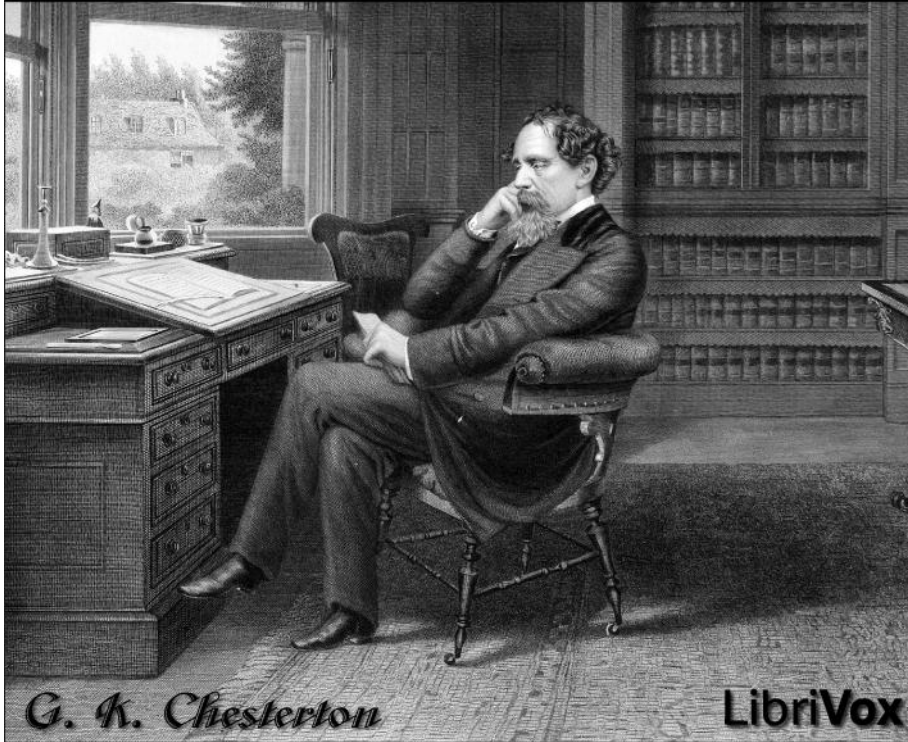


# The Appreciations & Criticisms of the Works of Charles Dickens



## The Appreciations and Criticisms of the Works of Charles Dickens

By G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936)

"These papers were originally published as prefaces to the separate books of Dickens in one of the most extensive of those cheap libraries of the classics which are one of the real improvements of recent times. Thus they were harmless, being diluted by, or rather drowned in Dickens. My scrap of theory was a mere dry biscuit to be taken with the grand tawny port of great English comedy; and by most people it was not taken at all—like the biscuit.



Nevertheless the essays were not in intention so aimless as they appear in fact. I had a general notion of what needed saying about Dickens to the new generation, though probably I did not say it. I will make another attempt to do so in this prologue, and, possibly fail again." (Summary by G. K. Chesterton)

Read by Ray Clare; total running time: 08:27:32.

This recording is in the public domain and may be reproduced, distributed, or modified without permission. For more information or to volunteer, visit [librivox.org](http://librivox.org).

Cover picture by *Samuel Hollyer* (c. 1875). Author photo taken by an unknown photographer (1914). Copyright expired in US, Canada, EU, and all countries with author's life +70 yrs laws. Cover design by Janette Brown. This design is in the public domain.