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A CHECKLIST OF THE
PARIS COMPETITORS
OF THE
OLYMPIA PRESS

SCISSORS & PASTE BIBLIOGRAPHIES
SANTA ROSA, CA
2019
INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The genesis of these notes was a fragmentary 8-page hand-written checklist put together by G. Legman, who gave it to me at some point in the mid-1980s. Legman’s checklist was apparently an early draft of an attempted listing of Paris-published English-language erotica produced in the 1950s and ‘60s. It included many of the titles published by Maurice Girodias, together with one of the six novels he published at Denmark as part of the short-lived Odyssey Library series, and some half dozen erotic novels put out by “Colombia Books – London” which seem to have actually been published at New York by Jake Brussel about 1965.

The balance of Legman’s checklist comprises a partial attempt to catalogue in short-title form the output of Girodias’ Parisian competitors. Little information is provided concerning paginations, dates or authorship, but addresses are occasionally given together with a few tidbits about imprints and series names. I have attempted to flesh this material out by browsing the on-line catalogues of the British Library (BL) and the Library of Congress (LC), and where possible supplied the press-marks of repository copies. Much further information has been supplied by Jan Moret, a Dutch collector, whose generosity has been overwhelming, and by Steve Gertz, now of McMinnville, Oregon, who has been most helpful with his knowledge of the US paperbacks reprints of many of these novels. I must also acknowledge the generous assistance of Steve Mullins, for kindly providing me with the scans that illustrate this page, and to John Eggeling for drawing my attention to a number of serious problems with some of the entries.

To avoid repetition in the notes below, the following is a list of publishers generally responsible for the late 1960’s American reprints of the original Paris books:

**BRANDON HOUSE.** North Hollywood and, later, Chatsworth, California. Part of the publishing empire of Milton Luros. Most if not all the Brandon reprints appeared under the Brandon House Library imprint, a series edited by Brian Kirby. By use of imaginative cover art, good-quality paper and a generally careful choice of texts, Kirby succeeded in creating one of the best of the ‘adult’ paperback series in the late 1960’s.

**COLLECTOR’S PUBLICATIONS.** City of Industry and Covina, California. Run by Marvin Miller, Collector’s was one of the most prolific of the porno houses. Using a cover design closely modeled on that of the Olympia Press’s Traveller’s Companion series, Miller pirated just about every erotic title ever published in English, and printed them on execrable paper to boot. Miller also published a subsidiary series called COLLECTOR’S EDITIONS.

**CONTINENTAL CLASSICS** (Europa Novels series). Long Island City, New York.

**GARGOYLE PRESS.** Canoga Park, California.

**GREENLEAF CLASSICS.** San Diego, California. Run by William Hamling.

**PENDULUM BOOKS.** Atlanta, Georgia. Run by Michael Thevis.

Additions and corrections to the listings below are of course very welcome. Please contact Patrick J. Kearney at Scissors and Paste Bibliographies.

Michael Goss of Delectus Books, London, informs me that his copy of *Some Like it Red-Hot* has gray wrappers, and also that he has three German novels from the same publisher: *Nur du und Andere*, *Geschäft ist Geschäfte* and *Nymphé Erika*. All were purchased in Sweden.
Proprietor: ‘Patrick Garnot’ [real name Georges Garnot]. All four books printed in France by Omnium de Presse et d’Edition 11, rue Rochechouart – Paris (9) in the second quarter of 1962. Grey covers with title and border in blue. On the back cover: Not to be imported into the United Kingdom or the USA. No price. 11.5 x 17.7 cm.


ARTISTIC PRESS

No address, printer or date. Both books priced at 30 Francs, suggesting post 1962 publication


Apparently, a translation of an anonymous pornographic novel called Mademoiselle M... (À Montréal, 1960). Interestingly, the text of this extremely scarce work was reworked clumsily as L’Enfer du Sexe by ‘Youl Belhomme,’ and published in 1971 by Jean-Jacques Pauvert as an accompaniment to his essay La Vrai problème de censure. Whether Pauvert was aware of the deception at the time of publication is not certain. The original French text was reprinted sub rosa in the early 1970’s in two volumes by Dominique Leroy – it was her first publication – titled, respectively, *Et Pourquoi pas!* and La Fête de l’Hévéa.
Allegedly printed at London. All books measure 17.5 x 11 cm and have brown wrappers printed in black with a black border.


A Reprint of *Cruel Lips* by ‘Marcus Van Heller,’ [John Stevenson], a novel originally published by the Olympia Press.


Jan Moret writes: “The book is full of printing mistakes, and from page 131 of every copy I’ve seen the whole printing is a mess.” This is a translation of a novel called *Selma*, (Tours: Editions S.U.D.A., n.d.). A specially commissioned extract from the French original was translated for the Kronhausen’s book Erotic Fantasies (New York: Grove Press, 1969), pp. 246–9. *Sensuous Pleasure* was photo-reprinted in October 1967 by Collector’s Publications [Marvin Miller] of Covina, California. Despite being a photo-reprint, this Collectors edition has only 101 pages as compared to the 158 of the original. However, the text is the same as the Paris edition, including the printing mistakes.

I’m obliged to Michael Goss for drawing my attention to this title. He adds that a previous owner has written in pencil “(transl. Unconscious Humor)”


John Eggeling, who kindly sent me details of this title, adds that the “story is set by the Bois de Boulogne in the ‘Institution Ariel’, a finishing school that teaches young women the finer aspects of flagellation and anal sex (which may help to identify the original).” The Kinsey Institute Library has an edition of this novel with the same pagination, but it is described as being published by the Olympia Press and no. 67 of the Traveller’s Companion Series. (Shelfmark: AAC4750.) Clearly this is a fake of some sort, since that particular number of the Traveller’s Companion Series is a translation of Sade’s *Justine, ou la Malheur de la vertu.* The Olympia Press never published a book by anyone named Vera Claythorne, or one called *Unusual Training.*

13. Pat O’Brien. – **Mister Howard.** On the titlepage: ‘(Translate from French)’. pp. 154. 21, Old Compton Street, London, S.W.1. Printed in Great Britain by Armstrong-Type Press Ltd., Colchester, Essex. “This is the second wonderful work from the pen of Mr. Charles Sackville, and continues the story of the amusing exploits of Mr. Howard.”

A reprint of one of the ‘Charles Sackville’ series of novels published between 1903 and 1911 by Charles Carrington at Paris.

I am obliged to Michael Goss for drawing my attention to this title, which was previously unknown to me. The connection, if any, to Helen Robertson, *Miss M...*, published by the Artistic Press, above, is uncertain.

I am indebted to Steve Mullins of Egobooks for drawing my attention to this title. Steve describes the appearance of the book as follows: “[It] is in a stiff white card covers printed in black on front cover and spine. Best of all it has a wonderful dust wrapper depicting a crowned and cloaked skeleton carrying a beautiful naked woman. The artwork appears to be by Jacques Leclerc, although part of his first name is missing so I cannot be sure.” Steve adds that the address of the publisher is given as 80 Rue Rene Boulanger PARIS (X), and that copyright page alleges that work is translated from French by ‘Mr Dickson.’ This is in fact a translation of Les nuits perdues by ‘Roland Patrick’ [Jacques-Henry Juillet], published in 1950 at Paris by Éditions de la Croix du Sud. The cover illustration is very similar to that described by Steve Mullins for the English translation, except that the skeleton is neither crowned nor cloaked, and the signature of the artist is given as ‘J. C. Meral.’ I am obliged to M. Pierre Cabriot for these precisions.

This company doesn’t appear to have been in direct competition to the Olympia Press, and is included here only for The Lost Nights, the only English title I have been able to locate. Other C.P.E. publications, while evidently erotic, are all in French. The following list, in no particular order, comprises those I was able to locate in the Bibliothèque Nationale:

Published by Serge Krill at Paris, 64 rue de Richelieu. Books not priced. Copyright by the Editions du Grand Damier; “Translation and adaptation rights reserved for all countries”. All books printed in France by Imprimerie SIA Villefrance during the first two quarters of 1956 and all measure 17.5 x 11.5 cm. Front wrappers red with white circle containing the name of book. Back wrappers white with “This novel is translated from French. The importation of this book is limited to all countries except the United States of America and the United Kingdom. FORBIDDEN TO MINORS.” All books have two pages of advertisements for the other books: 5 books. Three titles (Cinderella of Love, Nights in Scotland and Forbidden Paths have ‘The series of Lustful Hoirs [sic]’ on the front wrapper, titlepage and last page with adverts. The spelling error is corrected on The Perverted Lady and The Castle of Temptation.


A translation of La Bourgeoise pervertie, a work originally self-published by its author in 1930. Ibels was a libertarian and the co-
founder of *La Revue Anarchiste*, and the brother of French printmaker, illustrator and painter Henri Gabriel Ibels (1867-1936). The French text was issued the preceding year by the same publisher. A copy of the French original is in the Bibliothèque Nationale at 16-Y2-15426(19). Copies of the English version are in the Library of Congress at PZ3.I172 Pe(Delta) and in the Bibliothèque Nationale at 16-Y2-18609(4).


Reprinted in 1968 as series no. 3029 of the Brandon House Library Editions. The vol. has 208 pages and an Introduction by ‘Steven George’ [Jack Hirschman].
No printer, no price, no date. Light grey covers with title and border in blue. 17 x 11 cm. Mostly reprints or piracies of novels first published by the Armor Publishing Company, qv.


   Translated by Robert James Scott.

26. Emma Spur. – *Our Darling Girl*. pp. 188.
   Photographic reprint of Mark Andrews: *Sentimental Journey*.

27. A *Tourist’s Rome*. (Seen listed in catalogue.)
MEDITERRANEAN PRESS

5, RUE GIT-LE-CŒUR, PARIS 6E.

All books printed in France by Impr. Caractères, 3 rue Hautefeuille, Paris VI. Grey wrappers, title in red and authors name and 'Mediterranean Press' in black. Red and black border. 17 x 11.5 cm. On the back wrapper: 'Not to be imported into the United Kingdom or the USA'. All books priced at 900 Francs. This series of books was published by Bronislaw Kaminsky (1919-1996), also known as ‘Bruno Durocher,’ who had a printshop on rue Hautefeuille and was, apparently, a ‘poète mineur.’ Kaminsky, who had been described as the “Polish Rimbaud” following the publication of his first volume of verse at the age of seventeen, spent the war years in the concentration camps, and settled in Paris in 1945. The rue Git-le-Cœur address also appears on books published by Pall Mall Press and Weekend Books. Éditions Caractères, which was founded by ‘Durocher,’ in 1950 is still in business today, but has moved to a new address, 7, rue de l’Arbalète - 75005 Paris. There is a website: Les Éditions Caractères


Reprinted with the same title and author in October 1967 by Collectors Publications. (pp. 162+ads.)


Partially reprinted in 1968 at series no. 28 of the Pendulum Publications. Pages 9-96 of this reprint are taken up with 8 chapters of


Reprinted at series no. CE-102 by Collector’s Publications; it has an Introduction by ‘Harvey Spooner.’ Another Collector’s edition has the serial no. 21185.


Reprinted by Greenleaf Classics in 1967 as *Penny and Delicious Nights*. pp. 144. Series. No. Gc-270. British Library copy shelved at: P.C.28.aa.4. The novel was also reprinted in 1968 by Continental Classics (Europa Novels series) of Long Island City, New York, as *Three on a Spree* by ‘Ray Trimble.’ pp. 158. Series no. EN-107. *Penny* occupies pp. 3-74, and something called *Way Way Out* occupies pp. 77-158. A further reprint was done by Collector’s Publications in 1968, Kinsey copy shelved at: AAB4427. Still another reprint appeared in 1968 from Pendulum Books (no. 034), in which *Penny* is slightly truncated by the omission of the last one-and-a-half pages of the original Paris edition. The Kinsey Institute has two copies of *Penny* published by the Mediterranean Press. One (temp. control no. AAB3155) is as described above. The other (pressmark: AAC4450) is smaller and described as being in two parts. These comprise: pp. 9-100, *Penny* and pp. 103-184, *Delicious Nights*.


This series comprises twelve numbered titles and nine that are unnumbered. The numbering appears in black in red circles on the spines. All measure 17.5 x 11.5 cm and bear a striking resemblance to novels published by the Mediterranean Press and Weekend Books. On the back wrappers is the usual admonition against importation into the UK or the USA. No prices are given. The first five titles were printed by Imp. Moderne de la France, 55 rue Faubourg-Saint-Denis, Paris (10e), and the balance by Les Impression des Roses, 50, rue de Fresnes, L’Hay-les-Roses (Seine). Océanic Press was owned by Pierre Delarue, nicknamed ‘Les-Gros-Bras.’


Photo-reprinted in 1968 as Go-Go by ‘G. Rilla’ by Continental Classics, series no. CC-131. There is an Introduction by “Allan Saunders, M.A.” The text of *Mabel’s Torment* ends at p. 188. Two additional pages are take up with a fragment of another, unidentified work entirely, presumably as the result of a printer’s blunder.


Photo-reprinted in January 1968 by Collectors Publications. Since this reprint has 100 pages and the original had 189 pages, one must assume it was abbreviated for some reason. Jan Moret reports what would appear to be a Collector’s edition with the same pagination as the Paris original; he states that it is smaller than the usual Collector’s volumes, is printed on better paper, has no advertisements and has a cover price of $2.00. The improved paper quality and the precise $2.00 price do not suggest an authentic Collector’s edition, however, and leads one to suspect a piracy of a piracy, possibly of European or even Taiwanese origin.


Reprinted in 1967 at series no. 111 by Continental Classics. Introduction by ‘Al Lee.’ Small changes made to text, for example a character called Pat becomes Peter in the American edition. Also, a sentence is added to the end of the book that doesn’t appear in the Paris original: “But, now I think back somewhat wistfully to the days and nights of my wild bachelor fucking...” The text of this edition – complete with the additional sentence – was pirated at series no. 21281 by Collector’s Publications in 1969 as *Wild Orgy.*


A translation of *La Confidence sensuelle,* originally published under the pseudonym André Suffren [Isidore Isou] by Eric Losfeld c. 1955, with the false imprint ‘Montréal : Imprimerie royale’. English text photo-reprinted, and repaginated, in May 1968 by Collector’s Publications (Series no. 21222.) Concerning this novel, Steve Gertz writes: “A most unusual, rather unique book, and virtually the only erotica/porn/DB I’ve come across whose theme is transgenderism,
written in the wake, apparently, of Christine Jorgensen’s famous sex-change. The lead, a male, undergoes male > female surgery. He then meets an old female lover from the time he was (very) bewildered re. his gender who has undergone female > male surgery. They live happily ever after.”


Photo-reprinted as *All Legs* in February 1969 by Collectors Publications. (Series no. 21287.)


The copy in the Kinsey Institute is credited to Charles Devereaux, under which name the book first appeared. Originally published by Auguste Brancart at Amsterdam in 1889, this erotic novel has been ascribed to Major Crommelin Henry Ricketts, who retired from the 5th cavalry (Madras Staff) in 1871 after 21 years in the saddle. He died in 1892 in the decidedly un-exotic Paddington area of London. For further information on this colourful character, see Peter Mendes, *Clandestine Erotic Fiction in English 1900-1930. A Bibliographical Study* (Aldershot: Scolar Press, 1993). The present version of this text has been re-written.


Photo-reprinted in 1968 as *Belly Dance* by ‘V. Fodor’ by Continental Classics. Same pagination as the Paris original, and with the series no. CC-172. There is an Introduction by “Allan Saunders, M.A.” What would appear to be a fake Collector’s Publications edition is in the collection of the compiler. It is squarish and slightly smaller than the usual Collectors editions, and printed on better paper. It is priced at $2.00. Since the pagination is the same as the Paris original, it is probably a photo-reprint.

**THE REMAINING TITLES ARE NOT NUMBERED AND ARE ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY, BY AUTHOR:**


Photo-reprinted in 1967 by Collector’s Editions [sic]. pp. 190. Series no. CE107. Steve Gertz has pointed out that this was a “curious edition from [Marvin] Miller, part of a series of Collector’s Editions he issued separate from Collector’s Publications.” Also reprinted by Collector’s in their customary format at series no. 21176. A presumably bowdlerized version was issued in the 1960’s by Charles Skilton at London, in his Luxor Press series.


Photo-reprinted in 1967 by Collectors Publications (21177).


A probably fake photo-reprint Collectors Publication edition has been reported by Jan Moret. It has no series number, price or address. It is also a little smaller than authentic Collectors books, and is printed on better paper. I am indebted to Neil Crawford for drawing my attention to a second American edition, re-titled *My Patients* and published in 1968 by Royal House Classic. The volume
contains no information as to where it was published, but the author's name remains the same.


“My favorite!! Delirious, by the Trinidadian who stole ice-cream at party at apt.” – G. Legman, note to his checklist.
This series would seem to have been published by a publishing company called l’Astrée, who in 1957 published a work called *Mon Noviciat. Mémoires d’une gouvernante*, by ‘Paulette Vergès.’ Copy in the British Library at: Cup. 719/522. Although it is unlikely, L’Astrée may have been run by Eric Losfeld; the second clandestine edition of his novel [as by ‘Xavier de Beauvoir’] *Ce-rise ou le moment bien employé* appeared under that imprint in 1956. Copy of the latter in the compiler’s collection.


A reprint of the geriatric old late Victorian favourite, *The Autobiography of a Flea*. I am much obliged to Andy Lowry for drawing my attention to the curious fact that this title, with the publisher correctly identified, is discovered by James Bond in Goldfinger’s bedside table or nightstand. See *Goldfinger* (1959), chapter 10.


A new edition of *Forbidden Fruit*. No repository copies located.

At least two titles were printed by Impr. Caractères, 3 rue Hautefeuille, Paris VI. (This was the same printer who worked for the Mediterranean Press, q.v. above.) The rue Git-le-Cœur address also appears on books published by Pall Mall Press and Mediterranean Press. The relationship between this Pall Mall Press and the one run under the Éditions du Grand Damier umbrella, is unclear.


A reprint by Collector’s Publications has been reported from adverts in their other publications.


I am obliged to Michael Goss for drawing my attention to this title from his own collection.


Reprinted in 1968 by Gargoyle Press as Slaves of Elizabeth Fale. pp. 218. The author’s name remains the same. The name Alan McClyde, and variations on it, seems a popular one in France. During the 1920’s and 30’s, as ‘Alan Mac Clyde,’ it was a house pseudonym used on numerous novels put out by Librairie Générale and Librairie Artistique et Édition parisienne reunies, imprints of Paul Brenet, a publisher specializing in flagellation and S & M works.


This Pall Mall Press book is slightly larger than the others, measuring 17.5 x 11.5 cm. Also, it is also one of the few to carry the publisher’s address: 5, rue Git-le-Cœur and the printer: Impr. Caracteres, 3 rue Hautefeuille, Paris VI.

66. Anonymous. – Adolescence.

No further information available; listed by Legman in his checklist.
The following titles were part of the ‘Unique Continental Collection.’ Yellow wrappers, printed in red and black. Garnot also ran the Opera and Pall Mall presses, and the Armor Publishing Company.


68. O. W. Cameron. – **A Strange Castle in Scotland.**

   Seen by Jan Moret listed in advertisements, but not present in his collection.


70. Mario. Mambo [Jean-Michel Sorel]. – **Strip Tease Club.**

   Seen by Jan Moret listed in advertisements, but not present in his collection. A work with the title hyphenated - **Strip-Tease Club** - but with the same author’s name was published by E. D. P. G., an imprint of Garnot, in the 3rd trimestre of 1956.]


VOLU-PUBLO

ALL BOOKS ALLEGEDLY PUBLISHED IN TANGIER, AND COPYRIGHT VOLU-PUBLIO, 1962.

Blue wrappers with title and border in red. No price. Printed on cheap paper with thin wrappers.

76. Anthony Delbruck. – Madchen und Manner. [German text.] pp. 128.

77. Alfred Denkryden. – Many About Eve’s Daughters. pp. 121.

WEEK END BOOKS


The same printer, price and appearance as the Mediterranean Books. The rue Git-le-Cœur address also appears on books published by Pall Mall Press and Mediterranean Press.


A reprint by Collector’s has been reported from adverts in their other publications. I’m obliged to John Eggeling for drawing my attention to a piracy of Restless Love, probably published at London
about 1969. It was produced in imitation of the Olympia Press’s Traveller’s Companion series, but with dark red wrappers rather than the customary green, and priced fancifully at ‘Francs : 29,90’. The pagination is (vi),7-186,(vi). The author is given on the front cover as ‘S. Maxwell’ but as ‘Sames Maxwell’ on the titlepage. Both the ‘Sames Maxwell’ titles are essentially re-written version of the first part of *The Romance of Lust, or, Early Experiences*, a 4-volume pornographic novel published originally at London in the 1880’s. Jan Moret obligingly provides comparison passages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Romance of Lust</th>
<th>No More Child’s Play</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“There were three of us – Mary, Eliza and myself. I was approaching fifteen. Mary was about a year younger and Eliza between twelve and thirteen years of age.”</td>
<td>“We were three children. Lilian, Dorothy and I: I was nearly fifteen years old. Lilian was one year younger and Dorothy around thirteen.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


*Business as Usual* was sold by its author to two publishers, Bruno Rabinsky of Week End Books and Maurice Girodias’s Olympia Press. Under the *Business as Usual* title the Olympia Press published it in their Ophelia Press series in February 1958, with the authorship credited to ‘Soliman Peters.’ When Girodias discovered the deception, he re-issued the novel (still in the Ophelia Press series) as *Springtime in Paris* by ‘Theobald Lovelace.’ The two Ophelia editions are in general identical, the sheets of the first issue being merely given the new titlepage of the second. However, the first page of text in the second issue was re-written to further conceal the book’s origin. Reprinted by Collectors Publications in July 1967 with an Introduction by Edward S. Sullivan. pp. 189. Type re-set.


Presumably the same work as that published by Editions du Grand Damier, qv. above.
84. McClyde, Alan. – **The Cruise of the “Bizarre.”**

Reprinted by Gargoyle Press in 1968, with the same author, but retitled *Susan, or the Ravaged Innocent Unveiled.* pp. 219. Also reprinted, with the original title, by Collector’s Publications. (Series no. 21223. pp. 161+ads.)
MISCELLANEOUS


I am greatly obliged to Jorma Toivonen of Stockholm for drawing my attention to this item, which clearly has a close relationship with those appearing under the Mediterranean & Pall Mall impresses, above. The bibliographical history of this novel is a perfect tangle of confusion, including the edition under notice here. It is not even certain the language in which it first appeared, but from the information laid out below I believe it safe to believe that the novel was of English origin. The first known edition is *Yvonne or the Adventures and Intrigues of the French Governess with her Pupils. A Real Tale Translated from the French by Mary Suckit*, (London and Paris, 1898). In the absence of any earlier edition in French (or any other language), the lack of references to it in clandestine catalogues of the period, and in the catalogues of libraries and private collections, the suggestion on the title page that the novel is an English version of a French original may I think be ignored as a publisher’s promotional gimmick.

The next edition is: *Yvonne, oder Die Abenteuer und Intriguen einer französischen Erzieherin mit ihren Zoeglingen. Eine wahre Geschichte. Aus d. Französ. übersetzt*, (Paris-Berlin, 1900). Although a German translation, typographical evidence indicates that it was issued in Paris, and probably by Renaudie and Düringe, the same printer/publisher duo who produced the edition of 1898.

In 1908, two French editions appeared: *Yvette ou l’institutrice Perverte* par Marie la Goule. One had the imprint ‘Paris-Cologne’ and the other ‘Paris-New-York’. The ‘Paris-Cologne’ edition, like those of 1898 and 1900, were the handiwork of Renaudie and Düringe. The ‘Paris-New-York’ edition may also be by the pair, or else a good piracy by another hand.

To return to the ‘Caractères’ edition, there is another advertised by a Seattle bookseller, almost identical, save for its pagination, which is pp. 136.

Mr. Toivonen has in addition drawn my attention to two other editions from the same period or slightly later, both poorly produced. The first of these is stated to have been published by ‘Obelisk Press’ and to have written by ‘py [sic] Mademoiselle Blanche’. The last page is numbered 48. The first page of text is headed: ‘The Goerness [sic] and her pupil’. From what I can see of the text, it was set by somebody whose first language was not English as it is full of blunders.

The second of Mr. Toivonan’s editions is a totally anonymous affair, but is probably pirated from his ‘official’ ‘Caractères’ edition because
the pagination is the same (pp. 115) and the front wrapper carries the author and title in the same configuration as the ‘Caractères’ edition – illustrated above – but without the publisher’s name being given.

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