Mark Twain, Social Critic, and His Image of the Doctor

Abstract

Mark Twain had an opinion on everything (1). Because he was a keen social critic of his times these opinions are of interest in offering some insight into what our country was like during the latter part of the nineteenth century and the first decade of the twentieth. Twain has been called the "American Voltaire" (2). George Bernard Shaw regarded him as a sociologist before all else (3) and said, "I am persuaded that the future historian of America will find [his] works—indispensable" (4). Recently, an entire book has been published on the theme that Mark Twain was more a

4 Citations
Quite old criticism of Mark Twain from The Cambridge History of English and American Literature in 18 Volumes (1907-21). Wasserstrom, Jeffrey N. "Traveling with Twain in an Age of Simulations: Rereading and reliving The Innocents Abroad." Using manuscripts, nineteenth century reviews, images, and interactive exhibits drawn from the Special Collections at the U of Virginia, Professor Railton has created a visual web site on Mark Twain, "to allow readers, scholars, students and teachers to see what Mark Twain and His Times said about each other, in a way that can speak to us today." The Twain Web, the web site of the Mark Twain Forum. Contains book reviews from book review editor Barbara Schmidt, access to the list's archives back to 1992, and several scholarly articles.