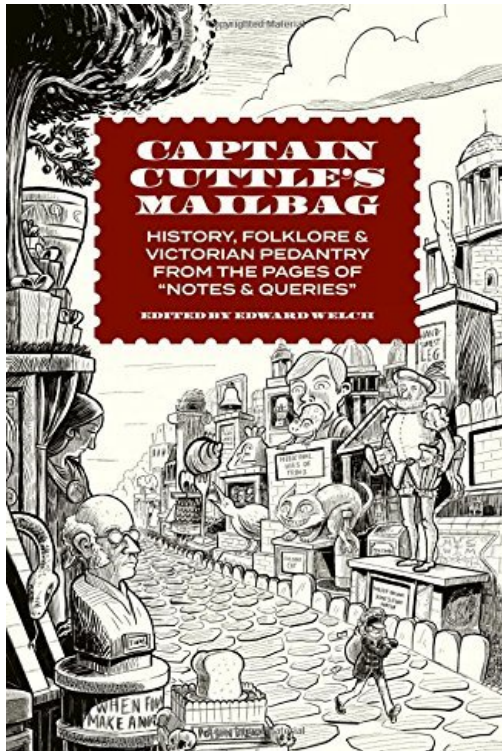


# Read Captain Cuttle's Mailbag: History, Folklore, and Victorian Pedantry from the Pages of "Notes and Queries" EPUB PDF



Author :

Language : English

ISBN : 1946053031

Number of pages : 272 pages

Editor : Laboratory Books

Date of Publication : Nov 28th, 2017

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## Book Description

An amusing and possibly informative anthology of Notes and Queries, the Victorian magazine for which no subject was too odd or obscure. Recommended for history, literature, and trivia buffs. How did the Honorable Miss E. St. Leger become a Freemason? Did Lord Byron meet a hippopotamus, or was it only a tapir? Whence the popular prejudice against redheads? These were among the topics discussed in the pages of Notes and Queries, a weekly magazine founded in London in 1849 as "a medium of inter-communication for literary men, artists, antiquaries, genealogists, etc." Its motto was "When found, make a note of"—a saying of Captain Cuttle, the hook-handed old salt of Dickens's *Dombey and Son*. Some subscribers to Notes and Queries contributed brief notes on curious facts they had uncovered; other sent in arcane queries to be answered. The result was rather like an erudite Internet discussion board, complete with its flame wars and trolls. This book anthologizes the most interesting exchanges from the First Series of Notes and Queries (1849–55). Here, ordered by subject—with judicious footnotes, of course—are delightfully pedantic remarks on the daily life and amusements of olden times, the doings of faeries, revolting folk remedies, strange forgotten, poetry good and bad, and oddities of natural history, among many other things. Also included is a selection of advertisements from the magazine, for such products as Grosjean's Celebrated Trousers, Rimmel's Toilet Vinegar (good