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Discovered "Jack Engle"*

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WALT WHITMAN QUARTERLY REVIEW

VOLUME THIRTY-FOUR NUMBER THREE/FOUR WINTER/SPRING 2017

Special Issue: Whitman's "Jack Engle"



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EDITOR'S NOTE

Zachary Turpin, who made the remarkable discovery of Whitman's previously unknown 1858 newspaper series, *Manly Health and Training* (published in *WWQR* last spring), has done it again. He has uncovered a previously unknown Whitman novel, *Jack Engle*, published in 1852 as a serial in the New York *Sunday Dispatch*. The discovery is momentous. It makes us rethink everything we thought we knew about Whitman's fiction. Now the writer who until today seemed to have written only one novel (*Franklin Evans*, 1842) actually wrote (at least) two. Now the writer who seemed to simply give up fiction in 1848 when his last known short story was published actually continued to publish fiction up to (at least) 1852, close to the time he was working on the first edition of *Leaves of Grass*. The author who seemed to write a novel only to cash in on the temperance craze actually also wrote, it turns out, a completely different kind of novel, one that Turpin has dubbed "Dickens Light."

The *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* is delighted to be able to bring the entire novel—expertly introduced, edited, and transcribed by Turpin—back to readers in the twenty-first century, where they (you) can be the first to read it in 165 years. We are able to do this because of our online Open Access format, made possible through the support of the University of Iowa Libraries and the Digital Scholarship and Publishing Studio. *WWQR* has also worked with the University of Iowa Press to issue a beautiful print edition of the novel, which is available for purchase at www.uiopress.uiowa.edu.

