

The consequences were momentous. Having worked the idea of India out of his system, the *MT* became a beginning rather than an end: Dibdin made a decision to stay in England, to entertain the public with “Table Entertainments,” and to go on writing books. His nephew, notably, was Thomas Frognall Dibdin (1776–1847), the celebrated bibliographer, whose early literary interests were very likely stimulated by his uncle’s increasingly serious commitment to the printed word.