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Dickens's London

Wolfreys, Julian

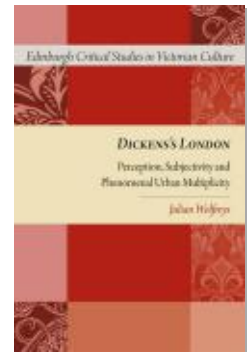
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- The familiar city beckons to the *flâneur* as phantasmagoria – now a landscape, now a room.
- The reader must not expect to know where I live.
- Much of our modern difficulty, in religion and other things, arises merely from this, that we confuse the word ‘indefinable’ with the word ‘vague’.
- My dear, you never have found number eighty-one Norfolk Street, Strand, advertised in Bradshaw’s *Railway Guide*, and with the blessing of Heaven you never will or shall so find it.
- Literary critics do not take into account that such a work like this constitutes a scientific exploration in the same category as the work of Freud or Newton.
- You might have some difficulty in penetrating the arcana of the Modern Babylon in the direction of the City Road.
- The most distinctive cities bear within them the capacity of being nowhere.
- From the windows of my room I saw all London lying in the distance like a great vapour, with here and there some lights twinkling through it.
- He did not go in for ‘observation’, a priggish habit; he did not look at Charing Cross to improve his mind or count the lamp-posts in Holborn to practise his arithmetic.
- And that explains the mystery of the key!
- His passionate power of expression makes him the most important representative of modernity at the present time.
- I can tell you best what he is, by telling you what Doctors’ Commons is.
- There is no such place as London after all.
- We must not lose sight of you. We must not let you pass out of our knowledge. We must know all about you.
- And I am now reduced to a mere wayward memory, losing itself in

street after street as far as the dazzling lights of the bridges, among passers-by dreamt up by the winter sun.

– Appearance is an intrinsic determination of being. But it is immediately evident that since the localisation of being, which constitutes its appearance, implies another particular being – its site or situation – appearance as such is what binds or re-binds a being to its site. The essence of appearance is relation.

– Why, highty tighty, sir!

– An image presented to us by life brings with it, in a single moment, sensations which are in fact multiple and heterogeneous.

– The walls of my lodgings might have something to tell if they could tell it. The dear boy was always fond of story books. I am sure this house – his own home – might write a story or two for his reading one day or another.

– even supposing –

For
Hillis