

Introduction: “Ave frater atque vale”

I have borrowed the title of this, my last contribution to *Nineteenth-Century Prose*, from Catullus’s brief elegy to his brother. I do not intend, however, that this last contribution of mine should provoke tears. Rather, I find that *NCP* has been a ‘brother’ to me, a part of my life for more than 40 years. I have the distinction of being the longest-serving member of the editorial staff—but by no means the most important.

The journal has had an unusual history, described in greater detail in a previous issue.¹ At the publication of this final volume, only a brief summary seems necessary.

For more than half a century, *Nineteenth-Century Prose* and its predecessors, *The Arnold Newsletter* and *The Arnoldian*, have been a resource for scholars in the field of nineteenth-century studies. It has published new scholarship as well as lengthy book review essays and reviews of critical works focused on nineteenth-century literature, growing over time an international focus, with special issues of American, British, and Continental writers.

During that time, more than a dozen men and women have served on the editorial staff. Like most academic journals, their compensation has been the gratification that comes with knowing one has contributed something to the understanding of literature. I hope they have been as proud of their contributions as I have been of mine.

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Note

¹ Laurence W. Mazzeno, “*Nineteenth-Century Prose*: The History of a Peripatetic Journal.” *Nineteenth-Century Prose*, Vol. 37, Nos.1/2 (Spring/ Fall 2010), pp. 1-18.