5. Massingberd, Hugh Montgomery- in the *Daily and Sunday Telegraphs* from time to time inveighs against bad practices. His article in *Daily Telegraph*, 16 Jan. 1991 is clear on what to avoid.

6. Cataloguing rules: author and title entries. Library Association, 1908. Later editions have been more liberal in their approach.

7. Leeson, Francis L. *A directory of British peerages*. Society of Genealogists, 1984 has, under ‘Guelph’ and ‘Windsor’, many of these royal titles.

8. *Burke’s landed gentry*, once an enormous book of great value, is a shadow of its former self, and a large older volume is more useful to indexers and researchers than the current three slimmish volumes.


11. *Burke’s peerage, baronetage and knightage*.


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Index makers

4 CHARLOTTE YONGE, 1823–1901

The index to Charlotte Yonge’s *History of Christian names* (1863, revised 1884) is remarkable in several respects.

It is called Glossary, contains only names, and is placed at the beginning of the book.

It is very long. Its 123 pages are equivalent to 26% of the text, compared with 15% for the extensive index to Gray’s *Anatomy*.

It provides much information for each name: gender, language of use, language of origin, meaning, and page reference, e.g.:

Henry, *m*. Eng. Teu. home ruler, 310

There are similar entries for every variant of a name, including diminutives, and forms in the chief European languages. For the purposes of some readers, this index may obviate any need to turn to the text.

But the text is worth reading. Although Miss Yonge’s etymology has been shown by later philologists to be sometimes at fault, her book is still, ‘the standard work on the subject in English’ (E. G. Withycombe in the introduction to *The Oxford dictionary of English Christian names*). Her very wide knowledge of history is displayed in her discussion of the origins of names and of the rise and fall in their use in different places and periods, and also of the effects of the names of famous people on subsequent choice of names. She adduces the popularity at the time she was writing of the name Florence, in honour of Florence Nightingale.

An example of the wealth of interest in the book is the surprising account of the prevalence of the name Hannibal among country people in Cornwall, shown in the parish registers beginning in the late 1500s. This name is thought to have been derived from contact with Phoenician traders who came to Cornwall long ago to buy tin. The index reference is:

Hannibal, *m*. Eng. Phoen. grace of Baal, 40

Another remarkable thing about Miss Yonge’s long and learned book, and its index, undoubtedly compiled by herself, is that during the period when she must have been working on it, she produced several other, shorter books. That it was her custom to write at least two books at the same time is shown by the remark she is recorded to have made once at lunch: ‘I have had a dreadful morning; I have killed the bishop and Felix.’ The bishop was the missionary Coleridge Patterson, whose biography she was writing, and Felix was the leading character in one of her long, delightful novels of Victorian family life.

The remarkable index was the work of a remarkable author.

M. D. ANDERSON

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