

Trollope's Oddly-Named Characters

In several novels and short stories Trollope employed oddly-named characters in either a leading or supporting role – something which some readers found amusing but which others felt detracted from the quality of the story-telling (particularly in the more serious and weighty tales). Character names range from the silly to the farcical.

Dr. Pessimist Anticant (The Warden) – Scottish reformer and author.

Captain Battleax (The Fixed Period) – commander of the gunboat John Bright.

Sir Timothy Beeswax (The Prime Minister) – conservative MP, leader of the House of Commons.

Mr. Bideawhile (He Knew He Was Right) – junior member of the law firm of Slow and Bideawhile.

Lord Boardtrade (Ayala's Angel) – father of Septimus Traffick.

Captain "Doodles" Boodle (The Claverings) – billiard player and local gossip.

Baron Brawl (The Bertrams) – loud, opinionated judge.

Sir Raffle Buffle (The Small House at Allington, Last Chronicle of Barset) – chief commissioner of the Income Tax office.

Lord and Lady Cantrip (The Duke's Children, Phineas Finn, Phineas Redux, The Prime Minister) – liberal politician working in the Colonial Office, and his wife.

Mrs. Jane Carbuncle (The Eustace Diamonds) – pretty aunt of Lucinda Roanoke.

Doctor Century (Doctor Thorne) – physician based in Silverbridge.

Reverend Charles Comfort (Rachel Ray) – evangelical rector of Cawston.

Verax Corkscrew (The Three Clerks) – friend of Charley Tudor in the Internal Navigation Office.

Patience Crabstick (The Eustace Diamonds) – personal maid to Lizzie Eustace and architect of the diamond robbery.

Captain Cuttwater (The Three Clerks) – foul-mouthed naval officer given to drink.

Neversaye Die (The Bertrams, Castle Richmond) – chancery barrister.

Lord Gustavus and Lady Griselda Dumbello (Framley Parsonage, Last Chronicle of Barset) – MP and heir of the Marquis of Hartletop, and his wife.

Earl of Earlybird (The Prime Minister) – philanthropist and Knight of the Garter.

Doctor Easyman (Framley Parsonage, Doctor Thorne) – personal physician to Mrs. Dunstable.

Reverend Everscreech (The Three Clerks) – rector of the church in Hampton.

Major Fiasco (The Small House at Allington) – member of the Board of Commissioners of the General Committee Office.

Dr. Fillgrave (Doctor Thorne, Barchester Towers, Framley Parsonage, Last Chronicle of Barset) – Barchester doctor who presides over the illnesses and deaths of several important townspeople.

Mr. Finespun (Can You Forgive Her?) – Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Flatfleece (The Way We Live Now) – club member who calls in promissory notes.

Olivia Q Fleabody (Is He Popenjoy?) – American spinster and women's rights activist.

Mr. Golightly (Phineas Redux) – clever defense lawyer.

Elias Gotobed (The American Senator, The Duke's Children) – senator from the American state of Mikewa.

Mrs. Growler (Harry Heathcote of Gangoil) – Harry Heathcote's housekeeper.

Miss Gushing (Doctor Thorne) – pious old maid who eventually marries a Methodist.

Farmer and Henry Greenacre (Barchester Towers) – farmer/churchwarden, and his son.

Sir Abraham Haphazard (The Warden, Doctor Thorne) – London lawyer and Attorney General.

Sir Gregory Hardlines (The Three Clerks) – chief clerk in the Weights and Measures office.

Orlando and Clara Hittaway (The Eustace Diamonds) – gossip chairman of the board of Civil Appeals, and his wife (daughter of Lady Fawn).

Mr. and Mrs. Lookaloft (Barchester Towers) – tenant farmer, and his wife, working near Ullathorne.

Mick Maggott (John Caldigate) – hard-living Australian gold miner.

Mr. Mainsail (Lady Anna) – junior lawyer for Countess Lovel.

Mr. Manylodes (The Three Clerks) – stockjobber specializing in mining shares.

Sir Lamda Mewnew (Barchester Towers) – London physician.

Lord Mistletoe (The American Senator) – handsome son of the Duke of Mayfair.

Sir Damask and Lady Julia Triplex Monogram (The Prime Minister, The Way We Live Now) – socialites active in the London scene.

Marquis of Mount Fidgett (The Prime Minister) – nobleman of questionable scruples.

Lord of Mountfidget (Gentle Euphemia) – injured suitor seeking the hand of Euphemia in marriage.

Fidus, Lactimel and Ugolina Neverbend (The Three Clerks) – clerk at the Woods and Forests Office, and his two unmarried sisters.

Jack Neverbend (The Fixed Period) – cricketer for Britannula and son of the President.

John and Sarah Neverbend (The Fixed Period) – president of Britannula, and his wife.

Mr. Oldeschole (The Three Clerks) – secretary of the Internal Navigation Office.

Mr. Optimist (The Small House at Allington) – chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the General Committee Office.

Reverend Oliphant and Mary Outhouse (He Knew He Was Right) – rector of St. Diddulphus-in-the-East, and his wife (who is sister of Sir Rowley).

Sir Kennington Oval (The Fixed Period) – English cricketer travelling to Britannula.

Hickory Peppercorn and Polly Peppercorn (Two Heroines of Plumplington Hall) – brewer and his daughter.

Mr. Peppermint (The Three Clerks) – a widower with several children seeking a new wife.

Sir Omicron Pie (Barchester Towers, Doctor Thorne, The Prime Minister, The Bertrams, Small House at Allington) – well-regarded London physician.

Peter Prosper (Mr. Scarborough's Family) – wealthy, if foolish, landowner.

Lady Selina Protest (Is He Popenjoy?) – a severe-looking women's rights activist.

Miss Pucker (Rachel Ray) – a rumor-mongering spinster.

Mr. Puddlebrane (The Fixed Period) – English cricketer travelling to Britannula.

Doctor Pullbody (Is He Popenjoy?) – London physician treating the Marquis of Brotherton.

Mr. and Mrs. Quiverful (Barchester Towers) – rector, and his wife, parents of 14 children.

Mr. Ramsbottom (The Way We Live Now) – a Liverpool lawyer.

Mr. Reddypalm (Doctor Thorne) – pub owner in Barchester.

Lady Ruth Revoke (The Bertrams) – an aggressive whist player.

Richard Scatterall (The Three Clerks) – friend of Charley Tudor in the Internal Navigation Office.

Mr. Scrobby (The American Senator) – tradesman trying to improve his professional situation.

Mr. Popular Sentiment (The Warden) – a popular and influential author.

Mr. Smiler (The Eustace Diamonds) – a jewel thief.

Mr. Snapper (Last Chronicle of Barset) – Bishop Proudie’s chaplain.

Thomas Platter Spooner (The Duke’s Children, Phineas Redux) – country gentleman and huntsman.

Mr. Spiveycomb (Ralph the Heir) – a politically active paper-maker.

George Stickatit (The Bertrams) – partner in the law firm of Dry & Stickatit.

Miss Tallowax (Is He Popenjoy?) – rich and tricky aunt who becomes Popenjoy’s godparent.

Thomas and Margaret Tappitt (Rachel Ray) – head of Bungall and Tappitt brewery, and his wife, parents of three marriageable daughters.

Reverend Mortimer Tempest (Last Chronicle of Barset, The Duke’s Children) – aging rector of Silverbridge.

Joshua and Matilda Thoroughbung (Mr. Scarborough’s Family) – brewer and huntsman, and his wealthy, large, single and middle-aged sister.

Jemima Tickle (Mr. Scarborough’s Family) – spinster and friend of Matilda Thoroughbung.

Tobias Tickler (Framley Parsonage) – widowed preacher of Bethnal Green.

Thomas and Maria Toogood (Last Chronicle of Barset) – London lawyer, and his wife, parents of 12 children.

Mahogany Topps (Last Chronicle of Barset) – chairman of committee responsible for removing Major Tifto as master of hounds.

Septimus and Augusta Traffick (Ayala's Angel) – elderly MP, and his wealthy wife.

Mr. Trigger (Ralph the Heir) – political agent and campaign manager.

Polly Twizzle (Struggles of Brown, Jones and Robinson) – best friend of Maryanne Brown.

Jackson Unthank (The American Senator) – wealthy American art collector.

Mr. Uppinall (The Three Clerks) – ambitious, but unsuccessful, clerk in the Weights and Measures Office.

Mr. Waddle (Ralph the Heir) – foreman at a breeches shop.

Mrs. Martha Whereas (Castle Richmond) – London landlady renting rooms to Herbert Fitzgerald.

Mr. X (An Editor's Tales) – owner of a periodical.