

SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION

This is a separate subject category that will be assigned in the TEI header for each work and will allow us to create browse able groupings on the web site.

SUBJECT CATEGORIES

- Religious and Moral
- Household Manuals
- Historical, Political and Biographical
- Geographical Description, Local History & Natural History
- Travel and Adventure
- Odd Characters and Strange Events
- Prose Fiction
- Legendary Romances, Fairy Stories and Folk Tales in Prose
- Nursery Rhymes
- Dramatic
- Metrical Tales and Other Verse
- Song Books
- Jest Books, Humorous Fiction, Riddles
- Occult
- Prophecies
- Crimes and Criminals
- Books of Instruction

DEFINITIONS OF THE SUBJECT CATEGORIES

- Religious and Moral
 - A chapbook with a religious or moral message as its predominant theme. The Cheap Repository Tracts and publications from other religious organizations are entered in this category.
- Household Manuals
 - A chapbook with “how- to“ or set of instructions for a task that would be done in the home and garden. (For example - cooking, baking, cleaning, medicinal, or food storage.)
- Historical, Political and Biographical
 - A chapbook has as its central theme the story of a non-fictional history, political event or contains a biography of a person.
- Geographical Description, Local History & Natural History
 - The chapbook’s story is about a place or event that took place in a certain geographical location or it describes animals, birds or nature.
- Travel and Adventure
 - The chapbook’s story is about a character who travels away from home, or the story describes an undertaking or enterprise of a hazardous nature.
- Odd Characters and Strange Events
 - The chapbook’s story is about a person or an event that is described as not before known, heard, or seen.

- Prose Fiction
 - The chapbook's story is written primarily in a narrative voice and is about imaginary events and people.

- Legendary Romances, Fairy Stories and Folk Tales in Prose
 - The chapbook's story is a fictional tale or legend originating as a traditional tale from the common people. Fairy tales are usually written for children, about magical creatures (For example: elves, dragons and fairies.).

- Nursery Rhymes
 - The chapbook contents are primarily nursery rhymes; traditional poems (verse) or songs for young children.

- Dramatic
 - The chapbook is a fictional play or a dialogue (conversations) between characters.

- Metrical Tales and Other Verse
 - The chapbook's contents are fictional tales written in rhyming verse, including ballads.

- Song Books
 - The chapbook contains the words of pieces of music that would have been sung.

- Jest Books, Humorous Fiction, Riddles
 - The chapbook contains jokes or satirical anecdotes. Riddles are phrases that a present a puzzle to the reader, usually a double or veiled meaning, to be solved.

- Occult
 - The chapbook's story is about supernatural or magical beliefs, practices, or phenomena.

- Prophecies
 - The chapbook's contents are predictions about the future, made by a divinely inspired individual (prophet).

- Crimes and Criminals
 - The chapbook's stories are about acts that are against the law of the land and the persons who committed these crimes.

- Books of Instruction
 - The chapbook's story is written for children and contains an educational theme, its primary purpose is to instruct a child in letters, provide information about the world. Alphabet books are books of instruction. Chapbooks that provide behavior and moral lessons are included in the 'Religious and Moral' subject category.

BACKGROUND FOR THE SELECTION OF THESE TERMS

The Lilly Library uses 19 subjects for their chapbook collection
<http://www.indiana.edu/~liblilly/chapbook.shtml>)

These categories are almost identical to Victor Neuberg's – Classification of chapbooks (1964), which has 23 divisions. Neuberg explains that he is using the scheme of Tillinghast in his Catalogue of English and American Chap-books and broadside ballads in Harvard College library in 1905. Weiss (1942) uses a similar division as well.