

**A Brief History of Little, Brown and Company  
  
“Frankly, I have no use for Messrs. Little and Brown . . . it’s the ‘and Company’ I’m fond of.” -- Ogden Nash**

***Messrs. --*** *The plural Messrs. (1779) is an abbreviation of French messieurs, plural of monsieur, used in English to supply the plural of Mr., which is lacking. <*<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/messrs>>

Charles Little and James Brown established their highly successful publishing company in Boston (1837); therefore, *Little* and *Brown* are actually two different surnames (last names) and must be separated with the comma.

THE FOLLOWING TEXT HAS BEEN PULLED FROM <<http://www.littlebrown.com>>:

Little, Brown and Company is one of the country’s oldest and most distinguished publishing houses.

The company was primarily a bookseller at first, as were most publishing firms of that day, and has in fact traced its roots back even further – to 1784 and a bookstore opened on Marlborough Street by Ebenezer Battelle. Mr. Little and Mr. Brown began by publishing the works of Benjamin Franklin and George Washington, and highlights of their early lists include Edward Gibbon’s *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, The Letters of John Adams,* the speeches of Daniel Webster, and Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.’s landmark *The Common Law.* In 1859 the company took over publishing rights to a book entitled *Familiar Quotations* by John Bartlett. The eighteenth edition of the now familiar *Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations,* with Geoffrey O’Brien as General Editor, arrived in 2012.  
  
To this day, Little, Brown remains committed to publishing fiction of the highest quality and nonfiction of lasting significance. The company’s bestselling novelists include J.D. Salinger, Herman Wouk, James Patterson, Anita Shreve, Michael Connelly, Alice Sebold, Janet Fitch, Pete Hamill, Emma Donoghue, David Foster Wallace, Kate Atkinson, Stephenie Meyer and Elin Hilderbrand. In its early days, Little, Brown published *Little Women* and *Little Men* by Louisa May Alcott, *Man Without a Country* by Edward Everett Hale, and the poetry of Emily Dickinson. Over the years it has brought out important novels by Norman Mailer, Thomas Pynchon, Gore Vidal, Evelyn Waugh, John Fowles, Thomas Berger, Erich Maria Remarque, James Carroll, Richard Yates, John P. Marquand, Ellery Queen, Ngaio Marsh, C.S. Forester, John Barth, and Rick Moody.

<http://www.littlebrown.com/175.html#sthash.nZGyf8Dl.dpuf>