

*Mes Loisirs  
ou Journal d'événements tels qu'ils  
parviennent à ma connaissance*

Order form to be returned to the publisher:

Les Presses de l'Université Laval  
Pavillon Maurice-Pollack  
2305, rue de l'Université, bureau 3103  
Université Laval  
Québec (Québec)  
Canada, G1V 0A6

By mail, by fax (418) 656-3305  
or by email: [presses@pul.ulaval.ca](mailto:presses@pul.ulaval.ca)

Subscription rate for 12-volume set:  
720 \$ CAD (plus PST) • 800 \$ USD • 600 € • (postage included)

Each volume may also be purchased separately  
In bookstores: 65 \$ CAD (plus PST) • 70 \$ USD • 45 € or directly from the publisher  
(add postage charges per volume: 10 \$ CAD (plus PST) • 20 \$ USD • 15 €)

To ensure proper registration of order, please make sure to include full payment  
when returning order form.

\_\_\_Mrs. \_\_\_Ms. \_\_\_Mr.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Specify number of sets desired: \_\_\_\_\_

***Mes Loisirs ou Journal d'événements  
tels qu'ils parviennent à ma connaissance, 12 volumes***

Make payments to the order of **Presses de l'Université Laval**

® cheque enclosed    ® money order enclosed    ® Visa    ® MasterCard

Card n° \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

BULLETIN DE SOUSCRIPTION

Les collections de la République des Lettres  
Sources

SIMÉON-PROSPER HARDY

*Mes Loisirs  
ou Journal d'événements  
tels qu'ils parviennent  
à ma connaissance*

(1753-1789)

*Edited by*

**DANIEL ROCHE and PASCAL BASTIEN**

**12 volumes**

**Advisory board**

BRONISLAW BACZKO (Geneva)

THIERRY BELLEGUIC (Laval)

FRÉDÉRIC CHARBONNEAU (McGill)

ROGER CHARTIER (EHESS)

ROBERT DARNTON (Princeton)

MICHEL DELON (Paris-IV)

ARLETTE FARGE (EHESS)

COLIN JONES (London)

HANS-JÜRGEN LÜSEBRINK (Saarbrücken)

FRITZ NIES (Düsseldorf)

RENATO PASTA (Florence)

MICHEL PORRET (Geneva)

GIUSEPPE RICUPERATI (Turin)



LES PRESSES DE L'UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

For more than twenty-five years, Siméon-Prosper Hardy, a bookseller established in rue Saint-Jacques, toiled daily over his Journal, in order to offer us this portrait of Paris in the eighteenth century.

*Mes Loisirs, ou Journal d'événemens tels qu'ils parviennent à ma connoissance* (1753-1789) is without doubt one of the richest sources bequeathed to us by eighteenth-century personal-journal literature. Together with Barbier's celebrated *Journal* (1718-1763), to which Hardy's own seems the pendant, Enlightenment Paris has never been more within reach. The manuscripts elaborated by this Parisian man of books are clearly some of the most important documents for understanding urban society from every facet; by the sheer volume of information and through its structuring, whereby various documents, excerpts, gossip and personal observations are interspersed, this essential work continues – and brings to a close – the tradition of the great journals and memoirs of the Ancien Regime. The rich and incredibly detailed information within provides the key to understanding the history of its institutions, political life, urban society and culture, and gives insight into its citizens' awareness of the turmoil, the emotions, pastimes and various forms of entertainment in the city. To the researcher, Hardy is a first-hand witness to everything the days and nights could offer the eyes and ears of a middle-class Parisian during the last thirty years of the Ancien Regime.

Though inconsistent between 1753 et 1765, Hardy's pen becomes livelier after 1766, and constant through to the first months of the French Revolution: his sole purpose was to set down in writing, for posterity, this daily biography of Paris, this "history of the present times".

Co-edited by Daniel Roche (Collège de France) and Pascal Bastien (Université du Québec à Montréal), with contributions from some of the foremost specialists of the eighteenth century, *Mes Loisirs* appears for the first time in its entirety, in a twelve-volume annotated edition.

## Publication calendar

Original French text in 12 volumes of 500 pages each, to be published between Autumn 2007 and Spring 2011

- Volume 1 (1753-1770) Autumn 2007
- Volume 2 (1771-1772) Spring 2008
- Volume 3 (1773-1774) Autumn 2008
- Volume 4 (1775-1776) Spring 2009
- Volume 5 (1777-1778) Autumn 2009
- Volume 6 (1779-1780) Autumn 2009
- Volume 7 (1781-1782) Spring 2010
- Volume 8 (1783-1785) Spring 2010
- Volume 9 (1786-1787) Autumn 2010
- Volume 10 (1788) Autumn 2010
- Volume 11 (1789) Spring 2011
- Volume 12 (Index and glossary) Spring 2011

Sources

*Mes Loisirs ou Journal d'événemens  
tels qu'ils parviennent à ma connoissance*

Sources

Excerpts

27 October 1770 – The street lamps, which had been introduced in 1767 in order to light certain parts of the city of Paris, were presently of general use, and nowhere did one see the old lanterns, of which everyone was thoroughly satisfied, as the result was significantly beneficial with regards to public security. Scarcely a soul but for the prostitutes could be found to complain because their little nocturnal trade was considerably hampered and it became a little more difficult to sell their wares.



12 February 1777 – On this day, a bull escaped from a slaughterhouse up in the Montagne Sainte-Geneviève, made off to the Faubourg Saint-Jacques and, after having seriously wounded one of the apprentice butchers who was in pursuit, took refuge in the shed belonging to Sir Cochin the elder, retired merchant, former city magistrate, in the courtyard of the inn by the name of Mont-Saint-Adrien. No one dared approach this raging animal; one was obliged to call on the aid of a soldier of the French Guard to put a bullet in its head. But this soldier, having missed his first shot, promptly retreated so as to extract himself from the effects of the creature's terrible rage, charged his musket a second time, loaded a bullet, and so well took aim that he hit the beast straight between the eyes, throwing it off its feet.



5 July 1782 – On this day, a sickness said to have spread throughout most of Europe, and to which some had given the name La Coquette du Nord as having originated in Russia, while others called it La Générale, and others still La Royale or La Lévitte; consisting of a cold with a sore throat and fever but which fortunately was not untreatable, and reaped few souls, was so widely felt in our capital that there was not a house to be found where one could not hear the lament of at least one tormented soul. Many had jumped to the conclusion that some sort of contagion was in the air, and as a consequence carried, out of precaution, a few garlic cloves in their pockets [...]



15 July 1789 – On this day, since morning, the churches continued to sound out the call to all citizens to gather at the assembly halls of their districts. The Militia took up formation and perfected its drills each day. Barracks and guardrooms were quickly improvised for them and multiplied all over the city, and predominantly in all the religious communities and houses. This militia kept a watchful eye, with the greatest care and with the greatest precision, on the capital city and on the security of all properties. It scrupulously inspected all passers-by as well as the newly arrived, all suspicious persons, and took great pains to intercept every parcel, every dispatch from the ill-intentioned. They worked to demolish the Bastille at several points so as to prevent fire from smouldering in its foundations.