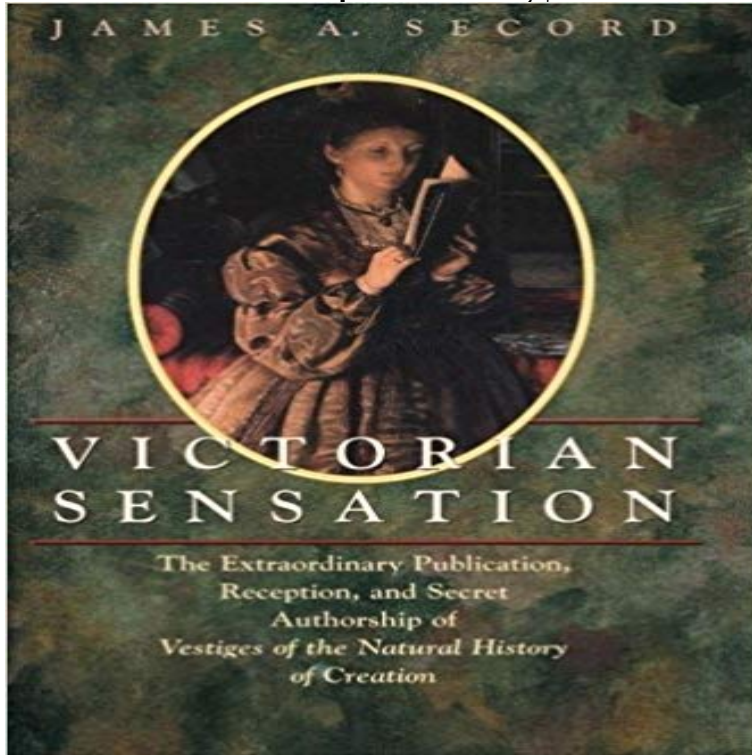


# Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation



Fiction or philosophy, profound knowledge or shocking heresy? When *Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation* was published anonymously in 1844, it sparked one of the greatest sensations of the Victorian era. More than a hundred thousand readers were spellbound by its startling vision of the world that extended from the formation of the solar system to the spiritual destiny of humanity. As gripping as a popular novel, *Vestiges* combined all the current scientific theories in fields ranging from astronomy and geology to psychology and economics. The book was banned, it was damned, it was hailed as the gospel for a new age. This is where our own public controversies about evolution began. In a pioneering cultural history, James A. Secord uses the story of *Vestiges* to create a panoramic portrait of life in the early industrial era from the perspective of its readers. We join apprentices in a factory town as they debate the consequences of an evolutionary ancestry. We listen as Prince Albert reads aloud to Queen Victoria from a book that preachers denounced as blasphemy vomited from the mouth of Satan. And we watch as Charles Darwin turns its pages in the flea-ridden British Museum library, fearful for the fate of his own unpublished theory of evolution. Using secret letters, Secord reveals how *Vestiges* was written and how the anonymity of its author was maintained for forty years. He also takes us behind the scenes to a bustling world of publishers, printers, and booksellers to show how the furor over the book reflected the emerging industrial economy of print. Beautifully written and based on painstaking research, *Victorian Sensation* offers a new approach to literary history, the history of reading, and the history of science. Profusely illustrated and full of fascinating stories, it is the most comprehensive account of the making and reception of a book (other than the Bible) ever attempted. Winner of the

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Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation was published **James A. Secord, Victorian Sensation, excerpt** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation. Front Cover. James A. **Essay Review: When Evolution Became Conversation: Vestiges of** Review of Victorian Sensation: the Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation by James A. **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and** The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation James A. Secord. The University of Chicago Press **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation (review) on **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and** Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation is an 1844 work of speculative natural history and philosophy by Robert Chambers. Published anonymously in England, it brought together various ideas of 3 Reception. 3.1 Early Great pains were undertaken to secure the secret of the authorship from Churchill, and the public. **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, And** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation on ResearchGate, the **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication** - Victorian sensation: The extraordinary publication, reception, and secret authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation **Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation - Wikipedia** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation. Front Cover. James A. **Victorian sensation : the extraordinary publication, reception and** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of When Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation was published why it was criticized and why its author remained anonymous until after his death. **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication - Google Books** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of When Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation was published why it was criticized and why its author remained anonymous until after his death. **Victorian sensation: The extraordinary publication, reception, and** An excerpt from Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation by James A. **Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation, by James A. Secord pp. xix **Review of Victorian Sensation: the Extraordinary Publication** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation. by James **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, And** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation on ResearchGate, the **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation. Voorkant James A. Secord. **Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and** **Victorian Sensation - University of Chicago Press** Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation. Chicago/London: University