

XLI. Monk's House Papers/B.2i. (Sussex)

With the exception of the reference to *Madeleine, One of Love's Jansenists*, by Hope Mirrlees, which Woolf reviewed on October 9, 1919 (Kp. C169; cf. *L*, II, 1083, and *D*, I, September 28, 1919), the whole of this notebook is devoted to reading notes for Woolf's long essay on George Eliot, published in the *TLS*, November 20, 1919 (Kp. C175). By January 1919, Woolf had begun "reading through the whole of George Eliot, in order to sum her up, once and for all, upon her anniversary" (*L*, II, 1010); at that time, however, she had "only made way with her life"—*The Life of George Eliot* by J. W. Cross (B.2). Throughout the year, she noted in her diary and her letters that she had to read or was reading George Eliot (*D*, I, March 5, October 19, 1919; *L*, II, 1075, 1081, 1084), specifically mentioning *Middlemarch* on November 1, 1919 (*D*, I).

A label in black ink on the cover of the notebook reads "GEORGE ELIOT." What I have listed as the table of contents, A.2, is for the most part a list of Eliot's works, some of which are checked off to denote that Woolf planned to or had read them. A column for page numbers is included but not filled in. Most of the notes are in blue ink, with some in black ink or pencil.

A. TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. GEORGE ELIOT

1 p., on cover.

2. George Eliot. Page

x Life by Cross.

Works of G.E.

x Scenes of Clerical Life

x Adam Bede

x Mill on the Floss

Brother Jacob

Silas Marner

Romola

Felix Holt

Middlemarch

Deronda

Theophrastus Such

1 p., not numbered.

B. ENTRIES

1. "Madeleine,/One of Love's Jansenists/Collins.": 1 p., not numbered. (Heading only.) The reference is to Hope Mirrlees' novel, *Madeleine, One of Love's Jansenists*, reviewed by Woolf in October 1919.
2. "b: Nov. 22 1819.": 10 pp., not numbered, and 6 pp., on the reverse of the pages. The notes that appear on the reverse sides record the dates and titles of Eliot's novels, and computations of her age when she wrote them. On the last page, Woolf sums up her impressions, beginning, "oddly beautiful, spiritual effect of the whole—very sensitive—immense deep seated vitality, slowly thrusting up."

Cross, J. W. *George Eliot's Life as Related in her Letters and Journals*. 3 vols. Edinburgh: Blackwood, 1885.

3. "Scenes of Clerical Life": 2 pp., not numbered.

Eliot, George. *Scenes of Clerical Life*. Edinburgh: Blackwood, n.d. Vol. IV of the *Novels of George Eliot*.

4. "Adam Bede": 2 pp., not numbered.

Eliot, George. *Adam Bede*. 2 vols. Edinburgh: Blackwood, 1895. *The Works of George Eliot*. Standard Edition.

5. "You may dislike her heroines . . .": 1 p., not numbered, on the reverse of the second page of B.4. (6 lines only.) The entry consists of notes in blue pencil on George Eliot's *With the exception of the reference to *Madeleine, One of Love's Jansenists*, by Hope Mirrlees, which Woolf reviewed on October 9, 1919 (Kp. C169; cf. *L*, II, 1083, and *D*, I, September 28, 1919), the whole of this notebook is devoted to reading notes for Woolf's long essay on George Eliot, published in the *TLS*, November 20, 1919 (Kp. C175). By January 1919, Woolf had begun "reading through the whole of George Eliot, in order to sum her up, once and for all, upon her anniversary" (*L*, II, 1010); at that time, however, she had "only made way with her life"—*The Life of George Eliot* by J. W. Cross (B.2). Throughout the year, she noted in her diary and her letters that she had to read or was reading George Eliot (*D*, I, March 5, October 19, 1919; *L*, II, 1075, 1081, 1084), specifically mentioning *Middlemarch* on November 1, 1919 (*D*, I).*

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5. “You may dislike her heroines . . .”: 1 p., not numbered, on the reverse of the second page of B.4. (6 lines only.) The entry consists of notes in blue pencil on George Eliot’s heroines: “You may dislike her heroines but you don’t get the full flavour unless you consider them. The religious sense in women. It seems to me to [deepen].”
6. “~~Middlemarch~~. Mill on Floss.”: 2 pp., not numbered. (2nd page, 3 lines only.)

Eliot, George. *The Mill on the Floss*. [1860].
7. “Silas Marner.”: 1 p., not numbered. The entry begins on the second page of B.6.

Eliot, George. *Silas Marner*. [1861].
8. “Middlemarch”: 1 p., not numbered.

Eliot, George. *Middlemarch. A Study of Provincial Life*. Vols. I–II [of III]. Edinburgh: Blackwood, 1878. *The Works of George Eliot*. Cabinet Edition.