“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY
A Week: As in geology, so in social institutions, we may discover the causes of all past change in the present invariable order of society. The greatest appreciable physical revolutions are the work of the light-footed air, the stealthy-paced water, and the subterranean fire. Aristotle said, "As time never fails, and the universe is eternal, neither the Tanais nor the Nile can have flowed forever." We are independent of the change we detect. The longer the lever the less perceptible its motion. It is the slowest pulsation which is the most vital. The hero then will know how to wait, as well as to make haste. All good abides with him who waiteth wisely; we shall sooner overtake the dawn by remaining here than by hurrying over the hills of the west. Be assured that every man's success is in proportion to his average ability. The meadow flowers spring and bloom where the waters annually deposit their slime, not where they reach in some freshet only. A man is not his hope, nor his despair, nor yet his past deed. We know not yet what we have done, still less what we are doing. Wait till evening, and other parts of our day's work will shine than we had thought at noon, and we shall discover the real purport of our toil. As when the farmer has reached the end of the furrow and looks back, he can tell best where the pressed earth shines most.
Thomas Stanley was born with a big old silver spoon in his mouth, a son of Sir Thomas Stanley of Cumberlow, Hertfordshire and Mary Hammond Stanley. His mother was a cousin of Richard Lovelace and he would be educated in company with the son of Edward Fairfax (translator of Torquato Tasso).

1625

Nobody could guess what would happen next

“Stack of the Artist of Kouroo” Project: People of A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers
Thomas Stanley matriculated at Cambridge University at the age of 13, with the status of a gentleman commoner of Pembroke Hall.

**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.
Thomas Stanley received the MA degree, but from Oxford University rather than from Cambridge. He would enter upon a legal career.

THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT

“Stack of the Artist of Kouroo” Project: People of A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers
Thomas Stanley's poems.

He also prepared a translation of *Aurora and The Prince* from the Spanish of Juan Pérez de Montalbán (London: printed for Humphrey Moseley, at the signe of the Princes Armes in St Pauls Church-yard).

*Do I have your attention? Good.*
Thomas Stanley's *EUROPA, CUPID CRUCIFIED,* and *VENUS VIGILS* (Printed by W.W. for Humphrey Mosely, and are to be sold at his shop at the Signe of the Princes Armes in St Pauls Churchyard).

**CHANGE IS ETERNITY, STASIS A FIGMENT**
Thomas Stanley prepared a 2d edition of his translation of *Oronta, the Cyprian Virgin* from the Italian of Sig' Girolamo Preti (London: Printed by F.B. for Humphrey Mosely at the Signe of the Princes Armes in St Pauls Churchyard).
Thomas Stanley prepared a volume of translations of Anacreon, Bion, Moschus, Kisses by Secundus, etc.

THE FUTURE CAN BE EASILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT

(The images offered are woodcuts purporting to represent Thales, Solon, Chilon, Pittacus, Bias, Cleobule, Periander, Socrates, Xenophon, Aristippus, Plato, S hypers, Carneades, Aristoteles, Antisthenes, and Zenon.)

**HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHERS**
The 3d volume of Thomas Stanley’s *The History of Philosophy: Containing the Lives, Opinions, Actions and Discourses of the Philosophers of Every Sect* (London: Humphrey Moseley and Thomas Dring), the 1st volume of which had appeared in 1655 (there would be in addition a *History of Chaldaick Philosophy*, which would appear in 1662).
Thomas Stanley's *The History of the Chaldaick Philosophy* (London, Printed for Thomas Dring, and are to be fold at his Shop at the George in Fleet-street neer Cliffords-Inn).
Thomas Stanley prepared in folio a monumental edition of the text of *Aeschylus* (extensive notes on Callimachus remain in manuscript, at the British Library).
April 12, Friday (Old Style): Thomas Stanley died at his lodgings in Suffolk Street on the Strand. The body would be interred in the church of St Martin-in-the-Fields.
Thomas Stanley’s THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY (London: W. Battersby). A copy of this would be in Bronson Alcott’s library available to Henry Thoreau, and a quotation from Aristotle’s METEOROLOGICA obtained from this source would appear in A WEEK.

A WEEK: As in geology, so in social institutions, we may discover the causes of all past change in the present invariable order of society. The greatest appreciable physical revolutions are the work of the light-footed air, the stealthy-paced water, and the subterranean fire. Aristotle said, “As time never fails, and the universe is eternal, neither the Tanais nor the Nile can have flowed forever.” We are independent of the change we detect. The longer the lever the less perceptible its motion. It is the slowest pulsation which is the most vital. The hero then will know how to wait, as well as to make haste. All good abides with him who waiteth wisely; we shall sooner overtake the dawn by remaining here than by hurry ing over the hills of the west. Be assured that every man’s success is in proportion to his average ability. The meadow flowers spring and bloom where the waters annually deposit their slime, not where they reach in some freshet only. A man is not his hope, nor his despair, nor yet his past deed. We know not yet what we have done, still less what we are doing. Wait till evening, and other parts of our day’s work will shine than we had thought at noon, and we shall discover the real purport of our toil. As when the farmer has reached the end of the furrow and looks back, he can tell best where the pressed earth shines most.

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

“Stack of the Artist of Kouroo” Project: People of A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers
Thomas Stanley’s POEMS of 1647 was republished in an edition by Samuel Egerton Brydges.
Thomas Stanley’s translation of *Anacreon* was published along with the original in Greek, as edited by A.H. Bullen, with illustrations by J.E. Weguiin (New York: Merrill & Baker).

“MAGISTERIAL HISTORY” IS FABULATION, HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY
“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: August 6, 2014
The People of A Week: Thomas Stanley

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.
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.