

The Comical Cat

pcb418

TITLE

The Comical Cat.

VARIANT TITLE

First line

Dame Trot and Her Cat.

PUBLISHED

London : Ward, Lock, & Tyler, [1865].

PRINTED

[London] : Edmund Evans.

SERIES

Ward, Lock, & Tyler's new shilling series of painted toy-books : 3

PRICE

1s.

AUTHOR

Crane, Walter (illustrator)

Evans, Edmund (engraver and printer)

Ward, Lock, & Tyler (publisher)

TPOLOGY

Toy book

DESCRIPTION

Size

25x20 cm

Format and pagination

4° : 12 ll. : [6] leaves of text, [6] leaves of plates : col. ill.

Signatures

A/C¹²

Signatures note

Gathering A/B/C: A⁴, B⁴, C⁴

1 gathering, sewn (binding thread between C2.3), unpaginated

Covers

Upper wrapper, unsigned, reproducing details from plates 1, 2, 6, printed in red, blue, ochre and the black key; on upper wrapper, at head: "One shilling."; inserted within the picture area, framed: "[blank, outlined in black] The | [blue, outlined in black and blank] Comical

Cat"; at foot, outside the frame: "London: | Ward, Lock, and Tyler."

Same lower wrapper as [pcb307](#)

Illustrations

6 illustrations, one per page, signed "WC" on plate 3, 4, 5, 6, printed on one side of the sheet only in red, yellow, brown, pink, blue and the black key block

Text and decorative headpieces, printed on one side of the sheet only in blue, face illustrations

Registering marks

Registering marks on plate 2 (3 red dots, lower left side) and 4 (3 red dots, upper right side)

Source for attribution

Signature

Drawings

Documents

Source for date

Advertisements

List of titles on lower wrapper and endpapers

BL accession stamp

NOTES

Title and publication information from upper wrapper, which serves as title page, and from lower wrapper publishers' advertisements

PRINTING TECHNIQUES

[Chromo-relief](#)

[Resin-grain](#)

ADVERTISEMENTS

Bookseller (September 30, 1865), 637: see [pcb307](#)

Publishers' Circular (October 2, 1865), 536

VARIANTS

Variant A

[1865]; blank inside wrappers

Variant B

[1865]; ochre printing block for cover has ruled pattern; inside wrappers with advertisements for "Ward, Lock and Tyler's Juvenile Illustrated Gift Books" on inside upper wrapper and for "Ward, Lock and Tyler's Pretty Picture Books for All Good Children" on inside lower wrapper

Variant C

[1865]; on upper wrapper, at head: "One shilling, coloured. Indestructible edition, on strong cloth, 2s."; inside wrappers with the same advertisements as variant B

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1902 Konody, 33, 38

1907 Crane, 76

1975 Spencer, 49, 201

2006 Masaki, II.183

2016 Tancini, 175ff

2017 Masaki, 22, 170

COPIES

BL: [RB.23.b.4278](#) (variant A: [1865]; accession stamp dated 10OC65; [Digital copy](#))
NY-CUL: [HISTCHIL Unclassified](#) (not analysed)
PUL-CCL: [9952](#) (variant B: [1865])
DPL: [J1](#) (variant C: [1865])

TRADE COPIES

[Roe and Moore Rare Books](#) (variant C: [1865]; sold in 2015; not analysed)

DRAWINGS, OBJECTS, DOCUMENTS

Drawings

BM: [1933,0411.20](#) (graphite on paper drawing for plate 4)
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.5](#) (graphite on paper drawing for plate 1: inscribed and dated "6. Comical Cat. Deliv.d June 6 1865. The 70th block this year")
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.15](#) (graphite on tracing paper drawing for plate 1; inscribed and dated "Comical Cat. Deliv.d June 6 1865. Block no. 70. 6th & last")
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.4](#) (graphite on tracing paper drawing for plate 2; inscribed and dated "Comical Cat (3). Drawn & del. May 3rd 1865. 67")
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.13](#) (graphite on tracing paper drawing for plate 2; inscribed and dated "Comical Cat. Drawn & deliv.d Thursday June 1 1865. No. 68")
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.10](#) (graphite on tracing paper drawing for plate 3; inscribed and dated "Comical Cat. No. <...> Deliv.d June 29 1865. 65")
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.12](#) (graphite on tracing paper drawing for plate 4; inscribed and dated "Comical Cat. 2. Drawn & deliv.d May 30 1865. 66")
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.14](#) (graphite on tracing paper drawing for plate 5; inscribed and dated "Comical Cat. Deliv.d June 6 1865. No. 69")
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.9](#) (graphite on paper drawing for plate 5; inscribed "5. Treadle")
WAG: [WCA.1.1.1.1.1.11](#) (graphite on paper drawing for plate 6; inscribed "3")

Documents

JRUL: [WCA/2/2/2/1](#) (Crane's journal for 1864-1867 with references to *The Comical Cat*: f. 8r, April 24: "Order for 6 designs (black backgrounds) to Dame Trot & her Comical Cat (in lieu of the 6 Blackbirds not to be done); 6 designs to the House that Jack Built to be drawn on wood in same style"; f. 10v, May 22: "Rec.d a note from Evans. The publishers wish House Jack Built & Comical Cat brought out at the same time with Jenny Wren"; f. 11r, May 27: "Commenced Comical Cat"; f. 11v, May 29: "Comical Cat (No. 1) finished & do. [del.]. Do. Do. (No. 2) commenced"; May 30: "Drawn & deliv.d Comical Cat Nos. 2, 3"; June 1: "Comical Cat (No. 4) Drawn & delivered"; f. 12r, June 5: "Comical Cat designed & drawn Nos. 5&6 (the last)"; June 6: "Delivered Nos. 5&6 Comical Cat")
JRUL: [WCA/2/2/2/1/11](#) (loose sheet formerly inserted in WCA/2/2/2/1 between ff. 12-13 with references to *The Comical Cat*: "Mon. 5 [June]: Comical Cat all day")
JRUL: [WCA/2/2/2/1/13](#) (loose sheet formerly inserted in WCA/2/2/2/1 between ff. 13-14 with references to *The Comical Cat*: "July 11 1865. Edmund Evans, Esq.re to Walter Crane. Designing & drawing – June 5. 6 illustrations to Dame Trot & her Comical Cat. £12 - (£2 cash)")
JRUL: [WCA/2/2/2/1/15](#) (loose sheet formerly inserted in WCA/2/2/2/1 between ff. 15-16 with references to *The Comical Cat*: "Memorandum. July 11, 1865: Comical Cat. Proofs arr.d to colour Sun. June 18")

OTHER VERSIONS

Has version/s

[The Comical Cat. - London : Ward, Lock, & Tyler, \[before 1870\]](#)

Included in

[Little Tot's Pleasure Book : Containing Nursery Rhymes and Rigmaroles, Jenny Wren Alphabet, Punch and Judy, The Comical Cat Alphabet. - London : Ward, Lock, & Co., \[1877\]](#)

Has version/s

The Pussie Cat's A B C Book. - London : Ward, Lock, & Co., [1880]

OCLCN

320902712

PERMALINK

<https://www.picoboo.eu/catalogue/pcb418>

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<https://www.picoboo.eu/catalogue/pcb418>
