## THE NINETEENTH CENTURY (DICKENS, HARDY, WOMEN NOVELISTS)

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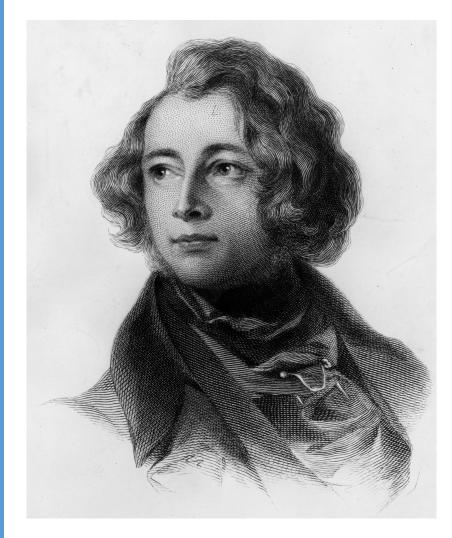
## Charles Dickens (1812-1870)

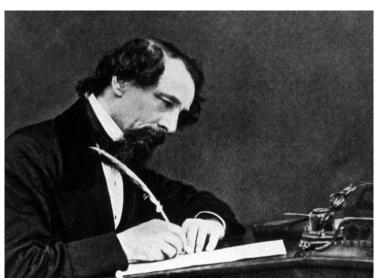
 Charles John Huffam Dickens was an English novelist, generally considered the greatest of the Victorian period. Dickens enjoyed a wider popularity and fame than had any previous author during his lifetime, and he remains popular.





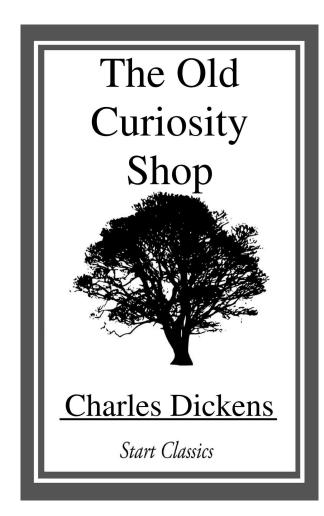
• Charles Dickens was born at Landport, in Portsea, on February 7, 1812, the second of eight children, to John and Elizabeth Dickens. His father was a clerk in the Navy Pay-office.

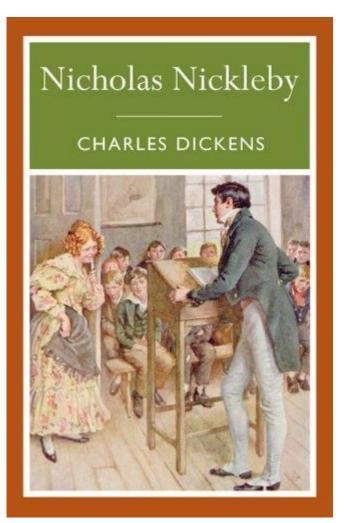






- In 1833, Dickens' first story, A Dinner at Poplar Walk was published in the London periodical, Monthly Magazine.
- In 1836, Dickens accepted the job of editor of Bentley's Miscellany, a position he held for three years, until he fell out with the owner. At the same time, his success as a novelist continued, producing Oliver Twist (1837-39), Nicholas Nickleby (1838-39), The Old Curiosity Shop all published in monthly installments before being made into books.





 Dickens' work has been highly praised for its realism, comedy, mastery of prose, unique personalities and concern for social reform by writers such as Leo Tolstoy, George Gissing and G.K. Chesterton; though others, such as Henry James and Virginia Woolf, have criticized it for sentimentality and implausibility.

