

2006 RESEARCH GRANT: FINAL REPORT

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RESTATEMENT OF PROBLEM RESEARCHED AND BRIEF REVIEW OF PROCEDURE UTILIZED.

Change of Plans: With the concurrence of Dr. Hamm and the Committee, I changed plans for my grant. Originally, I planned to present a paper to a conference in England the funds were granted for that trip. However, the conference was cancelled after I had already purchased the airline tickets. The funds were re-approved for research at the British Library in London. I was researching another project: nineteenth-century English fiction employing either mesmerism or hypnotism a theme or plot device. I had already obtained and read a number of novels by English authors published between 1870 and 1910. However, at the British Library I accessed novels otherwise unavailable through Interlibrary Loan:

Barrett, Frank, *The Woman of the Iron Bracelets*, 1893.

Fane, Violet, *The Story of Helen Davenant*, 1889.

Harley, Cecil, *The Shadow of a Song*, 1893.

Marryat, Florence, *Blindfold*, 1980.

Stuart, Esme, *In His Grasp*, 1887.

Warden, Florence, *A Woman's Face*, Date 1890?

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I have read roughly fifty novels for this project and nearly completed the first article utilizing these materials. I am not certain yet whether this will be a publishable book, but anticipate that I will at least write several more articles to submit to journals on Victorian literature. The first (whose draft I append) concerns changes in property law as reflected in this fiction; the others will explore other Victorian social changes that express themselves through the imagery of mesmerism/hypnotism deployed by this fiction. For each article, I will select the novels most appropriate to that theme. I anticipate needing no further funding for this project, since my research on these novels is essentially complete.