on the page itself.

Edition > Title > Volume > Number > department > item

Edition
- Title
  - Volume #1
    - Front Matter
    - Number #1 (+ edition)
      - wrapper
      - number contents
        - dept #1
          - item #1
          - item #2
          - etc…
        - dept #2
        - dept #3

        etc…
    - Number #2

      Etc.
    - Index
    - End Matter
  - Volume #2

    Etc…