"the web is a global library produced by millions of people"
--Yochai Benkler

then & now

liber

biblios
(bibliothèque)

media
(mediathèque)
Alexandrian fantasy

"universal access to all knowledge"
Brewster Kahle

Bibliotheca Universalis, sive
Catalogus omnium scriptorum, in tribus
linguis
Conrad Gesner, 1545

"a Library arranged for the use of the
public must be universal ... "
Avis pour dresser une Bibliotheque,
Gabriel Naudé, 1617
"These Libraries in a few years, will be full and compleat, being furnished, not only with all the valuable and usefull Old Books in any Art of Science, but also with all the valuable New Books, so soon as every they are heard of or seen in the World"

*An Overture for Founding and Maintaining of Bibliothecks in Every Paroch Throughout this Kingdom, James Kirkwood, 1699*
"A library of a million volumes could be compressed into one end of a desk". Vannevar Bush

"A young generation of entrepreneurs asked what if we could take all the information in a library and put it on a little chip the size of a fingernail? We did that and changed the world forever". John Kerry, 2004

"an America where every child can stretch a hand across a keyboard and reach every book ever written, every painting ever painted, every symphony ever composed". Bill Clinton, 1966
"Pushing us rapidly toward that eden of everything and away from the paradigm of the physical paper tome, is the hot technology of the search engine ...

on your iPod ...
if it doesn't plug directly into your brain"

Kevin Kelly

"information wants to be free" -Stewart Brand

"[books remain for] those addicted to tree flakes encased in dead cow" --Bill Mitchell
cultural projects

"the memory of mankind"
--Goethe

"reserves against a spiritual winter"
--Yourcenar
"The wild side of the Internet typified by blogs and fast-running rumors could be tempered by the heft of these libraries".  
San Francisco Chronicle

"Google's newest project .. will help fulfill the original intention of the Internet: to help people find solid background facts quickly".  
Chicago Sun-Times

"Most of today's online content was 'born digital, thus cannot be verified. By contrast, library materials become available through Google originate from fully authoritative sources, and cover every conceivable topic since the advent of printing".  
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e topic since the advent of printing".  
Michigan Library Press Release
An Almanack for the yeare, M.D. 1717
Composed by M. de Bokradamus in Phisicke of Sal Thraux in Prouence.

What sense saplith he? the monster be seen in the wood. Men shall interpret it so.

And what he doth in nature, he doth of itself, and not of his own

authority.
endism

the end of institutions

questions of interdependence
Ginsparg server
Encyclopedia of Life

are we abandoning a 15th-century technology for an 11th-century institution?
or the other way around?

Grandfather: Well, I finally finished my doctoral thesis.
Woman: Way to go, Grandpa.

Grandfather: Did my research at Indiana University.
Woman: Indiana?

Grandfather: Yeah. IBM took the school's library... and digitized it. So I could access it over the Internet.

Tag: IBM. Solutions for a small planet.
Justice Samuel Alito, in his comments at the same event, went on to complain about the role of the Internet in legal reporting. ... "It changes what it means to be a judge."

"Thus the engine of legal research, driven by sophisticated search algorithms ... through the sheer weight of legal information that it contains, collapse the structure of legal thought. ... It calls for a reconceptualization at the heart of American law."

--BB,"The heart of legal information"
Beyond institutions

Open source beyond software

"Linux has broader implications ...
Peer production is a phenomenon of much wider implication"

-- Benkler, CP
"software development and investigative reporting ...

"the rise of effective, large-scale cooperative efforts .. beyond [core software platforms] ... encyclopedias, to news and commentary, to immersive entertainment ...

Wikipedia, the most serious online alternative to Encyclopedia Britannica
more endism

Britannica
New York Times
RIAA
Hollywood
the point here is **qualitative**. It is not ... that more people can participate in production... [but] that the widely distributed model of information production will better identify who is the best person to produce a specific modular component.

--Benkler, "Coase's Penguin"
key themes

- networked information economy ...
- networked public sphere ...
- critical and self-reflective culture ...
  - nonmarket production ...
    - nonproprietary
      - individual
      - aggregates
- loose affiliation [not]...stable long-term relations
- the state is a suspect actor

-- Benkler, *The Wealth of Networks*
benkler's dozen

clickworks
SETI
gutenberg
eureka
openlaw
academic enterprise
google
open directory
ginsparg
wikipedia
slashdot
mozilla
OED (Lessig)
laws of quality

**Linus's law**

"given enough eyeballs, all bugs are shallow. ... [G]iven a large enough beta-tester and co-developer base, almost every problem will be characterized quickly and the fix obvious to someone".

**Graham's law**

"The method of ensuring quality" in peer production is "Darwinian ... People just produce whatever they want; the good stuff spreads, and the bad gets ignored".
"Evolution-like," *wisdom of crowds systems:*

Below I cover three separate systems, each of which has strong similarity to Darwinian evolution, each of which seems to elicit a "but it just can't work" response, and none of which conflict with any religion I know of. They are:

1. *Wikipedia* -- online encyclopedia that anyone can edit
2. *Prediction markets* -- speculative market which predicts future events, such as the outcome of elections
3. *Recommendation systems* -- systems which categorize and recommend content (such as movies, music and books) based purely on ratings given by others

1. *Wikipedia:*

Most people who actually use the Wikipedia online encyclopedia on a regular basis recognize that it is an amazing resource, and is getting significantly better as time goes on. However, I have spent a lot of time debating with intelligent people who simply reject that Wikipedia can be accurate or reliable, given that it can be edited by anyone.
1. It is not like a 1000 monkeys typing randomly on a typewriter came up with the wikipedia.

2. The content of the wikipedia is controlled more so than most people think. There are editors, there is peer review etc.

3. You don't find a million slightly varying copies on a single topic which are then "naturally selected" A wikipedia has as much value as shouting out a question in a packed stadium to receive the answers from a million people. Most of those who will bother to answer are those who will know something about the subject and most who won't answer are most likely those who don't know enough about the topic to comment.

How is this in any sense similar to evolution?
"What, then, are the limitations of peer production?"
--Benkler, Coase's Penguin

**up and down voting**

"It works ... 800,000 English articles; 300,000 German; one billion words"
--Kapor

"Wikipedia, it's a researcher's dream"
--Paul Saffo
"don't break the build"
--FreeBSD

"open source software projects, however, operate on a shared technical artifact. Theories about good solutions can be readily tested by running the code that implements theories. ... Code is both a detailed specification of a theory of how the system works, and the objective reality, which the developers construct. When the code works, the theory works and becomes real"
--Ilkka Tuomi
some examples

gracenote

project gutenberg

[google books]

wikipedia
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Beethoven String Quartets vol. 2

Classical Music
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<td>6:56</td>
<td>Adagio cantabile</td>
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<tr>
<td>Op. 18 No. 2 in G Major</td>
<td>4:46</td>
<td>Scherzo (Allegro) &amp; Trio</td>
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<td>Op. 18 No. 2 in G Major</td>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>Allegro molto, quasi presto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Op. 18 No. 6 in B– Major</td>
<td>6:26</td>
<td>Allegro molto, quasi presto</td>
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<tr>
<td>String Quartet in D major, Op. 18, No. 3.0 – Allegro</td>
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<td>8:55</td>
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<td>String Quartet in D major, Op. 18, No. 3.2 – Allegro</td>
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sampling

sorting things out
Borders' descriptors

gathering vs coordinating
gracenote guidelines

eyeballs enough?
Linus Graham
tear 'em up

Create complete albums or custom mixes

Any Text. Anytime. Anywhere. (Any Volunteers?)

The mechanics of a universal library are simple. The tricky part is rethinking the free labor.

It's a bad day in the stacks.

I go there for seven films, books I found, one that should be there but isn't, one recorded text, and one checked out that will have to be recalled. The seventh is the one I really want: *QUAIL*.

There's no copy in UC Berkeley's main Doe Library stacks: it's shelved in the Math Library. The main copy is not where it's supposed to be. But the catalog claims there are two copies on the shelves in Marrow. When that's up, it will be 24 hours before I get another crack at tracking down Appendix B of Carl Seagar, et al., *Communication With Interstellar Intelligence*.

And that's after two hours doing very low grade work: looking up call numbers, sifting through stacks, waiting for the crowds to clear out between the compact moveable stacks so I can golf at the shelves without smushing great students in the next aisle. Knowledge revolution, indeed.
Project Gutenberg

Michael Hart, 1971
Declaration of Independence

Distributed Proofreading, 2000

17,000 + titles

2,000,000 monthly downloads
"large, well-organized ... comprehensive scholarly"
"We do not write for the reader who cares whether a certain phrase in Shakespeare has a ":" or a ";" between its clauses. We put our sights on a goal to release etexts that are 99.9% accurate in the eyes of the general reader".
TRISTRAM SHANDY: A COCK & BULL STORY

HE'S ABOUT TO PLAY THE ROLE OF HIS LIFE.
PG tips

Project Gutenberg:

The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman.

A work by Laurence Sterne

(two lines in Greek)
Project Gutenberg:

The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman.

A work by Laurence Sterne

(two lines in Greek)

It is not things themselves, but people's opinions about things that upset people.
"typographic culture"

By inspection into his horoscope, where five planets were in coition all at once with Scorpio (Haec mira, satisque horrenda. Planetarum coitio sub Scorpio Asterismo in nona coeli statione, quam Arabes religioni deputabant efficit Martinum Lutherum sacrilegum hereticum, Christianae religionis hostem acerrimum atque prophanum, ex horoscopi directione ad Martis coitum, religiosissimus obiit, ejus Anima scelestissima ad infernos navigavit--ab Alecto, Tisiphone & Megara flagellis igneis cruciata perenniter.--- Lucas Gaurieus in Tractatu astrologico de praeteritis multorum hominum accidentibus per genituras examinatis.) (in reading this my father would always shake his head) in the ninth house...
in coition all at once with Scorpio (in reading this my father would always shake his head) in the ninth house, which the Arabians allotted to religion—it appeared that Martin Luther did not care one stiver about the matter—and that from the horoscope directed to the conjunction of Mars—they made it plain likewise he must die cursing and blaspheming—with the blast of which his soul (being steeped in guilt) sailed before the wind, into the lake of hell 

Lutherum sacrilegum hereticum, Christianae religionis hostem acerrimum atque prophanum, ex horoscopi directione ad Martis coitum, religiosissimus obiit, ejus Anima scelestissima ad infernos navigavit—ab Alecto, Tisiphone & Megara flagellis igneis cruciata perenniter.—Lucas Gaurieus in Tractatu astrologico de praeteritis multorum hominum accidentibus per genituras examinatis.) (in reading this my father would always shake his head) in the ninth

house...
in coition all at once with Scorpio (in reading this my father would always shake his head) in the ninth house, which the Arabians allotted to religion—it appeared that Martin Luther did not care one stiver about the matter—and that from the horoscope directed to the conjunction of Mars—they made it plain likewise he must die cursing and blaspheming—with the blast of which his soul (being steeped in guilt) sailed before the wind, into the lake of hell.
Chapter 1.XLV.

--'I wish, Dr. Slop,' quoth my uncle Toby repeating his wish for Dr. Slop a second time, and with a degree of more zeal and earnestness in his manner of wishing, than he had wished at first (Vide.)-- 'I wish, Dr Slop,' quoth my uncle Toby, 'you had seen what prodigious armies we had in Flanders.'
--'I wish, Dr. Slop,' quoth my uncle Toby repeating his wish for Dr. Slop a second time, and with a degree of more zeal and earnestness in his manner of wishing, than he had wished at first (Vide.)-- 'I wish, Dr. Slop,' quoth my uncle Toby, 'you had seen what prodigious armies we had in Flanders.'
Had my mother, Madam, been a Papist, that consequence did not follow. (The Romish Rituals direct the baptizing of the child, in cases of danger, before it is born;—but upon this proviso, That some part or other of the child's body be seen by the baptizer:—But the Doctors of the Sorbonne, by a deliberation held amongst them, April 10, 1733,—have enlarged the powers of the midwives, by determining, That though no part of the child's body should appear,—that baptism shall, nevertheless, be administered to it by injection,—par le moyen d'une petite canulle,—Anglice a squirt.—'Tis very strange that St. Thomas Aquinas, who had so good a mechanical head, both for tying and untying the knots of school-divinity,—should, after so much pains bestowed upon this,—give up the point at last, as a second La chose impossible,—'Infantes in maternis uteris existentes (quoth St. Thomas!) baptizari possunt nullo modo.'—O Thomas! Thomas! If the reader has the curiosity to see the question upon baptism by injection, as presented to the Doctors of the Sorbonne, with their consultation thereupon, it is as follows.)
necessary I should be born before I was christened.' Had my mother, Madam, been a Papist, that consequence did not follow."

1. The Romish Rituals direct the baptizing of the child, in cases of danger, before it is born;—but upon this proviso, That some part or other of the child's body be seen by the baptizer:—But the Doctors of the Sorbonne, by a deliberation held amongst them, April 10, 1732,—have enlarged the powers of the midwives, by determining, That though no part of the child's body should appear,—that baptism shall, nevertheless, be administered to it by injection,—par le moyen d'une petite canuille,—Anglice a squirt.—"Tis very strange that St. Thomas Aquinas, who had so good a mechanical head, both for tying and untying the knots of school-divinity,—should, after so much pains bestowed upon this,—give up the point at last as a second La chose impossible,—'Infantes in maternis uteris existentes (quoth St. Thomas!) baptizari possunt nullo modo.'—O Thomas! Thomas!

If the reader has the curiosity to see the question upon baptism by injection, as presented to the Doctors of the Sorbonne, with their consultation thereupon, it is as follows.
Ten times a day has Yorick's ghost the consolation to hear his monumental inscription read over with such a variety of plaintive tones, as denote a general pity and esteem for him;--a foot-way crossing the church-yard close by the side of his grave,--not a passenger goes by without stopping to cast a look upon it,--and sighing as he walks on, Alas, poor Yorick!

Chapter 1.XIII.
It is so long since the reader of this
Ten times a day has Yorick’s ghost the consolation to hear his monumental inscription read over with such a variety of plaintive tones, as denote a general pity and esteem for him;—a footway crossing the church-yard close by the side of his grave,—not a passenger goes by without stopping to cast a look upon it,—and sighing as he walks on,

Alas, poor YORICK!

Alas, poor YORICK!
his trembling lips ready to depart as he uttered this:—yet still it was uttered with something of a *Cervantick* tone;—and as he spoke it, *Eugenius* could perceive a stream of lambent fire lighted up for a moment in his eyes;

Ten times a day has *Yorick’s* ghost the consolation to hear his monumental inscription read over with such a variety

of plaintive tones, as denote a general pity and esteem for him;—a foot-way crossing the church-yard close by the side of his grave,—not a passenger goes by without stopping to cast a look upon it,—and sighing as he walks on,

Alas, poor YORICK!
Chapter 3. LXXXI.

To conceive this right,--call for pen and ink--here's paper ready to your hand.--Sit down, Sir, paint her to your own mind--as like your mistress as you can--as unlike your wife as your conscience will let you--'tis all one to me--please but your own fancy in it.

(blank page)
And possibly, gentle reader, with such a temptation—so wouldst thou: for never did thy eyes behold, or thy concupiscence covet, any thing in this world more concupiscible than widow Wadman.

C H A P. XXXVIII.

To conceive this right—call for pen and ink—here’s paper ready to your hand.—Sit down, Sir, paint her to your own mind—as like your mistress as you can—as unlike your wife as your conscience will let you—'tis all one to me—please but your own fancy in it.
blank chapter, torn out chapter, chapters on holes, sleep, sash windows, and even a "chapter on chapters".
And in this, Sir, I am of so nice and singular a humour, that if I thought you was able to form the least judgment or probable conjecture to yourself, of what was to come in the next page,--I would tear it out of my book.

Chapter 1.XXVI.

I have begun a new book, on purpose that I might have room enough to
Pan: From Lieutenant Thomas Glahn's Papers - Page 3
by Anita Loos, Sverre (TRN) Lyngstad, Knut Hamsun - 1998 - 160 pages
... Hamsun ... Pan ...
Limited preview - Table of Contents - First page - About this book

Pan - Page 3
by W. W. Worster, Knut Hamsun - 2004 - 132 pages
The truth, however, is that Hamsun stands today where he has always stood. ...
Problems do not enter into the novels of Hamsun in the same manner as they ...
Limited preview - Table of Contents - First page - About this book
"shall we forever ... ?

Project Gutenberg *Pan:*

Translated from the Norwegian of Knut Hamsun
by W. W. Worster
With an Introduction by Edwin Bjærkman
New York
Alfred A. Knopf
1927
Published July, 1921
shall we forever ...?

Penguin *Pan*:

"the first version by W.W. Worster (Knopf, 1921), was bowdlerized, all the expressly erotic elements, however innocuous, having been deleted".
Gutenberg *Pan*

And when she comes, my heart knows all, and no longer beats like a heart, but rings as a bell. I lay my hand on her.

"Tie my shoe-string," she says, with flushed cheeks.
Penguin *Pan*:
"And when she comes my heart understands, and it no longer beats, it peals. And she is naked under her dress from head to foot. I lay my hand on her.

"Tie my shoelace," she says with flaming cheeks. And a little later she whispers directly against my mouth, against my lips, Oh, you're not tying my shoelace, sweetheart, you're not tying ... not tying my ..."
elsewhere in the project

Title: Nana, The Miller’s Daughter, Captain Burle, Death of Olivier Becaille
Author: Emile Zola
Release Date: May 3, 2006 [EBook #1069]
Language: English
Character set encoding: ASCII

*** START OF THIS PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK NANA AND OTHERS ***

Produced by Donald Lainson and David Widger

FOUR SHORT STORIES

By Emile Zola
And her smile hinted what she thought. Tatan Nene and Louise Violaine were of her opinion. The former told them that she had enjoyed the most roaring jolly good times with soldiers. Oh, they were good fellows and would have done any mortal thing for the girls. But as the ladies had raised their voices unduly Rose Mignon, still sitting on the chest by the bed, silenced them with a softly whispered "Hush!" They stood quite still at this and glanced obliquely toward the dead woman, as though this request for silence had emanated from the very shadows of the curtains. In the heavy, peaceful stillness which ensued, a void, deathly stillness which made them conscious of the stiff dead body lying stretched close by them, the cries of the mob burst forth:

"A BERLIN! A BERLIN! A BERLIN!"

But soon they forgot. Lea de Horn, who had a political salon where former ministers of Louis Philippe were wont to indulge in delicate epigrams, shrugged her shoulders and continued the conversation in a low tone:
"The case against Google ... the virtual copy .... scan first and ask questions later ..."

KK

along came google

Where’s My Access to the Universal Online Library of Humanity?

It’s heeerrrrreeee! Actually, it’s not here yet. But it’s coming:

Google Print Search: brad delong:

"Economic Puppetmasters: Lessons from the Halls of Power by Lawrence B. Lindsey - Page 18As Brad delong, former Clinton aide, now a professor at the University of California at Berkeley, said in a Wall Street ... [ More results from this book ]

Human Dignity and Contemporary Liberalism by Brad Stetson - Page 41On the loss of property rights specifically, see James V. delong, Property Matters (New York: The Free Press, 1997). 63. ... [ More results from this book ]

Money Changes Everything: How Global Prosperity Is Reshaping Our Needs, Values, and Lifestyles by Peter Marber - Page 24As economist Brad delong points out: Today the average American possesses a degree of material comfort that in many ways outstrips the reach of even the ... [ More results from this book ]

Explorations in Classical Sociological Theory: Seeing the Social World by Kenneth Allan - Page 100... .berkeley.edu/Economists/smith.html (Site maintained by Brad delong, Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley; brief biography ... [ More results from this book ]

Death of Distance: How the Communications Revolution Will Change Our Lives by Frances Cairncross - Page 4... in the way mass production raised the efficiency and quality of manufacturing. As Brad delong, an economist at the University of California at Berkeley ...
WISH either my father or my mother, or indeed both of them, they were in duty both equally bound to it, had minded what they were about when they begot me; had they duly considered how much depended upon what they were then doing;—that not only the production of a rational being was concerned in it, but at possibly the happy formation and temperature of his body, perhaps his genius and the very cast of his mind;—and, for aught they knew to the contrary, even the fortunes of his whole house might take their turn from the humours and dispositions which were then uppermost. Had they duly weighed and considered all this, and proceeded accordingly,—I am verily persuaded I should have made quite a different figure in the world from that in which the reader is likely to see me. Believe me, good folks, this is not an inconsiderable thing as many of you may think it:—you are all, I dare say, heard of the animal spirits, as how they are assuaged from father to son, &c.—and a great deal to that purpose;—Well, you may take my word that nine parts in ten of what comes to his propose, his success and miscarriage in...
THE LIFE AND OPINIONS
OF
TRISTRAM SHANDY, GENT.

TRISTRAM SHANDY

give me credit for a little more wisdom that appears upon my
outside:—and, as we say, either laugh with me, or at me: in
short do any thing,—only keep your temper.

CHAPTER VII.

IN the same village where my father and my mother dwelt,
dwelt also a thin, upright, motherly, notable, good old body of a
midwife, who, with the help of a little plain good sense, and some
years' full employment in her business, in which she had all
another shandy

The Romish Rituals direct the baptizing of the child at times of danger before it is born—but upon this point, at some part or other of the child's body, be it by the husband, be it by others, according to a celebration held amongst them. And in 1795, the emperor deprived the midwives by determining that though so part of the child's body and to appear, baptism shall never be administered, "auf dem schiff der lebensmond einer kleinen Seele."—so says the precept of Thomas Aquinas, who had at good a mathematical mind as is for rows and untying the knots of schooling, and afterwards to make the mad women upon this—give up the point as lost as a second English marriage. "Infantes in materum sterns et nates, quod de Thomas baptismi possunt nullo modo."—O Thomas, Thomas.

If the reader has the curiosity to see the question upon baptism, as it is presented to the doctors of the Sorbonne, with their conclusions drawn up, it is as follows:

NÉMOIRE PRÉSENTÉ À MESS EUPS LES DOCTEURS DE SORBONNE.

Un Chirurgien Accoucheur représente à Messieurs les Docteurs de Sorbonne qu'il y a des cas, comme l'est rare, ou une femme de soixante years' full employment in her business, in which she had all,
these three words of inscriptions, serving both for his epitaph and elegy:

Alas, poor Yorick!

Ten times in a day has Yorick’s ghost the consolation to hear his monumental inscription read over, with such a variety of plaintive tones as denote a general pity and esteem for him—a foot-way crossing the church-yard close by the side of his grave,—not a passenger goes by without stopping to cast a look upon it,—and sighing, as he walks on,

Alas, poor YORICK!

CHAPTER XIII.

It is so long since the reader of this rhapsodical work has been parted from the midwife that it is high time to mention her again to him, merely to put him in mind that there is such a body still in the world, and whom, upon the best judgment I
actually begun to count the brass nails upon
the arm of his chair,—my father thought
there was no time to be lost with my uncle
Toby, so took up the discourse as follows.

CHAPTER II.

"—WHAT prodigious armies you had
in Flanders!"—

Brother Toby, replied my father,
taking his wig from off his head with his
Pray, my dear, quoth my mother, have you not forgot to wind up the clock?—Good G—! cried my father, making an exclamation, but taking care to moderate his voice at the same time,—Did ever woman, since the creation of the world, interrupt a man with such a silly question? Pray, what was your father saying?—Nothing.

CHAPTER II.

Then, positively, there is nothing in the question that I can see, either good or bad. Then, let me tell you, sir, it was a very unseasonable question at least,—because it scattered and dispersed the animal spirit whose business it was to have escorted and gone hand in hand with the HOMUNCULUS,

CHAPTER II.

"WHAT prodigious armies you had in Flanders!"—

Brother Toby, replied my father, taking his wig from off his head with his
"Shall we for ever make new books, as apothecaries make new mixtures, by pouring only out of one vessel into another?"

**quality control**

errors in *Tristram Shandy* "originate in some popular nineteenth-century editions"

--R.C. Bald.
undoing a century's work?
searching
the world, "Whether the child of his prayers and endeavours should be born without a head or with one:"—he waited to the last moment, to allow Dr Slop, in whose behalf the wish was made, his right of returning it; but perceiving, I say, that he was confounded, and continued looking with that perplexed vacuity of eye which puzzled souls generally stare with—first in my uncle Toby's face—then in his—then up—then down—then east—east and by east, and so on,—coasting it along by the plinth of the wainscot till he had got to the opposite point of the compass,—and that he had actually begun to count the brass nails upon the arm of his chair,—my father thought there was no time to be lost with my uncle Toby, so took up the discourse as follows.

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OF TRISTRAM SHANDY

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Kicking Wiki Out Of The Patent Office

Patents are enduring, conferring rights on their owners for up to 20 years. Yet until about a week ago, scores of them may have been granted based partly on information that can be altered with a keystroke from anyone surfing the Web.

On Aug. 15, the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office yanked Wikipedia from the digital toolbox its examiners use to help determine a patent application's validity. But over the past several years, examiners used the online encyclopedia, which allows users to edit entries, to inform their decisions. Wikipedia has been cited in patent decisions on everything from car parts to chip designs.

"The problem with Wikipedia is that it's constantly changing," Patents Commissioner John Doll said. "We've taken Wikipedia off our list of accepted sources of information." An agency spokesperson said inquiries from BusinessWeek about the use of Wikipedia led to the policy shift.

Critics say the change is long overdue. "I've been complaining about this for years," says Greg Aharonian, publisher of a patent newsletter and a longtime agency gadfly. "From a legal point of view, a Wiki citation is toilet paper." Doll says the agency used Wikipedia entries as background and not as a basis for accepting or rejecting an application.

By Lorraine Woellert

Business Week, 9/4/06
"Hundreds of thousands of enthusiastic amateurs have written and cross-referenced an entire online encyclopedia called Wikipedia. Buoyed by this success, many nerds believe that a billion readers can reliably weave together the pages of old books, one hyperlink at a time."

--KK
Laurence Sterne (November 24, 1713 – March 18, 1768) was an Anglo-Irish novelist and clergyman. He is best known for his novels *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman*, and *A Sentimental Journey Through France and Italy*; but he also published sermons, wrote memoirs, and was involved in local politics. Sterne died in London after years of fighting tuberculosis.

Sterne lived in Sutton for twenty years, during which time he kept up an intimacy which had begun at Cambridge with John Hall-Stevenson, a witty and accomplished bon vivant, owner of Skelton Hall in the Cleveland district of Yorkshire. Without Stevenson, Sterne may have been a more decorous parish priest, but might never have written *Tristram Shandy*.

Sterne, who used his wife very ill[citation needed], was one day talking to David Garrick in a fine sentimental manner, in praise of conjugal love and fidelity. "The husband," said Sterne, "who behaves unkindly to his wife, deserves to have his house burnt over his head." "If you think so," said Garrick, "I hope your house is insured."
Daniel Defoe

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.
Revision as of 08:44, 11 October 2005; view current revision
Older revision ▼ Newer revision ▶

Daniel Defoe (1660 – April 24, 1731) was an English writer and journalist, who first gained fame for his novel *Robinson Crusoe*. Defoe is also notable for being arguably the earliest constant practitioner of the novel form.

Contents [hide]

1 Biography
2 Defoe and the Anglo-Scottish Union of 1707
3 Quotations
4 See also
5 Electronic books

Biography

Born Daniel Foe, the son of James Foe, a butcher in Stoke Newington, London. He later added the aristocratic sounding "De" to his name as a nom de plume. His gravestone gives his name as DANIEL DE-FOE. He became a famous pamphleteer, journalist and novelist at a time of the birth of the novel in the English language, and thus fairly ranks as one of its progenitors.

His parents were Presbyterian dissenters, and he was educated in a Dissenting Academy at Stoke Newington. His early business activities were unsuccessful, and he was bankrupted in 1692. By 1696, however he was the manager of a London tile factory.
every day in every way

1660

De' foe

Spy
"I strongly suspect that most English speakers would only recognize Defoe through RC; the Esperanto article mentions two or three translations of Robinson Crusoe, but no other works of Defoe, and a quasi-random sampling of the Library of Congress catalog turned up a number of translations of RC into French, German and Japanese, but no obvious translations of any of Defoe's other works".

Discussion page
"He is most famous for his novel [RC]" -- 9/02

"He became a famous pamphleteer, journalist and novelist" -- 1/04

"He became famous for [RC]" -- 10/04

"He first became famous for [RC]" -- 11/04
I used to edit Wikipedia a lot. The main reason I left was that many articles I'd helped to write got to the point where every edit was making the article worse, so either someone had to keep an eye on it and remove changes or the articles would slowly rot under bad edits. I'm not specifically thinking of trolls here, just bad editing.

For example, the C++ article was better than it is now a year ago. Looking at the history list, almost every edit is undone by someone else. Can the article be improved? Possibly, but the way to do that is not to allow anyone to edit it, then expect someone to put the time into undoing 95% of the edits... that's soul-destroying.
In 1891, Joyce wrote a poem, "Et Tu Healy," on the death of Charles Stewart Parnell. His father was angry at the treatment of Parnell by the Catholic church and at the resulting failure to secure Home Rule for Ireland. The elder Joyce had the poem printed and even sent a copy to the Vatican Library. In November of that same year, John Joyce was entered in Stubb's Gazette (an official register of bankruptcies) and suspended from work. In 1893 John Joyce was dismissed with a pension. This was the beginning of a slide into poverty for the family, mainly due to John's drinking and general financial mismanagement.[2]

James Joyce was initially educated by the Jesuit order at Clongowes Wood College, a boarding school near Sallins in County Kildare, which he entered in 1888 but had to leave in 1892 when his father could no longer pay the fees. Joyce then studied at home and briefly at the Christian Brothers
In 1891, Joyce wrote a treatment of Parnell by the time Joyce had the poem 'p'r was entered in Stubbs College and was dismissed with a pe drinking and general final James Joyce was initially at College, a boarding school in 1888 but had to leave fees. Joyce then studied He enrolled at the recently established University College Dublin in 1898. He studied modern languages, specifically English, French and Italian. He also became active in theatrical and literary circles in the city. His review of Ibsen's New Drama, his first published work, was published in 1900 and resulted in a letter of thanks from the Norwegian dramatist himself. Joyce wrote a number of other articles and at least two plays (since lost) during this period. Many of the friends he made at University College Dublin would appear as characters in Joyce's written works. He was an active member of the Literary and Historical Society, University College Dublin, and presented his paper "Drama and Life" to the L&H in 1900.

After graduating from UCD in 1903, Joyce left for Paris to "study medicine", but in reality he squandered money his family could ill afford. He returned to Ireland after a few months, when his mother was diagnosed with cancer. Fearing for her son's "impiety", his mother tried unsuccessfully to get Joyce to make his confession and to take communion. She finally passed into a coma a
Many UCD staff, students and alumni fought in the Irish War of Independence that followed the rising. Following the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty four UCD graduates joined the government of the new Irish Free State. It is notable that Dáil Éireann (Irish Parliament) was located in UCD's Earlsfort Terrace campus from 1919 to 1922, when they moved to their current location in Leinster House. The university's graduates have since had a large impact on Irish political life - four of the eight Presidents of Ireland and five of the ten Irish Taoisigh have been either former staff or graduates. Of the fifteen current members of the Irish cabinet, nine are former UCD students.
Dublin, 1882–1904

In 1882, James Augustine Joyce was born into a Roman Catholic family in the Dublin suburb of Rathgar. He was the oldest of 10 surviving children; two of his siblings died of typhoid. His father's family, originally from Fermoy in Cork, had once owned a small salt and lime works. Joyce's father and paternal grandfather both married into wealthy families. In 1887, his father, John Stanislaus Joyce, was appointed rate (i.e., local property tax) collector by Dublin Corporation; the family subsequently moved to the fashionable adjacent small town of Bray 12 miles from Dublin. Around this time Joyce was attacked by a dog; this resulted in a lifelong canine phobia. He also suffered from a fear of thunderstorms, which his deeply religious aunt had described to him as being a sign of God's wrath.[1]

In 1891, Joyce wrote a poem, "Et Tu Healy," on the death of Charles Stewart Parnell. His father was an outspoken critic of the treatment of Parnell by the Catholic church and at the resulting failure to secure Home Rule for Ireland. The elder Joyce had the poem printed and even sent a copy to the Vatican Library. In November of that same year, John Joyce was entered in Stubbs Gazette (an official register of bankruptcies) and suspended from work. In 1893 John Joyce was dismissed with a pension. This was the beginning of a slide into poverty for the family, mainly due to John's drinking and general financial mismanagement.[2]

James Joyce was initially educated by the Jesuit order at Clongowes Wood College, a boarding school near Sallins in County Kildare, which he entered in 1888 but had to leave in 1892 when his father could no longer pay the fees. Joyce then studied at home and briefly at the Christian Brothers school on North Richmond Street, Dublin, before he was offered a place in the Jesuits' Dublin school, Belvedere College, in 1893. The offer was made at least partly in the hope that he would prove to have a vocation and join the Order. Joyce, however, was to reject Catholicism by the age of 16, although the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas would remain a strong influence on him throughout his life.[3]

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After graduating from UCD in 1903, Joyce left for Paris to "study medicine", but in reality he squandered money his family could ill afford. He returned to Ireland after a few months, when his mother was diagnosed with cancer. [4] Fearing for her son's "impiety", his mother
autobiography

community of practice
more autobiography

network of practice
"Peer production is limited not by the total cost or complexity of a project, but by its modularity, the granularity of its components, and the cost of integration".

--Benkler, CP

gracenote, gutenberg, wikipedia