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## Navigating the Transatlantic threshold: James Fenimore Cooper and the revolutionary Atlantic

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### Abstract

This study aims to investigate the invention of the American sea novel by James Fenimore Cooper in the early nineteenth century and how this relates to the socio/political tensions within transatlantic relationships.

The thesis focuses upon Fenimore Cooper's first three sea romances, *The Pilot* (1826), *The Red Rover* (1827) and *the Water Witch* (1830). By discussing how far these novels resonate with the conventions of the historical romance and how far they attempt to establish a sense of nautical realism, this thesis illuminates Cooper as an author less aligned from his usually portrayal as a literary republican and more of a moderate federalist.

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Murray, D.

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James Fenimore Cooper (September 15, 1789 – September 14, 1851) was a prolific and popular American writer of the early 19th century. See also: *The American Democrat* (1838). Few men exhibit greater diversity, or, if we may so express it, greater antithesis of character than the native warrior of North America. In war, he is daring, boastful, cunning, ruthless, self-denying, and self-devoted; in peace, just, generous, hospitable, revengeful, superstitious, modest, and commonly chaste. 1. james fenimore cooper, the letters and journals of james fenimore cooper, 6 vols., ed. seded only that of long tom coffin of the pilot, and when cooper published the book in 1824, the scene most praised by the cooper's the pilot and the red rover - home - springer - cooper's the pilot. and the red rover just as byron's the corsair (1814) influenced scott's decision to write the pirate (1821), so too scott's the pirate prompted james fenimore cooper to write the pilot (1823). as cooper politely phrased it in his preface, "€.