



### Apphia Peach, George Lord Lyttelton, and 'The Correspondents':

An Annotated Edition of a Forgotten Gem (1775)

By Melvyn New

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**Exclusive:** WORLD

**A solidly conceived and executed scholarly edition of *The Correspondents: An Original Novel (1775)*; a best imitation of Sterne that captures his unique blend of sensibility and sensuality**

This book is an annotated edition of *The Correspondents: An Original Novel (1775)*, a work, as the introduction argues, derived from *A Sentimental Journey*, and one of the best of the many later efforts to capture Sterne's unique blend of sensibility and sensuality. The introduction will make the case for its authorship being an actual exchange of love letters between George Lord Lyttelton (1709–1773) and Apphia Peach Lyttelton (1743–1840), his daughter-in-law, 30 years younger than her father-in-law at the time of the exchange. In our inability to understand precisely what happened between the two is the genius of their imitation of Sterne. It is an ambiguity that results from the conscious reshaping of the original letters into a narrative, probably by Apphia Peach in the 2 years between Lyttelton's death and its publication.

#### Readership

This book would be of value to scholars and students of eighteenth-century literature, undergraduate to graduate; and to scholars and students of literary form, the novel, the epistle, and male–female relationships.

#### Contents

Works Frequently Cited; Introduction; Textual Note; The Correspondents; Annotations to The Correspondents; Appendices; Index

#### About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Melvyn New, Emeritus Professor of English, University of Florida, has been publishing on eighteenth-century literature since 1969. He was the editor of the University of Florida Works of Laurence Sterne in nine volumes, 1978–2014.

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