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Tooze's "The Life and Letters of Emily Chubbuck Judson (Fanny Forester): Volume 7, 1826-1854 The Collected Poetry and Fiction" (Book Review)

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**The Life and Letters of Emily Chubbuck Judson (Fanny Forester):
Volume 7, 1826-1854 The Collected Poetry and Fiction,**
edited by George H. Tooze. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 2013.
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Emily Chubbuck Judson, writing under the name Fanny Forester, was one of the most popular mid-nineteenth century literary figures. She was also the third wife of Adoniram Judson, the first Protestant missionary to Burma from North America. This volume has been edited with carefully researched notes by the late Rev. Dr. George H. Tooze, Jr., the leading Emily Chubbuck Judson scholar and a retired pastor, and was published in cooperation with the American Baptist Historical Society.

The collection of poetry and fiction is the final volume in a set, which contains biographies and timelines in volume 1, and letters in volumes 2-6. Volume 7 begins with Judson's earliest known poem written at age 9 and concludes with work from shortly before her death at 36. The book proceeds through her increasingly sophisticated poetry and short stories on philosophical themes such as death, life, nature, and relationships. They are transcribed from Judson's handwritten notebooks passed down to Judson's great-grandson. Tooze considers such things in his notes such as events in Judson's life at the time of writing, or how a character mentioned in various poems may refer to the same person. It is worth mentioning that these notes are in very small print, which makes them somewhat difficult to read.

Final sections of this volume include research updates since the publication of volume 1 four years prior, mostly consisting of information about people, characters, places, and events and a revamped literary timeline. The volume's index is thoughtfully arranged by date and the people mentioned, while the contents page briefly presents categories of work by year. Although some of Judson's writings are available through such sources as the Internet Archive, most of the pieces in this collection are published for the first time, which makes this volume and its entire series an important contribution to the study of female writers in nineteenth century America.