



Deux versions de l'histoire, deux usages de la nouvelle historique

Mérimée *versus* Vigny

Publication type: Article from a collective work

Collective work: [La Représentation de l'histoire dans la nouvelle en langue française du XIX^e siècle](#)

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Abstract: The historical novella, which is concerned above all with the event or historical fact, is treated differently in *L'Enlèvement de la redoute* and *Le Corps de garde russe*. In Mérimée's work, the character, not yet the hero, is shown immersed in violence and buried in the unintelligibility of events. In the work of Vigny, meanwhile, the account is dictated by an obsession with parricide; it immediately demonises the figure of the Napoleonic father, and moves firmly into psychodrama.

Pages: 117 to 136

Collection: [Encounters](#), n° 128

Series: Nineteenth century studies, n° 28

CLIL theme: 4027 -- SCIENCES HUMAINES ET SOCIALES, LETTRES -- Lettres et Sciences du langage -- Lettres -- Etudes littéraires générales et thématiques

EAN: 9782812436253

ISBN: 978-2-8124-3625-3

ISSN: 2261-1851

DOI: 10.15122/isbn.978-2-8124-3625-3.p.0117

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 12-28-2016

Language: French

[Display online](#)