

Victorian Poetry and Fiction: some historical and cultural dates

1837 ? William IV dies and is succeeded by Victoria.

1840 ? Victoria marries the German prince, Albert.

1846 ? ?Railway Mania? year: 272 Railways Acts passed.

1851 ? The Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in London.

1854 ? Outbreak of the Crimean War; Florence Nightingale goes out to Scutari in the Crimea

1856 ? Crimean War ends; Victoria Cross for bravery instituted.

1857 ? Divorce made possible without an Act of Parliament, but on unequal terms for men and women.

1859 ? Darwin?s *The Origin of the Species* published.

1871 ? Darwin?s *The Descent of Man*.

1895 - Oscar Wilde jailed for three years for homosexual offences.

1897 ? Existing suffrage organisations unite as National Union of Women?s Suffrage Societies.

1901 ? Victoria dies and is succeeded by Edward VII.