

Not Wisely, but Too Well



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Reviews

*This written publication is wonderful. It really is loaded with knowledge and wisdom You will not really feel monotony at at any time of your time (that's what catalogues are for relating to if you ask me).
(Desmond Becker)*

NOT WISELY, BUT TOO WELL



Victorian Secrets, United Kingdom, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New.. 224 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. The most thoroughly sensual tale I have read in English for a long time, complained Geraldine Jewsbury in her reader s report on Rhoda Broughton s Not Wisely, but Too Well (1867). Initially serialised in The Dublin University Magazine, the novel had been brought to the attention of the publisher Bentley and Son by its editor, J S Le Fanu, who also happened to be Broughton s uncle. Although Jewsbury convinced Bentley that this novel was unsuitable for decent people, she succeeded only in delaying its publication, as Broughton instead struck a deal with their rival, Tinsley Brothers. While Broughton ultimately triumphed, she was obliged to make extensive revisions, promising to expunge it of coarseness and slanginess, to rewrite those passages which cannot be toned down. Jewsbury s moral squeamishness was not shared by the reading public, who were thrilled by Broughton s vivid depiction of Kate Chester teetering on the brink of an adulterous liaison with the solipsistic and haughty Dare Stamer. Notwithstanding the extensive editorial changes, Broughton s novel remains a pioneering portrayal of female sexuality, or what Jewsbury called highly coloured hot blooded passion. Reproducing the text of its first appearance in volume form, this new edition of Not Wisely, but Too Well illuminates the novel s ideological and aesthetic complexity through appendices related to its publication history, revision, and reception. These appendices include a section containing Jewsbury s reader s report and Broughton and Le Fanu s correspondence with the Bentleys, a list of variants between serial and volume formats of the novel, and a selection of contemporary reviews. Together these materials provide a fascinating case study of the coming to...



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