

GASPARO GRIMANI



**“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY**



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1729

January 3, Friday (1728, Old Style): On this date one “Eustachio Gaspare Grimani” was born, and there seems to be reason to credit that this was the same person we would come to know under the name “[Gasparo Grimani](#).” The birth was either in Venice or in Bologna, more likely Bologna. Intending a career in the church (a Grimani family tradition), he would study in [Rome](#), but somehow would fall into difficulties with the church (also traditional in this family) and in about 1755 would leave Italy.

NOBODY COULD GUESS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT





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1755

At this point [Gasparo Grimani](#), in difficulties with the hierarchy of the Catholic Church, left Italy.

**LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARD?
— NO, THAT’S GIVING TOO MUCH TO THE HISTORIAN’S STORIES.
LIFE ISN’T TO BE UNDERSTOOD EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.**



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1759

The Reverend [Thomas Percy](#) got married with Anne Guttridge.

[Gasparo Grimani](#) had married with Antonia Fabbri, daughter of one Fabbri of Lyon and perhaps a 2d cousin. At about this point the couple produced a son, Guglielmo or William Grimani.

THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT





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1763

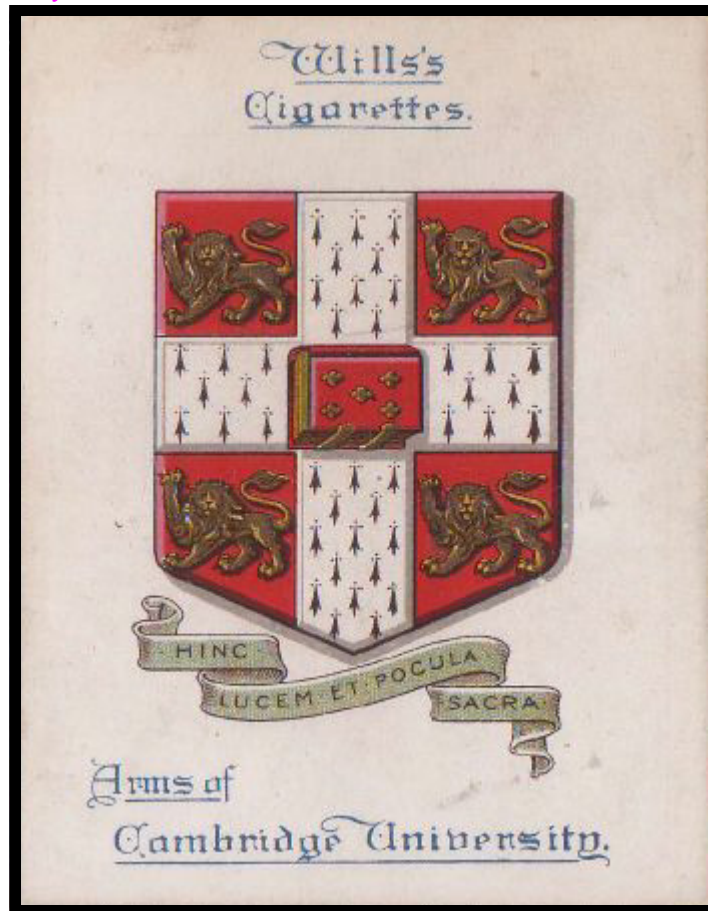
June 27, Monday: At Livorno, [Gasparo Grimani](#) and Antonia Fabbri Grimani produced a daughter, Maria Rosalba Grimani.

THE FUTURE CAN BE EASILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT



[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)**GASPARO GRIMANI****GASPARO GRIMANI****1769**

Bishop [Thomas Percy](#) became a chaplain of the King of England and was admitted at [Emmanuel College of Cambridge University](#).



[Gasparo Grimani](#) was in debtor's prison in [London](#) charged with an unpaid debt of £17 (something which he was denying).

DO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION? GOOD.



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1773

Hannah More became one of the aspiring writers of [London](#). She would become associated with Sir Joshua Reynolds, [Dr. Johnson](#), [Edmund Burke](#), and [William Wilberforce](#). She would engage David Garrick to produce her plays.

[Professor Christian Garve](#) translated [Edmund Burke](#)'s 1759 A PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY INTO THE ORIGIN OF OUR IDEAS OF [THE SUBLIME](#) AND BEAUTIFUL WITH SEVERAL OTHER ADDITIONS, as *ÜBER DEN URSPRUNG UNSERER BEGRIFFE VOM ERHABENEN UND SCHÖNEN* (Riga).

The family of [Gasparo Grimani](#) was still in [London](#), for they were godparents at an Italian christening. (They seem to have been in Paris as well, for the daughter is said to have been kidnapped there and never found. The wife Antonia Fabbri Grimani is said to have fallen ill shortly after this, and she would die in Paris in about 1776.)

**WHAT I'M WRITING IS TRUE BUT NEVER MIND
YOU CAN ALWAYS LIE TO YOURSELF**

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)**GASPARO GRIMANI****GASPARO GRIMANI****1776**

The 1st steam-driven pump for water supply had been installed in [London](#) in about 1761. In this year a company was formed to pump potable water from the Seine through the use of such a steam pump, for the provisioning of the city of Paris. (Still, in Paris in 1789, there would remain a class of nearly 2,000 “water carriers” — men who brought water for the needs of residents.)

Antonia Fabbri Grimani, the wife of [Gasparo Grimani](#), died in Paris. Gasparo would travel, for a time making his living by exhibiting a model of [Rome](#) that he had carved.



(Section of Grimani's model of Rome, centering upon the Spanish Steps)



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1779

[Giacomo Costantino Beltrami](#) was born in the city of Bergamo in the northern [Italian](#) region of Lombardy, 16th of 17 children. His parents were Giovan Battista, the Doganiere Generale of the Repubblica Veneta, and Margherita Carozzi.

In about this year [Gasparo Grimani](#) wrote to the Pope, pleading for a reconciliation.

CHANGE IS ETERNITY, STASIS A FIGMENT



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1783

[Gasparo Grimani](#) produced A TOPOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION OF ANTIENT & MODERN [ROME](#), ... (38 pages, printed by S. Hazard).



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1801



In Turin, [Italy](#), [Giacomo Costantino Beltrami](#) became an Ispettore dei Magazzini della Commissione.

[Gasparo Grimani](#) died.



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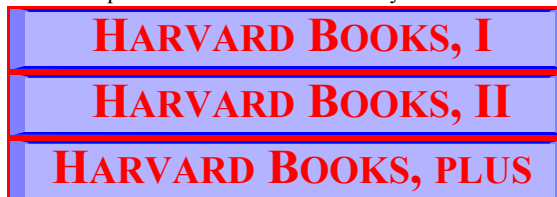
1834

THOREAU'S HARVARD LIBRARY READING LIST FOR 1834¹

"There is no Frigate like a Book
To take us Lands away"
– Emily Dickinson

- January 8 (8) [Washington Irving](#). HISTORY OF THE LIFE AND VOYAGES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS (NY: G. & C. Carvill, 1828) (The margin reads: "C. S. Wheeler for Thoreau.", In the margin: "A.G. Peabody for Thoreau.", In the margin: "A.G. Peabody.",4)
- January 22 (9) [Washington Irving](#). THE VOYAGES AND DISCOVERIES OF THE COMPANIONS OF COLUMBUS (Philadelphia, 1831)
- January 29 (10) The Reverend Thomas Harwood. GRECIAN ANTIQUITIES; OR, AN ACCOUNT OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE OF THE GREEKS ... (T. Cadell and W. Davies, 1801)
- February 6 (11) Benjamin Franklin Fisk. GREEK EXERCISES; CONTAINING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE GREEK SYNTAX, ILLUSTRATED BY PASSAGES FROM THE BEST GREEK AUTHORS, TO BE WRITTEN OUT FROM THE WORDS GIVEN IN THEIR SIMPLEST FORM (Boston: Hilliard, Gray, Little, and Wilkins, 1831)
- February 12 (12) [Washington Irving](#). A CHRONICLE OF THE CONQUEST OF GRANADA: FROM THE MSS. OF [the nonexistent] FRAY ANTONIO AGAPIDA (Philadelphia: Lea & Blanchard, 1829) (The margin reads: "C.S. Wheeler for Thoreau.", In the margin: "A.G. Peabody for Thoreau.")
- February 12 (13) Charles Dexter Cleveland. AN EPITOME OF GRECIAN ANTIQUITIES. FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS (Boston, 1827)
- February 19 (14) [Lydia Maria Child](#). *HOBOMOK*, A TALE OF EARLY TIMES (1824)
[Lydia Maria Child](#). THE REBELS (1825)
- March 6 (16) Mary Barney. A BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR OF THE LATE COMMODORE JOSHUA BARNEY (1832)
- March 6 (16) Captain Charles Stuart Cochrane. JOURNAL OF A RESIDENCE AND TRAVELS IN COLOMBIA DURING THE YEARS 1823 AND 1824 (London: Henry Colburn, 1825) (The margin reads: "C. S. Wheeler for Thoreau.")
- March 12 (17) Terrick Hamilton, tr. 'ANTAR, A BEDOUEEN ROMANCE. TRANSLATED FROM THE ARABIC (London: John Murray, 1819) (Part I) (The margin reads: "C. S. Wheeler for Thoreau.", In the margin: "A.G. Peabody for Thoreau.", In the margin: "A. G. Peabody.")
- March 19 (18) William Bullock. SIX MONTHS' RESIDENCE AND TRAVELS IN [MEXICO](#); CONTAINING REMARKS ON THE PRESENT STATE OF NEW SPAIN, ITS NATURAL PRODUCTIONS, STATE OF SOCIETY, MANUFACTURES, TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND ANTIQUITIES, &C WITH PLATES AND MAPS (London: John Murray, 1824) (In the margin: "A.G. Peabody for Thoreau.")

1. The [Harvard Library](#) had in 1830 and 1831 published its shelflist. In this year it issued a supplemental volume:





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- March 26 (19) [Thomas Gray](#). THE VESTAL, OR A TALE OF [POMPEII](#) (Boston: Gray and Bowen, 1830)
- April 23 (20) The Reverend Vicesimus Knox. ELEGANT EXTRACTS: OR, USEFUL AND ENTERTAINING PIECES OF POETRY, SELECTED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS: BEING SIMILAR IN DESIGN TO ELEGANT EXTRACTS IN PROSE (London: C. Robinson; Weybridge: S. Hamilton, 1809) (The margin reads: "C.S. Wheeler for Thoreau.")
- April 23 (21) "Lewis Pc Clapperton" "10.1.4"6 (It is surmised that this consisted of a work by Meriwether Lewis and another by Hugh Clapperton, though we lack positive evidence. Clapperton published his Journal of a second expedition into the



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- interior of Africa in London, 1829.)
- April 30 (22) Walter Wilson. MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND TIMES OF [DANIEL DEFOE](#) (1830) (The margin reads: "C.S. Wheeler for Thoreau.")
- April 30 (23) [Oliver Goldsmith](#). THE HISTORY OF ENGLAND FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE DEATH OF GEORGE THE SECOND, ... WITH A CONTINUATION ... (The margin reads: "C.S. Wheeler for Thoreau.", In the margin: "A.G. Peabody for Thoreau.")

GOLDSMITH'S ENGLISH, I

GOLDSMITH'S ENGLISH, II

GOLDSMITH'S ENGLISH, III

GOLDSMITH'S ENGLISH, IV

- May 7 (24) Lydia Howard Huntley Sigourney. TRAITS OF THE ABORIGINES OF AMERICA A POEM (Cambridge MA: Hilliard and Metcalf, 1822) (?)
- May 28 (26) Charles Mills. HISTORY OF THE CRUSADES FOR THE RECOVERY AND POSSESSION OF THE HOLY LAND (London: Longman, 1820) (The margin reads: "C.S. Wheeler for Thoreau.")
- June 10 (26) John Marshall. A HISTORY OF THE COLONIES PLANTED BY THE ENGLISH ON THE CONTINENT OF NORTH AMERICA, FROM THEIR SETTLEMENT, TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THAT WAR WHICH TERMINATED IN THEIR INDEPENDENCE.... (Philadelphia: Abraham Small, 1824)
- September 16(27) Samuel Bailey. ESSAYS ON THE FORMATION AND PUBLICATION OF OPINIONS
- September 16(28) [Gasparo Grimani](#). NEW AND IMPROVED GRAMMAR OF THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE, WITH COPIOUS EXERCISES, UNDER EVERY RULE AND OBSERVATION (1820)
- September 30(29) John Barrow. A VOYAGE TO COCHINCHINA IN THE YEARS 1792 AND 1793: CONTAINING A GENERAL VIEWS OF THE VALUABLE PRODUCTIONS AND THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS FLOURISHING KINGDOM;... (London: T. Cadell, 1806)²
- [George Waddington](#)'s and the Reverend [Barnard Hanbury](#)'s JOURNAL OF A VISIT TO SOME PARTS OF ETHIOPIA (London: John Murray, 1822)

A VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

2. A caveat: There were many editions of some of these works which Thoreau consulted, and since I do not presently know which edition it was that he consulted, I have tried to standardize by listing the edition and year in which the material had **first** become available.



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September 16, Tuesday: [David Henry Thoreau](#) checked out, from [Harvard Library](#), [Samuel Bailey](#)'s ESSAYS ON THE FORMATION AND PUBLICATION OF OPINIONS in its 2d edition of 1826 (he would check this volume out again).

BAILEY'S OPINIONS





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Our guy also checked out the 1820 edition of [Gasparo Grimani](#)'s NEW AND IMPROVED GRAMMAR OF THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE, WITH COPIOUS EXERCISES, UNDER EVERY RULE AND OBSERVATION.³

(To which grammar was he going to pay more attention, the grammar of Italian or the grammar of Philosophy? We will find out whether this philosophy baked any bread.)


3. The record of the books Thoreau checked out from the Harvard Library during his Sophomore (1834-1835) and Junior (1835-1836) school years is of particular interest to us, because Charging Book "D" of the "[Institute of 1770](#)", the book which contained the record of Thoreau's borrowings from that student club's library, is missing. This record may yet turn up — but its present absence represents a serious hole in Thoreau scholarship.



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1835

 October 5, Monday: [David Henry Thoreau](#) again checked out, from [Harvard Library](#), [Gasparo Grimani](#)'s A NEW AND IMPROVED GRAMMAR OF THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE, WITH COPIOUS EXERCISES, UNDER EVERY RULE AND OBSERVATION (which evidently would have been an 1820 update of his THE LADIES' NEW ITALIAN GRAMMAR: FOR THE USE OF ENGLISH AND FRENCH SCHOLARS. LA NOUVELLE GRAMMAIRE ITALIENNE DES DAMES, À L'USAGE DES ECCOLIÈRES FRANÇOISES ET ANGLOISES, printed by W. Smith in London in 1788).



“MAGISTERIAL HISTORY” IS FANTASIZING: HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY



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"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



Prepared: November 1, 2014



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ARRGH AUTOMATED RESEARCH REPORT

GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.



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Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.