



2024 RSVP Digital Event


Pick-A-Periodical with Clare Stainthorp: Vol. 9 of *The Secular Chronicle* (Jan.-Jun. 1878)

Chat Transcript

16:03:07 From Priti Joshi :
https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/The_Secular_Chronicle/c2Xs-k8fm-kC?hl=en&gbpv=1

16:06:26 From Priti Joshi : <https://heritage.humanists.uk/the-secular-chronicle/>

16:06:49 From Julie Sorge Way : Reacted to "<https://heritage.hum...>" with 

16:07:02 From Barbara Ferguson : Reacted to "<https://heritage.hum...>" with 

16:07:46 From Alison Chapman : Reacted to "<https://heritage.hum...>" with 

16:15:55 From Priti Joshi :
https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/The_Secular_Chronicle/c2Xs-k8fm-kC?hl=en&gbpv=1

16:22:21 From Andrew Hobbs : No image, but Hewitson gives a brief pen portrait of Harriet Law in his diary:
Monday 3 June 1872 General work all day. At night went to hear one Mrs Law of London give a lecture in theatre under the auspices of Preston Republican Club—about half a dozen illiterate political malcontents. Proceedings very noisy through the din of some “roughs” in the gallery. Mrs Law is a sharp, cute-brained, badly-educated, bold, strong-lunged woman. My wife went with me to the lecture.

Tuesday 4 June 1872 Working in back shop at ledger till night and then went to hear Mrs Law give her second lecture denouncing monarchy and praising Republicanism.


16:22:51 From Julie Sorge Way : Cute-brained!

16:23:05 From Alison Chapman : Reacted to "No image, but Hewits..." with 

16:23:14 From Julie Sorge Way : Reacted to "No image, but Hewits..." with 

16:23:15 From Andrew Hobbs : Cute as in sharp, canny, I think

16:23:27 From Julie Sorge Way : Reacted to "Cute as in sharp, ca..." with 


16:23:41 From Patrick Leary : Reacted to "No image, but Hewits..." with 

16:24:48 From Clare Stainthorp : Reacted to "No image, but Hewits..." with 


16:39:56 From Akshat Seth : This may be slightly tangential, but if you could throw some light on how the "Secular Chronicle" contended with changes in terms of its circulation and reach, in light of the changed strategy of the British establishment to deal with the radical press. Chomsky talks about liberalisation being a better remedy than suppression to deal with the Chartist Press, not that press repression disappeared altogether.

Apart from the hostility and the disdain of Victorian Morality percolating within the British government, how did the "Secular Chronicle" deal with the financial challenges posed by liberalisation on top of the physical and institutional hostility, through what one may assume to be a lack of advertising support, established as it was in 1872, when the modified strategy of liberalisation seems to be firmly in place.

16:41:21 From Patrick Leary : Must run, but thank you, Clare!!!

16:41:28 From Clare Stainthorp : Reacted to "Must run, but thank ..." with 

16:42:39 From Akshat Seth : Reacted to Must run, but thank ... with "


16:42:41 From Akshat Seth : Removed a  reaction from "Must run, but thank ..."

16:42:51 From Linda Hughes : Mary Howitt, too, went through such an arc - from Quakerism to Unitarianism to Roman Catholicism to Spiritualism.


16:43:12 From Priti Joshi to Fionnuala Dillane(direct message) : what is it with men -- taking up air space!

16:43:31 From Fionnuala Dillane to Priti Joshi(direct message) : enraged here = chair needs to intervene


16:43:49 From Priti Joshi to Fionnuala Dillane(direct message) : I just muted him

16:44:16 From Fionnuala Dillane to Priti Joshi(direct message) : Reacted to "I just muted him" with 

16:47:14 From Fionnuala Dillane : if there is time after the questions in the queue, I'd love to hear more about what you said about how the different press genres of the Secular Chronicle register the tensions between communal and individual voices?

16:48:24 From Matt Poland : Hi Clare  what a fabulous periodical and talk. I'd love to hear more about freethinking networks in the Midlands or outside of London generally. I always have to find a George Eliot connection, so I'm wondering if there's a Secular Chronicle connection to Eliot's great friend, the freethinker Charles Bray in Coventry, who also owned a local newspaper (can't remember the name, Fionnuala will know!), who I think also became interested in spiritualism later in life.

16:48:39 From Julie Codell : Thanks for this excellent presentation.

16:49:53 From Fionnuala Dillane : Replying to "Hi Clare  what a f..."

On cue: Coventry Herald and Observer

16:50:20 From Matt Poland : Replying to "Hi Clare  what a f..."

 brava!

16:51:13 From Beatrice Laurent : Replying to "Hi Clare  what a f..."

Excellent presentation! Thanks, Clare!

16:51:25 From Barathy M G : Some articles from National Reformer are translated into Tamil. National Reformer writers have contributed articles in English too for a Madras paper. On internationalism

16:51:41 From Matt Poland : Reacted to "Some articles from N..." with ❤️

16:52:06 From Fionnuala Dillane : Reacted to "Some articles from N..." with 👍

16:52:52 From Thomas Smits : Sorry have to run! Thanks a lot for the presentation!

16:53:17 From Beatrice Laurent : Replying to "Hi Clare 😊 what a f..."

Did you find any connection between H. Law and Wm Morris? Was she close to the SDF? Any link with the periodical Commonweal, which shares the same motto as the Secular Chronicle?

16:53:59 From Beth Newman : Thank you for this very interesting talk! Must run.

16:57:02 From Louis James : Many thanks for a fascinating paper!

17:01:01 From Linda Hughes : I too must run - many thanks for your presentation.

17:02:51 From Julie Sorge Way : Must run! Thanks so much for this!

17:03:43 From Fionnuala Dillane to Katy Birch(direct message) : you can skip my question Katy, cos Clare has touched on it there

17:03:55 From Katy Birch to Fionnuala Dillane(direct message) : Reacted to "you can skip my ques..." with 👍

17:05:59 From Alison Chapman : I'm really interested in the repeated format of the large illustrations in the first page the Secular Chronicle, and how it relates to and repurposes other periodicals with these really prominent formats (including earlier wood engraved illustrations, most famously perhaps the Mirror of Literature 1822-1847)...Your point about the print format stabilizing ephemerality is fascinating!...I'll leave you with this as I need to sign off. Thanks for a wonderful talk and Q &A!

17:06:22 From Lesley Hall : That was fascinating!

17:06:24 From Clare Stainthorp : c.stainthorp@qmul.ac.uk

17:06:29 From Mercedes Sheldon : Great presentation and conversation!
Thank you!!

17:06:41 From Matt Poland : I'll ask irl in Stirling!! See many of you soon I
hope 😊