

Editorial

Persuasions #19 will be the tenth and last issue edited by the team of Joan Austen-Leigh, Lorraine Hanaway, and Gene Koppel. (Actually, Joan Austen-Leigh, the founder of the journal, had edited eight issues, numbers 1-8, and co-edited ten, numbers 10-19, the able editor of number 9 was Juliet McMaster.) We three have seen *Persuasions* acquire an editorial board of distinguished Jane Austen scholars, and achieve the listings of its articles in the annual PMLA bibliography, as well as appear in frequent references in other publications. We have tried to publish a wide range of articles, including traditional close-readings of Austen's texts, and historical backgrounds of her family, her community, and her times; in addition, we have not neglected the more modern approaches such as feminism, deconstruction, New Historicism and post-colonialism. *Persuasions* has a uniquely diversified readership, and we hoped through the variety of our articles to appeal to every reader's interests. Of course, we would have faced a hopeless task if we had not had the unfailing co-operation of the hosts of the annual general meetings, who were crucial in making the papers of the conference speakers available to us. And our gratitude extends to the speakers themselves, almost all of whom (and this includes some of the most important Austen scholars of our time) gave us their talks for publication. We hope our readers feel that we have adequately utilized these resources. The next issue of *Persuasions* will be edited by Professor Laurie Kaplan of Goucher College. We are delighted that it is she who will be at the helm; we are confident that she will maintain the tradition and the quality of our journal. Thus to Professor Kaplan and to our readers, we bid Hail and Farewell. Thank you for ten very rewarding years with JASNA and with Jane Austen.

The Editors