**Nathaniel Hawthorne**

Notably, Nathaniel Hawthorne was one of the leading authors in the past bearing in mind that his short stories and novels are being read by a lot of people from all walks of the world. Hawthorne was born back in the year 1804 where he was the only son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth. It is believed that Hawthorne’s ancestors came to America in 1630s where they had migrated from England. His ancestors settled in Salem, Massachusetts and this is the place Hawthorne was born. Unfortunately, at age of age of four, Hawthorne together with his mother were forced to go and live at his mother’s family simply because his father died and his mother could not support their living. Hawthorne married Sophia Peabody in 1842 and they were blessed with three children (Hawthorne, et al. 2016). I chose to write about this past author because his works are still being studied in most parts of the world meaning that he is an important author worldwide.

Being an author, Hawthorne managed to build his fame by writing some short stories and famous novels as well. Some of his short stories included “My Kinsman, Major Molineux” and “Ronger Malvin’s Burial” both authored in 1832 as well as “young Goodman Brown” which he wrote in 1835. In addition to these short stories, the author is best known for novels entitled “The Scarlet Letter” which was published in 1850 and “The House of the Seven Gables in 1851. The Scarlet Letter is a novel about two lovers and this is the book that made Hawthorne quite famous because it one of the first publications in the US to be mass-produced. Use of symbolism made him to be the best authors of his time and this has attracted many scholars to read his novels.

Obviously, his work used to boost him financially though he was getting little money at first when he was writing short stories. However, after his novel was mass-produced, the author gained fame and he could earn his living through his good work. As a matter of fact, he wrote a campaign biography for US president Franklin Pierce and this convinced Franklin to appoint Hawthorne to be an American Consul to Britain (Hawthorne, et al. 2016). Therefore, Hawthorne’s work as an author influenced his life in many ways as he moved from a less valued to most famous person in the society.

Precisely, to relate his work to the literary period, Hawthorne used to write and articulate message about things directly affecting people in the society. For instance, writing Franklin’s campaign biography is all about politics of the time and obviously he was expecting a favor in return. Also, The Scarlet Letter is about love and relationships hence portraying how lovers of the time related. However, the author mostly used symbolism in most of his works but he had useful information to pass in anything he wrote.

**Reference**

Hawthorne, B., Hawthorne, N., Secret, D., Romance, T., Gables, T., & Faun, T. et al. (2016). *Nathaniel Hawthorne - Biography and Works. Search Texts, Read Online. Discuss.*. *Online-literature.com*. Retrieved 13 July 2016, from http://www.online-literature.com/hawthorne/