

neighbours at Redriff, when any one affirmed a thing, to say, it was as true as if Mr. Gulliver had spoken it.

By the advice of several worthy persons, to whom, with the author's permission, I communicated these papers, I now venture to send them into the world, hoping they may be, at least for some time, a better entertainment to our young noblemen, than the common scribbles of politics and party.

This volume would have been at least twice as large, if I had not made bold to strike out **innumerable** passages relating to the winds and tides, as well as to the variations and bearings in the several voyages, together with the minute descriptions of the management of the ship in storms, in the style of sailors; likewise the account of longitudes and latitudes; **wherein** I have reason to **apprehend**, that Mr. Gulliver may be a little **dissatisfied**. But I was resolved to fit the work as much as possible to the general capacity of readers. However, if my own ignorance in sea affairs shall have led me to commit some mistakes, I alone am **answerable** for them. And if any traveller hath a curiosity to see the whole work at large, as it came from the hands of the author, I will be ready to **gratify** him.

As for any further particulars relating to the author, the reader will receive satisfaction from the first pages of the book.

RICHARD SYMPSON.

A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN GULLIVER TO HIS COUSIN SYMPSON, WRITTEN IN THE YEAR 1727

I hope you will be ready to own publicly, whenever you shall be called to it, that by your great and frequent urgency you prevailed on me to publish a very loose and incorrect account of my **travels**, with directions to hire some young gentleman of either university to put them in order, and correct the style, as my

Thesaurus

churchyard: (n) graveyard; burial ground, yard, necropolis, cloisters, kirkyard.
circumstantial: (adj) particular, detailed; incidental, thorough.
presumptive, precise, coincidental, elaborate, exact, special, specific.
ANTONYM: (adj) concrete.
concourse: (n) assemblage, swarm, multitude, throng, company, merging, crowd, aggregation, meeting, gathering, legion.
dispose: (v, v) incline, order, influence; (v) adjust, predispose; position, place, lead, tend; (n) bias, array.
ANTONYMS: (v) disturb, disqualify, displace, disorder, disinclose, disarrange.
dwell: (v) dwell, inhabit.
esteem: (n) deference, admiration; (v) respect, value, consideration, account; (v) appreciate, deem, adore, admire, count. ANTONYMS: (v) scorn, hate, disdain, insult, despise, abominate, abhor, dislike, reject; (n) distaste, disapproval.
heard: (n) hearing.
proverb: (n) adage, byword, aphorism, dictum, saying, axiom, parable, motto, expression; (n, v) maxim, saw, veracity; (n) truth, accuracy, exactness, truthfulness, fact, reality, precision; (adj) probity; (adj, n) faithfulness, sincerity, candor. ANTONYMS: (n) mendacity, falsehood, falsity, dishonesty.

Thesaurus

affirmed: (adj) acknowledged, avowed, guaranteed.
answerable: (adj, v) amenable, liable, responsible; subject, exposed, bound; (v) uncommendable, exceptionable; (adj) conformable, adequate, responal. ANTONYMS: (adj) irrefutable, unaccountable.
apprehend: (v) arrest, comprehend, grasp, catch, understand, fathom, realize, sense, follow, nail; (adj, v) conceive. ANTONYMS: (v) misunderstand, discharge, free, liberate.
disatisfied: (adj) discontent, disgruntled, disappointed, put out, displeased, malcontent, grumpy, annoyed, disaffected; (adj, v) querulous, complaining.
ANTONYMS: (adj) content, contented, happy; fulfilled, gratified, pleased, idealistic.
gratify: (v) delight, please, appease, accommodate, satisfy, amuse, suit, indulge, cater; (n, v) humor; (adj) contented. ANTONYMS: (v) dissatisfy, displease, disappoint, innumerable; (adj) countless, numberless, incalculable, multitudinous, infinite, innumeros, unnumbered, uncounted, myriad, immeasurable, untold. ANTONYM: (adj) finite.
travels: (n) actions, expedition, whereat: (adj) in what, in which, where.

THE PUBLISHER TO THE READER

[As given in the original edition.]

The author of these Travels, Mr. Lemuel Gulliver, is my ancient and intimate friend; there is likewise some relation between us on the mother's side. About three years ago, Mr. Gulliver growing weary of the **concourse** of curious people coming to him at his house in Redriff, made a small purchase of land, with a convenient house, near Newark, in Nottinghamshire, his native country; where he now lives retired, yet in good **esteem** among his neighbours.

Although Mr. Gulliver was born in Nottinghamshire, where his father **dwelt**, yet I have **heard** him say his family came from Oxfordshire; to confirm which, I have observed in the **churchyard** at Banbury in that county, several tombs and monuments of the Gullivers.

Before he quitted Redriff, he left the custody of the following papers in my hands, with the liberty to **dispose** of them as I should think fit. I have carefully perused them three times. The style is very plain and simple; and the only fault I find is, that the author, after the manner of travellers, is a little too **circumstantial**. There is an air of truth apparent through the whole; and indeed the author was so distinguished for his **veracity**, that it became a sort of **proverb** among his

cousin Dampier did, by my advice, in his book called "A Voyage round the world." But I do not remember I gave you power to consent that any thing should be omitted, and much less that any thing should be inserted; therefore, as to the latter, I do here **renounce** every thing of that kind; particularly a paragraph about her majesty Queen Anne, of most pious and glorious memory; although I did **reverence** and esteem her more than any of human species. But you, or your interpolator, ought to have considered, that it was not my inclination, so was it not decent to praise any animal of our composition before my master Houyhnhnm: And besides, the fact was altogether false; for to my knowledge, being in England during some part of her majesty's reign, she did govern by a chief minister; nay even by two **successively**, the first whereof was the lord of Godolphin, and the second the lord of Oxford; so that you have made me say the thing that was not. Likewise in the account of the academy of projectors, and several passages of my discourse to my master Houyhnhnm, you have either omitted some material circumstances, or **minced** or changed them in such a manner, that I do hardly know my own work. When I formerly **hinted** to you something of this in a letter, you were pleased to answer that you were afraid of giving offence; that people in power were very watchful over the press, and apt not only to interpret, but to punish every thing which looked like an **innuendo** (as I think you call it). But, pray how could that which I spoke so many years ago, and at about five thousand leagues distance, in another reign, be applied to any of the Yahoos, who now are said to govern the herd; especially at a time when I little thought, or feared, the unhappiness of living under them? Have not I the most reason to complain, when I see these very Yahoos carried by Houyhnhnms in a vehicle, as if they were brutes, and those the rational creatures? And indeed to avoid so monstrous and **detestable** a sight was one principal motive of my retirement **hither**.

Thus much I thought proper to tell you in relation to yourself, and to the trust I reposed in you.

I do, in the next place, complain of my own great want of judgment, in being prevailed upon by the entreaties and false reasoning of you and some others,

Thesaurus	
detestable: (adj) hateful, abhorrent, damnable, odious, offensive, despicable, execrable, horrible, infamous: (adj, v) cursed: (adj, adv) atrocious: ANTONYMS: (adj) admirable, adorable, sweet, lovable, lovable, likable, delightful, cherished, honorable, desirable, nice.	innuendo: (n, v) hint, suggestion; (n) allusion, implication, insinuation, insinuation, reference, intimation, slur, sarcasm, minced: (adj) ground, crushed, broken up.
hinted: (adv) veiled, roundabout, not explicit, implicit, coded, oblique. hither: (adv) here, whither, hitherward, thither.	renounce: (v) abandon, abdicate, abjure, relinquish, desert, reject, give up, disown, deny, quit, forgo. ANTONYMS: (v) acknowledge, reassert, assert, continue, retain, persist.
	reverence: (n, v) respect, regard, fear, worship, honor, esteem, adore: (n) deference, adoration, admiration, awe. ANTONYMS: (n) despire, disrespect, irreverence, disdain, disparagement, contempt: (v) dishonor.
	successively: (adv) in turn, one after the other, in succession, sequentially, serially, running, in order, gradually, subsequently, repeatedly, one after another.

very much against my own opinion, to suffer my travels to be published. Pray bring to your mind how often I desired you to consider, when you insisted on the motive of public good, that the Yahoos were a species of animals utterly incapable of amendment by **precept** or example: and so it has proved; for, instead of seeing a full stop put to all abuses and corruptions, at least in this little island, as I had reason to expect; behold, after above six months warning, I cannot learn that my book has produced one single effect **according** to my intentions. I desired you would let me know, by a letter, when party and faction were extinguished; **judges** learned and upright; pleaders honest and modest, with some **tincture** of common sense, and Smithfield blazing with pyramids of law books; the young nobility's education entirely changed; the physicians banished; the female Yahoos **abounding** in virtue, honour, truth, and good sense; courts and levees of great ministers thoroughly **weeded** and **swept**; wit, merit, and learning rewarded; all disgracers of the press in prose and verse condemned to eat nothing but their own cotton, and **quench** their thirst with their own ink. These, and a thousand other reformations, I firmly counted upon by your encouragement; as indeed they were plainly **deducible** from the precepts delivered in my book. And it must be owned, that seven months were a sufficient time to correct every vice and folly to which Yahoos are subject, if their natures had been capable of the least disposition to virtue or wisdom. Yet, so far have you been from answering my expectation in any of your letters; that on the contrary you are loading our carrier every week with libels, and keys, and reflections, and memoirs, and second parts; wherein I see myself accused of reflecting upon great state folk; of degrading human nature (for so they have still the confidence to style it), and of abusing the female sex. I find likewise that the writers of those bundles are not agreed among themselves; for some of them will not allow me to be the author of my own travels; and others make me author of books to which I am wholly a stranger.

I find likewise that your printer has been so careless as to **confound** the times, and mistake the dates, of my several voyages and returns; neither assigning the true year, nor the true month, nor day of the month: and I hear the original manuscript is all destroyed since the publication of my book; neither have I any

Thesaurus	
abounding: (adj) rich, abundant, full, rife, replete, affluent, wealthy, plentiful, ample, fraught, prolific: ANTONYM: (adj) poor.	confuse, stupefy: ANTONYMS: (v) explain, clarify, comfort, lose, distinguish: (v) understanding, deductible: (adj, v) inferential, following: (adj) deductive, consequential, consecratory, logical, deductible, degnatic, demonstrable, consequent.
according: (adv) pursuant, consonant, equal, agreeable, harmonious, conformable, consistent, corresponding, respondent: (adv) correspondingly, accordingly.	judges: (n) judge, adjudicators, jury, precept: (n) canon, decree, command, mandate, charge, lesson, injunction, law, commandment, principle: (adj) weeded: (adj) weedless.
confound: (v) bewilder, baffle, nonplus, perplex, astonish, puzzle, amaze, astound, mistake: (adj, v)	light, sweep: (adj) clean, tincture: (n, v) dye, tint, taster: (n) shade, color, hue, tinct: (adj, n, v) smack, dash: (adv) spice: (v) impregrate.

copy left: however, I have sent you some corrections, which you may insert, if ever there should be a second edition: and yet I cannot stand to them; but shall leave that matter to my **judicious** and candid readers to adjust it as they please.

I hear some of our sea **Yahoos** find fault with my sea-language, as not proper in many parts, nor now in use. I cannot help it. In my first voyages, while I was young, I was instructed by the **oldest** mariners, and learned to speak as they did. But I have since found that the sea Yahoos are apt, like the land ones, to become new-fangled in their words, which the latter change every year; inasmuch, as I remember upon each return to my own country their old dialect was so altered, that I could hardly understand the new. And I observe, when any Yahoo comes from London out of curiosity to visit me at my house, we neither of us are able to deliver our conceptions in a manner intelligible to the other.

If the censure of the Yahoos could any way affect me, I should have great reason to complain, that some of them are so bold as to think my book of travels a mere fiction out of mine own brain, and have gone so far as to drop hints, that the Houyhnhnms and Yahoos have no more existence than the inhabitants of Utopia.

Indeed I must confess, that as to the people of Lilliput, Brobdingnag (for so the word should have been spelt, and not **erroneously** Brobdingnag), and Laputa, I have never yet heard of any Yahoo so **presumptuous** as to dispute their being, or the facts I have related concerning them; because the truth immediately strikes every reader with conviction. And is there less probability in my account of the Houyhnhnms or Yahoos, when it is manifest as to the latter, there are so many thousands even in this country, who only differ from their brother brutes in Houyhnhmland, because they use a sort of **jabber**, and do not go naked? I wrote for their amendment, and not their **approbation**. The united praise of the whole race would be of less consequence to me, than the neighing of those two degenerate Houyhnhnms I keep in my stable; because from these, degenerate as they are, I still improve in some virtues without any mixture of vice.

Do these miserable animals presume to think, that I am so **degenerated** as to defend my veracity? Yahoo as I am, it is well known through all

Thesaurus	
approbation: (n, v) praise; (n) applause, agreement, approval, acclaim, sanction, commendation, admiration, permission, appreciation, favor. ANTONYMS: (n) condemnation, disapproval, criticism.	untruly, magnificently, amiss. ANTONYMS: (adv) accurately, rightly.
degenerated: (adv) kinky, shabby, crumbly.	chatter, prattle; (n) drivel, gibberish; (v) rave, tattle, utter. (adv) clack, palaver. ANTONYMS: (n) sense.
erroneously: (adv) mistakenly, falsely, incorrectly, faultily, inaccurately, fallaciously, wrong, inexactly,	judicious: (adv, n) discreet. (adv) careful, discerning, sensible, prudent, rational, sagacious, sound, cautious, reasonable, advisable. ANTONYMS: (adv) stupid, tactless, indiscriminate, rube.
	reckless, illogical, extreme, untimely, oldest (n) elder, doyen (adv) older, presumptuous (adv) arrogant, audacious, forward, assuming, insolent, impertinent, assumptive, familiar, haughty, proud. (adv, n) bold. ANTONYMS: (adv) respectful, shy, timid, humble, modest.
	yahoo: (n) barbarian, chawbaccan, hayseed, Goth, bumpkin, luck, Hottentot, clown, vandal, savage.

Houyhnhmland, that, by the instructions and example of my illustrious master, I was able in the compass of two years (although I confess with the utmost difficulty) to remove that **infernal** habit of lying, **shuffling**, **deceiving**, and **equivocating**, so deeply rooted in the very souls of all my species; especially the Europeans.

I have other complaints to make upon this **vexatious** occasion; but I **forbear** troubling myself or you any further. I must freely confess, that since my last return, some corruptions of my Yahoo nature have revived in me by conversing with a few of your species, and particularly those of my own family, by an unavoidable necessity; else I should never have attempted so absurd a project as that of reforming the Yahoo race in this kingdom: But I have now done with all such **visionary** schemes for ever.

April 2, 1727

Thesaurus	
deceiving: (adv) deceptive, deceitful, cheating, fallacious, dishonest, lying, treacherous, imposing, delusive, sanctimonious, mistaken. ANTONYMS: (adv) correct, equivocating. (adv) mendacious, lying, evasive; (n) evasion.	diabolical, demonic, damned, cursed, blasted, unholly, wicked; (adv, v) diabolic, satanic.
forbear: (v) refrain, desist, help, tolerate, abide, eschew, endure, relinquish; (v) predecessor, progenitor, forbear.	stuffing: (n) shuffle, evasion, stumbling, make, shamable. (adv) evasive, moral turpitude, mulling, laxity, abjection; (n, v) prevarication.
infernal: (adv) devilish, fiendish,	troubling: (adv) worrying, disquieting, distressing, distressful, disconcerting, alarming, perturbing, bad, annoying, sad, worrisome. ANTONYMS: (adv) reassuring.
	vexatious: (adv) annoying, pecky, troublesome, tiresome, galling, irritating, untoward, thorny, burdensome, pestiferous, vexing. ANTONYMS: (adv) aiding, assisting, helpful, soothing.
	visionary: (adv, n) utopian; (adv, v) imaginary; (adv) airy, fanciful, unreal, dreamy, ideal, romantic; (n) seer, dreamer, prophet. ANTONYMS: (adv) foolish, unromantic, practical, real, realistic, unimaginative.