



1900

Neale also published two short-lived journals. The *Conservative Review*, a quarterly which appeared from February 1899 to September 1901, contained articles of political and social interest, with particular emphasis on topics pertaining to the South. Essays about writers and reviews of literary works also appeared in the journal. *Neale's Monthly* ran from January 1913 to June 1914. Edited by Neale, the periodical published a serialization of Bierce's *The Monk and the Hangman's Daughter*, poetry and stories by various unknowns, and a few pieces by Neale. The Neale Publishing Company



1928

moved to 37 East Twenty-eighth Street in 1927. The firm published at least 579 titles. When Neale died on 28 September 1933, the firm died with him.

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Robert K. Krick, *Neale Books: An Annotated Bibliography* (Dayton, Ohio: Morningside Press, 1977);

"Obituary Notes: Walter Neale," *Publishers' Weekly*, 124 (7 October 1933): 1232.

—Laura Masotti Humphrey

## F. Tennyson Neely

(Chicago: 1888-1899)



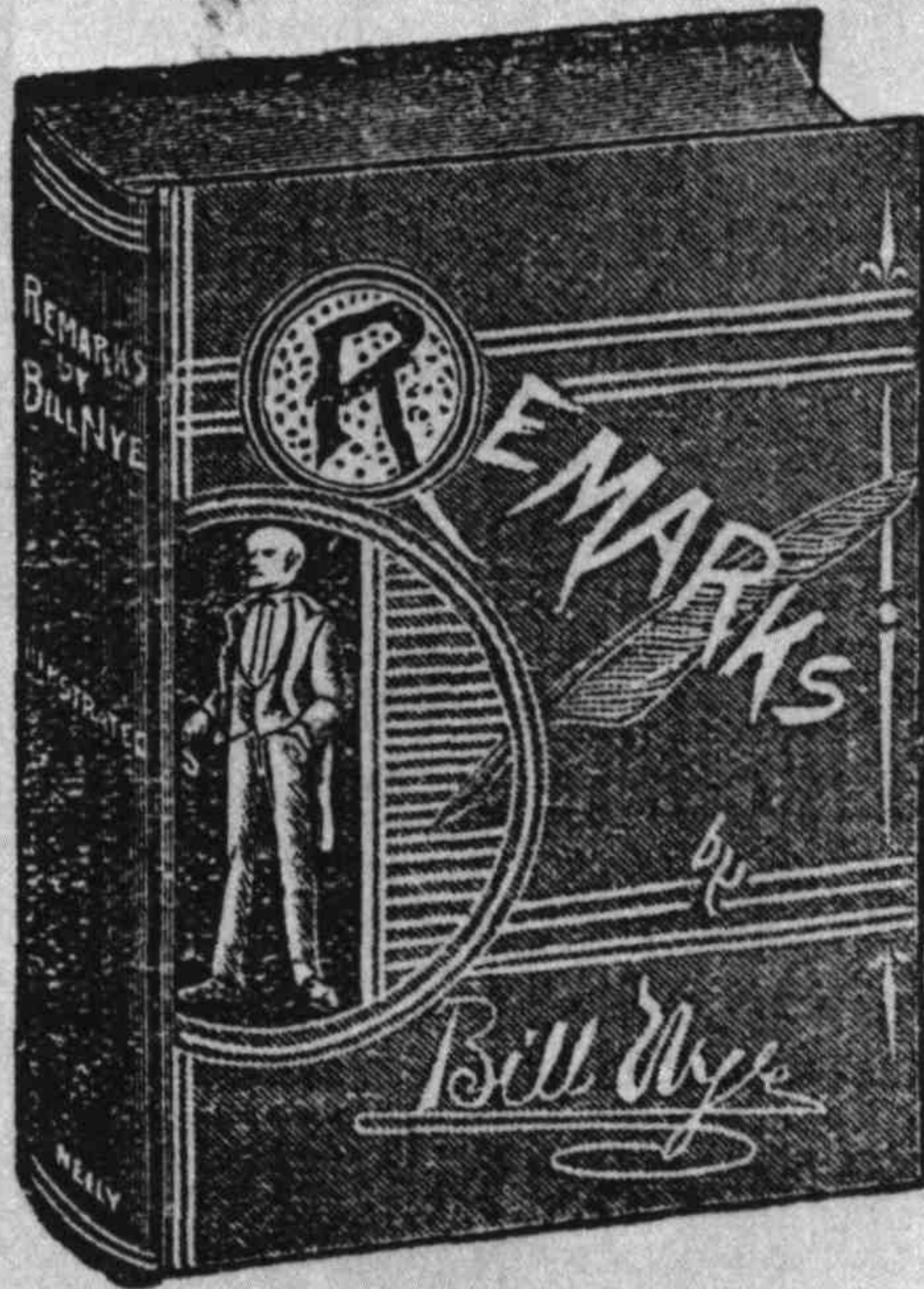
Frank Tennyson Neely was born in Quincy, Florida, on 10 September 1863. He attended Indiana University, worked as a machinist and a schoolteacher, and made an unsuccessful attempt to purchase the *Des Moines (Iowa) Leader*. In 1888 he established the publishing firm of F. Tennyson Neely at 323 Dearborn Street in Chicago. In 1891 the company moved to 232-234 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, and opened a New York branch at 114 Fifth Avenue. A London branch was opened at 96 Queen Street in 1897. At the high point of his short-lived publishing career, Neely claimed to be producing six million copies of books each year and publishing, on average, a book a day.

One of Neely's early successes was Edgar Wilson Nye's *Remarks by Bill Nye* (1886), followed by *Nye and Riley's Railway Guide* (1889) and *Wit and Humor* (1896) by Nye and James Whitcomb Riley. Neely published a large number of sensational nov-

els in both cloth and paperback, including E. Phillips Oppenheim's *A Monk of Cruta* (1894), Anthony Hope's *Father Stafford* (1895), Max Simon Nordau's *How Women Love, and Other Tales* (1896), Opie Read's "Odd Folks" (1897), Willis Steell's *A Mountain of Gold* (1897), Jules Verne's *Facing the Flag* (1897), and eleven titles by Richard Henry Savage. Neely also published two early Robert Chambers titles, *In the Quarter* (1894) and *The King in Yellow* (1895).

In August 1896 Neely became embroiled in a lawsuit with Savage. The case was an important development in the changing author-publisher relationship, in that Savage was the first American author to request and receive permission to examine a publisher's account books before trial. Savage accused Neely of not paying him adequate royalties and also maintained that Neely was to have paid him for other literary services. He sued Neely to recover the money and either the electro-

# Remarks by Bill Nye.



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type plates for ten of his novels or financial compensation. Eventually the case was settled out of court. In a letter in the 16 January 1897 issue of *Publishers' Weekly* Savage wrote, "I will publicly state to the Authors' Guild that Mr. Neely has made a full and honorable settlement." In the same issue a full-page advertisement announced a "Clearance Sale of Richard Henry Savage's Novels, Owned and Published by F. Tennyson Neely, To the Trade, To Close Out, 15 cents." Business seemed to be going well for the firm until October 1899, when Neely filed for bankruptcy with liabilities of \$359,000.

#### References:

"Case of R. H. Savage *vs.* F. Tennyson Neely," *Pub-*

*lishers' Weekly*, 50 (29 August 1896): 279;  
 "End of the Savage-Neely Suit," *Publishers' Weekly*,  
 51 (16 January 1897): 55;  
 "F. T. Neely Sued by Richard Henry Savage," *Pub-*  
*lishers' Weekly*, 50 (22 August 1896): 261;  
 "F. Tennyson Neely Bankrupt," *Publishers' Weekly*,  
 56 (28 October 1899): 785;  
 "Frank Tennyson Neely," *Book and News Dealer*, 6  
 (1893): 501-502;  
 "The Neely Contempt Case," *Publishers' Weekly*, 50  
 (12 September 1896): 342;  
 "The Savage-Neely Complication," *Publishers'*  
*Weekly*, 50 (5 September 1896): 310.

—Arlene Shaner

## Thomas Nelson and Sons

(New York; Camden, New Jersey; Nashville, Tennessee: 1854- )

Thomas Nelson and Sons was the first branch of a British publishing house to be founded in America. Bibles, biblical reference books, and other religious works have accounted for most of the house's publications, with children's books next in importance. The juveniles, carefully selected for their religious and moral tone, first appeared before the British firm set up foreign branches. The firm has also published works in history, geography, and literature.

Thomas Nelson II founded the branch in 1854 at 131 Nassau Street, New York, and returned to England, leaving James Campbell as manager. Campbell was succeeded during the Civil War by James Robertson, who moved the firm to 137 Grand Street. In 1873 Gavin Houston became manager, and the firm moved to the corner of Bleeker and Mulberry Streets. The firm moved to 33 East Seventeenth Street in 1888. In the latter part of the nineteenth century, when the American branch became a thriving New York publisher, its children's literature and its series of Nelson Classics were almost entirely of British origin. Samuel Barling succeeded Houston in 1893, and the firm moved to 37-41 East Eighteenth Street in 1898.

In February 1903 Thomas Nelson and Sons absorbed E. and J. B. Young and Company, also Bible publishers, and became an American corporation wholly owned by the parent British firm.

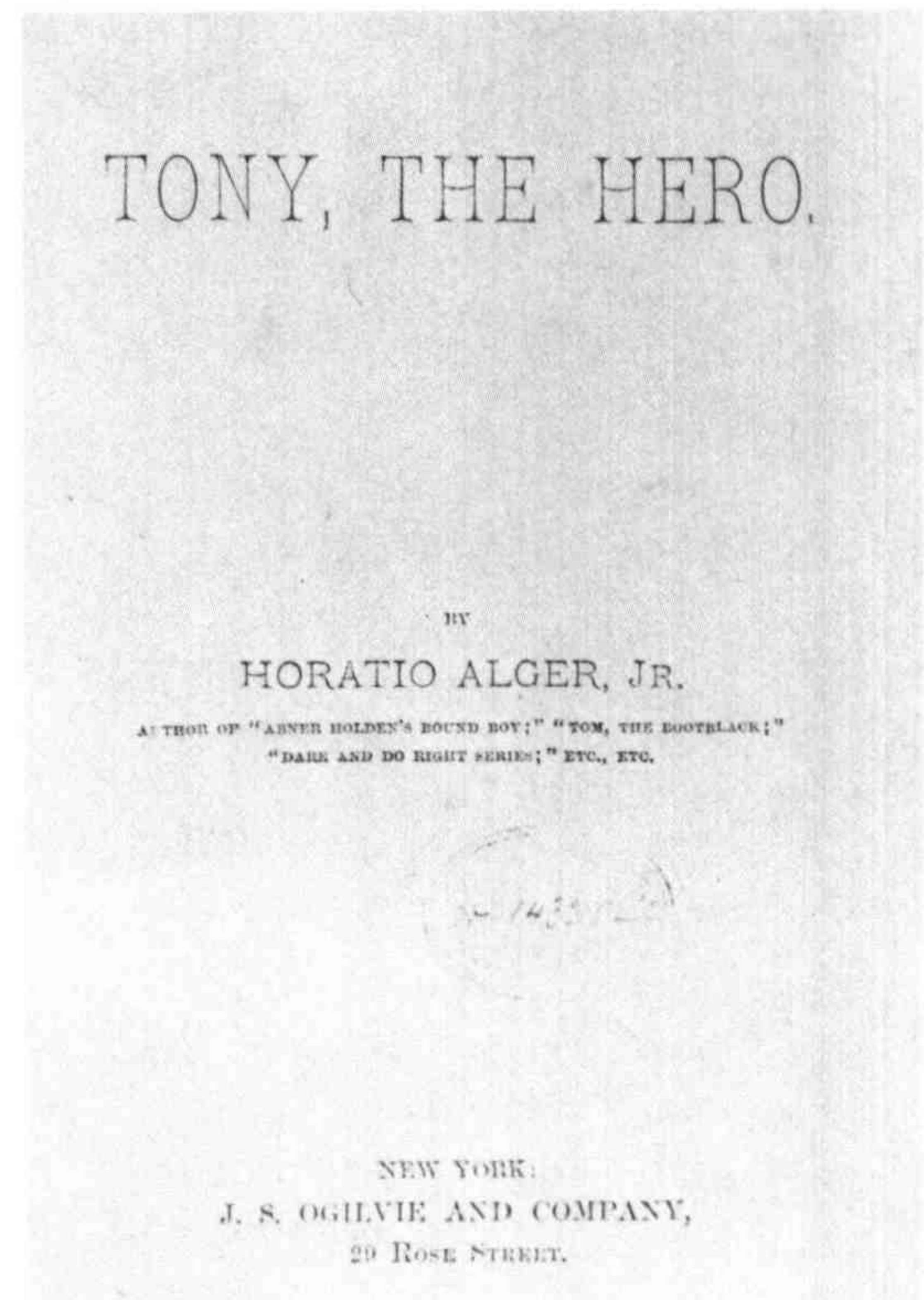
The American character of the house slowly became apparent in the American versions of the Bible and the accumulation of American authors in the lists of juvenile publications. Shortly after the merger, Barling resigned and Ian Nelson took charge until 1905, when William Thomson, former secretary, became president and manager. The firm moved to 381 Fourth Avenue in 1910 and had moved to 385 Madison Avenue by 1941. William McCulley became manager in 1951. In 1952 the firm published the Revised Standard Version of the Bible. In 1954 Thomas Nelson and Sons received its first award for a juvenile, a Western Writers of America Award for *Sagebrush Sorrel* (1953) by Frank C. Robertson. The firm moved to 18 East Forty-first Street in 1961 and to Copewood and Davis Streets in Camden, New Jersey, in 1966.

In May 1969 Sam Moore of Royal Publishers, Incorporated, Nashville, Tennessee, acquired the assets of Thomas Nelson and Sons but did not assume the presidency until 1973. The sales office was moved from Camden to Nashville in 1972. In 1972 a Young Readers' Choice award was received for Donald J. Sobol's *Encyclopedia Brown Keeps the Peace* (1969). Under Moore's management gross sales increased from \$3 million in 1969 to \$72 million in 1986.

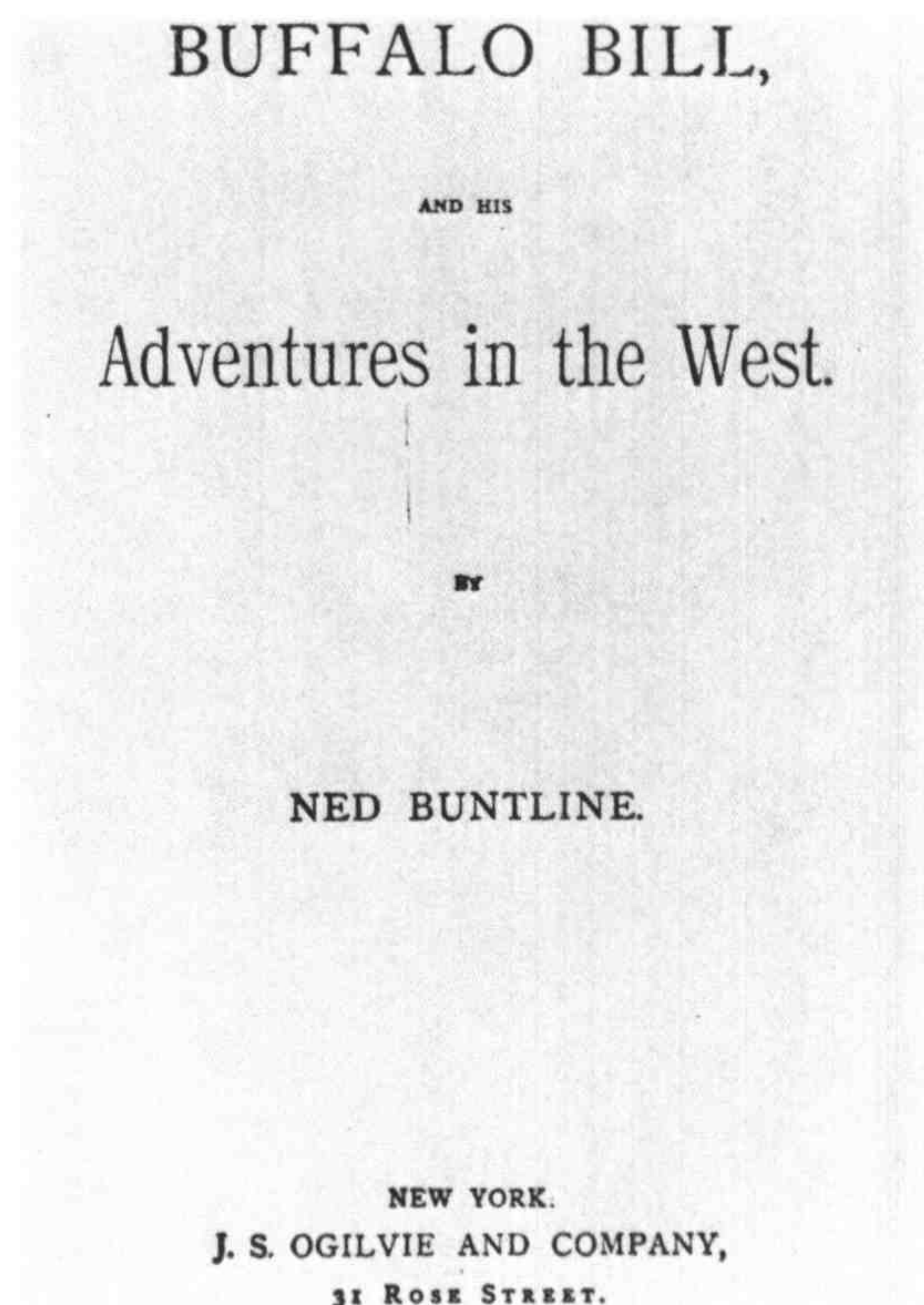
In order to enter the general book trade publishing field, Nelson acquired Dodd, Mead and



Mark Newman founded the Andover Publishing House in 1809 and began publishing under his own name around 1815



Title page for Alger's novel, published by Ogilvie in 1880 as part of its Dare and Do Right series. The story originally appeared as a serial in the New York Weekly in 1876 under the title "Tony, the Tramp."



Frontispiece and title page for one of the earliest Buffalo Bill novels, originally published by Ogilvie in 1881 as Buffalo Bill, the King of Border Men and reprinted under this title in 1886

"F. Tennyson Neely." *American Literary Publishing Houses, 1638-1899*, edited by Peter Dzwonkoski, vol. 49, Gale, 1986, pp. 334-336. *Dictionary of Literary Biography Vol. 49. Gale Literature: Dictionary of Literary Biography*, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/GXRBGK319833143/DLBC?u=owu&sid=bookmark-DLBC](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/GXRBGK319833143/DLBC?u=owu&sid=bookmark-DLBC). Accessed 21 June 2023.