

clair's Memoirs of the Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair, Bt. (1837), i. 183-8; *Gent. Mag.* (1813), lxxxiii. pt. ii. 630, 704; *Ann. Reg.* (1813), Chron. p. 123; *European Mag.* (1813), lxiv. 552-3; *Scots Mag.* (1814), p. 158; *Hunter's South Yorkshire* (1831), ii. 343-50; *Chambers's Book of Days* (1869), ii. 705-6.] G. F. R. B.

BOSWELL, ALEXANDER, LORD AUCHINLECK (1706-1782), Scotch judge, the eldest son of James Boswell of Auchinleck, advocate, and Lady Elizabeth Bruce, third daughter of Alexander, second earl of Kincardine, was born in 1706. After studying at Leyden University, where he graduated 29 Dec. 1727, he was admitted a member of the faculty of advocates 29 Dec. 1729. In 1748 he was appointed sheriff-depute of Wigtownshire, which office he resigned in 1750. Upon the resignation of David Erskine, lord Dun, he was appointed an ordinary lord of session, and on 15 Feb. 1754 took his seat on the bench with the title of Lord Auchinleck. On 22 July in the following year he was also appointed a lord justiciary in the place of Hew Dalrymple, Lord Drummore. This last appointment he resigned in 1780 on account of his feeble state of health. He continued, however, to sit as an ordinary lord until his death, which happened at Edinburgh on 31 Aug. 1782, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. Lord Auchinleck was a sound scholar and a laborious judge. In religion he was a strict presbyterian, and in politics a strong whig. Dr. Johnson's visit to him at Auchinleck in November 1773 is amusingly recounted by his son James in the 'Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides.' Scott gave some additional anecdotes to Croker. It was Lord Auchinleck who is said to have designated Johnson as 'Ursa Major.' Lord Auchinleck married twice. His first wife was Euphemia Erskine, daughter of Colonel John Erskine and Euphemia his wife. By this marriage there were three sons: James, the biographer of Dr. Johnson; John, who entered the army and died unmarried; and David, who in early life went into business, but afterwards became head of the prize department in the navy office, bought Crawley Grange, Buckinghamshire, and died in 1826. Lord Auchinleck's second wife was his cousin Elizabeth, daughter of John Boswell of Balmuto, and sister of Claud Irvine Boswell [q. v.], afterwards Lord Balmuto. There was no issue of this marriage, which took place on the same day on which his son James was married, 25 Nov. 1769.

[Brunton and Haig's *Senators of the College of Justice* (1832), p. 518; *Boswell's Johnson* (Croker's edit. 1831), iii. passim; *Dr. Rogers's Boswelliana* (1874), passim; *Gent. Mag.* lii. 55.] G. F. R. B.

BOSWELL, SIR ALEXANDER (1775-1822), antiquary and poet, eldest son of James Boswell the biographer, was born on 9 Oct. 1775, at the family mansion at Auchinleck, Ayrshire, and named after his grandfather, the Scotch judge, then living there. Along with his brother James he was educated at Westminster and Oxford. At his father's death in 1795 he succeeded to Auchinleck, and in the same year commenced the tour of Europe. He wrote, at Leipzig, 'Taste Life's glad moments,' a translation of Usteri's poem 'Freu't euch des Lebens.' Being an enthusiastic lover of Burns's poetry, he composed in his native dialect several songs which were exceedingly popular, and in 1803 collected them into a volume, published anonymously, 'Songs chiefly in the Scottish Dialect,' Edin. 8vo. These are very graphic, full of Scotch humour, but coarse at times.

Having settled at Auchinleck, he studied the literature of his country, and imitated the ancient ballad style. In 1803 he published 'The Spirit of Tintoc, or Johnny Bell and the Kelpie,' Edin. 8vo. The same year he published an 'Epistle to the Edinburgh Reviewers,' in verse, by A. B., Edin. 4to. To George Thomson's 'Select Collection of Original Welsh Airs,' Edin. 1809, fol., he contributed five songs. His next book was anonymous, 'Edinburgh, or the Ancient Royalty; a sketch of Former Manners,' by Simon Gray, Edin. 1810, 12mo. In 1811, with his name affixed, appeared 'Clan Alpin's Vow,' a fragment, Edin. 8vo (second edition, London, 1817, 8vo). 'Sir Albyn,' a poem, burlesquing the style and rhythm of Scott, was published in 1812. Turning his attention to the literary heirlooms of Auchinleck, in 1811 he published from a manuscript 'A Breefe Memoriall of the Lyfe and Death of Dr. James Spottiswood, bishop of Clogher in Ireland, . . .,' Edinb. 4to, and he reprinted from a unique copy of a black-letter work, originally published by Knox himself, the disputation between Quintine Kennedy, Commendatour of Crosraguell and John Knox, entitled 'Ane Oratioune . . . 1561,' Edin. 1812, 4to. To George Thomson's 'Select Collection of Original Irish Airs,' Edin. 1814, fol., he contributed seven songs, of which 'Paddy O'Rafferty' and 'The Pulse of an Irishman' are well known.

In 1815 he established a private press at Auchinleck. A gossiping letter, telling of his difficulties in the undertaking, addressed to Dibdin in 1817, is given in the 'Decameron' along with an engraving of the thatched cottage, his printing-office, 'Officina Typographica Straminea.' Here, as first fruits, appeared 'The Tyrant's Fall,' a poem

on Waterloo, by Alexander Boswell, Auchinl., printed by A. and J. Boswell, 1815, 8vo; 'Sheldon Haughs, or the Sow is flitted,' 1816, 8vo, a quaint rendering of an Ayrshire tradition; and 'The Woo'-creel, or the Bull o' Rashun,' 1816, a poem after the manner of Allan Ramsay. This year he contributed some lyrics to Campbell's 'Albyn's Anthology,' Edin. fol. We hear of him continually in the papers of this time. At the annual festival of the Harveian Society of Edinburgh he sang one of his topical songs on the Institution, its founder and members, 'Song . . . Harveian Anniversary,' Edin. 1816, 8vo. The society elected him poet laureate, as is shown by a poem published after his death. 'An Elegiac Ode to the memory of Dr. Harvey . . . by Sir Alex. Boswell. Poeta Laureatus, Sod. Fil. Æsculapii,' in 'Andrew Duncan's Tribute to Raeburn,' Edin. 1824, 8vo. The works issuing under his editorship from his private press were interesting additions to literature. About 1816 appeared 'Dialogus pius et festivus inter Deum (ut ferunt) et Evam,' then 'Dialogus inter Solomon et Marcolphum,' and afterwards the Roxburgh work, the 1598 edition of 'Poems by Richard Barnfield,' 1816, 4to, the gift of his brother James. The series of rare reprints for which the press is chiefly noted is that of several old poems issued at intervals in 4to, separate and unpag'd, each with 'Finis,' but afterwards grouped in volumes (unnumbered) under the title of 'Frondes Caduce,' of which a complete set is very scarce. We give abbreviated titles of the works issued:— [Vol. i.] 1816, with engraving of the printing-office. 'A Remembrance of Sir Nicholas Bacon . . . (by) George Whetstones.' 'A Remembrance of Judge Sir James Dier . . . (by) George Whetstones.' 'A Remembrance of . . . Lord Thomas, late Earle of Sussex,' 1583. [Vol. ii.] 1816, 'Sir Phillip Sidney, his honorable life . . . by G. W[h]etstones.' 'The Mirror of Man, and the Manners of Men . . . by Thomas Churchyard,' 1594. 'A Pleasant Discourse of Court and Wars, by Thomas Churchyard,' 1594. 'A Sad and Solemn Funerall . . . Francis Knowles, Knt., by Thomas Churchyard,' 1596. The latter is called 'Churchyard's Cherrishing.' [Vol. iii.] 1817 (with a neat engraving of Linnburn Bridge, by Grace Boswell) 'A Fig for Momus by T. L[odge],' 1595. [Vol. iv.] 1817, 'A Musically Consort, called Churchyard's Charitie,' 1595. 'A Praise of Poetrie,' 1595. [Vol. v.] 1818, 'The Scottish Souldier, by [George] Lawder,' 1629. [Vol. vi.] 1818, 'Ane Tractat of a part of ye Yngliss Cronikle . . . from Asloan's Manuscript.' [Vol. vii. and last] 1818, 'The Buke of the

Chess from a manuscript early in the 16th cent. by Jhois Sloane.' In 1817 Boswell contributed twelve songs to George Thomson's 'Select Collection of Original Scottish Aairs,' London, fol., of which 'Good night, and joy be wi' ye a', 'Jenny's Bawbee,' and 'Jenny dang the Weaver' are still favourites. In 1819 he succeeded the Rev. James William Dodd as a member of the Roxburgh Club, a well-deserved acknowledgment of his bibliographical reputation.

To Boswell's enthusiasm Scotland is indebted for the monument erected on the banks of the Doon to Robert Burns. With a friend he advertised a meeting at Ayr on a certain day to consider proposals for honouring the memory of the poet. No one came but themselves; they were not daunted, however, a chairman was elected, resolutions were carried *nem. con.*, thanks to the chair voted, and the meeting separated. The resolutions printed and circulated brought in a public subscription of 2,000*l.*, and he laid the foundation-stone of the memorial on Burns's birthday, 25 Jan. 1820. He was an active magistrate and deputy lieutenant of Argyleshire, and lieutenant-colonel of the Ayrshire cavalry. In 1818 and 1820 he was elected member for Plympton, in Devonshire, and entered on his duties on strict conservative principles, but accepted the Chiltern Hundreds in 1821. His song 'Long live George the Fourth,' written, composed, and sung by him at Ayr, on the celebration of his majesty's anniversary, 19 July 1821, was afterwards published, Edin. 1821, fol. In August 1821 he was created a baronet. He married a daughter of David Montgomery, of Lanishaw, a relative of his mother, by whom he had several children. In society he was a general favourite. Croker describes him as a high-spirited, clever, and amiable gentleman, of frank and social disposition. Lockhart says that among those who appeared at the 'dinners without the silver dishes (as Scott called them) was Boswell of Auchinleck, who had all his father Bozzy's cleverness, good humour, and joviality, without one touch of his meaner qualities.'

The 'Beacon' (not the 'Warder,' as Allibone, Dibdin, and others say) had been started as a tory paper at this time. Scott contributed without any share in directing it. He withdrew on account of its excesses, and after a short existence, Jan. to Aug. 1821, the committee ordered its extinction. It contained bitter pasquinades against James Stuart of Dunearn (of the house of Moray), a writer to the Signet. Another paper, the 'Glasgow Sentinel,' a continuation of the 'Clydesdale Journal,' took the place of the 'Beacon,' and

in its first number, 10 Oct. 1821, with equal rancour but less ability attacked Stuart. Squabbles arose between its proprietors, Robert Alexander and Wm. Murray Borthwick, eventuating in several crown prosecutions and appeals to the House of Commons. Stuart, under a judgment obtained by Alexander against Borthwick, got hold of the office papers, and found to his surprise that his enemy was his half-friend Boswell. Boswell had been to London to attend the funeral of his brother James, and returning to Edinburgh on Saturday night, 23 March 1822, found a card of Lord Rosslyn awaiting him. On the 25th came Stuart's challenge. Boswell would neither deny nor apologise, and on the 26th a duel was fought at the farm of Balbarton, near Kirkcaldy, the seconds being Lord Rosslyn for Stuart, and the Hon. John Douglas, afterwards Marquis of Queensberry, for Boswell. Stuart again endeavoured to effect a reconciliation, but Boswell was obstinate. The duel was with pistols fired at a signal, and Boswell was struck and his collarbone shattered. He died at Balmuto, the seat of his ancestors, the next day, 27 March 1822, in the presence of his wife and family, and was buried at Auchinleck.

In person Boswell was of a powerful, muscular figure; he was very fond of field sports from his youth. Lord Cockburn speaks of his jovial disposition, but censures his overbearing, boisterous love of ridiculing others. Lockhart gives an interesting account of his last evening at Scott's, a few hours before the fatal event. Several circumstances of his death are reproduced by Scott in the duel scene of 'St. Ronan's Well.' It is curious that his only piece of legislation was the taking charge of the act (59 Geo. III, c. 70) which abolished two old Scottish statutes against duelling. His daughter Janet Teresa, wife of Sir William Francis Elliott of Stobs, died 1836. His only son James, who succeeded him as second and last baronet, married Jessie Jane, daughter of Sir James Montgomery Cunningham, and died 4 Nov. 1857, leaving two daughters, Julia and Emma, still living.

Stuart was tried for wilful murder at the high court of justiciary, Edinburgh, on 10 June 1822. On the trial Henry Cockburn opened and Francis Jeffrey followed. The jury, without retiring, acquitted the prisoner.

[Croker's Boswell, 1848, 212, 240, 270, 458, 468, 555; Nichols's *Illust.* v. 469; *Edin. Ann. Reg.* 1820, 1822; *Gent. Mag.* xcii. i. 365, new series, 1849, 659, 1850, 523; *Anderson's Hist. of Edin.* 366; *Thomson's Collection of Aairs, 1809-17*; *Campbell's Albyn's Anthol.* 1806; *Dibdin's Lit. Rem.* 1836; *Roxburgh (Club)*

Revels; Andrews's Brit. Journalism; Townsend's State Trials, i. 151; *Trial of James Stuart, 1822*; *Dr. Rogers's Modern Scottish Minstrelsy*, ii. 204; *Dibdin's Biog. Decam.* iii. 454; *Lockhart's Scott*, pp. 371, 471, 477; *Beacon, Edin.* 1821; *Glasgow Sentinel*, 1821-2; *Cockburn's Memorials*, 398; *Times*, June 26, 1822, and *Boswell's Works.*] J. W. G.

BOSWELL, CLAUD IRVINE, LORD BALMUTO (1742-1824), Scotch judge, was born in 1742. His father, John Boswell of Balmuto, who was the younger brother of James Boswell of Auchinleck, and a writer of the signet in Edinburgh, died when Claud was an infant. At the early age of six he was sent to Mr. Barclay's school at Dalkeith. After finishing his education at Edinburgh University, he was admitted a member of the faculty of advocates on 2 Aug. 1766. On 25 March 1780 he was appointed sheriff depute of Fife and Kinross, and after serving this office for nineteen years was, upon the death of James Burnett, Lord Monboddo, appointed an ordinary lord of session, and took his seat upon the bench with the title of Lord Balmuto on 21 June 1799. After nearly twenty-three years of judicial work he resigned in January 1822, and was succeeded by William Erskine, Lord Kincedder. The death, under his own roof, of his kinsman, Sir Alexander Boswell, from the effects of a wound received by him in the duel with James Stuart of Dunearn, gave him a shock from which he never entirely recovered. He died at Balmuto on 22 July 1824, in his eighty-third year. He was a robust and athletic man, with black hair and beetling eyebrows. His manner was boisterous and his temper passionate. Though fond of joking, a habit he sometimes indulged in on the bench, he was not particularly keen in the perception of wit in others. In 1783 he married Anne Irvine, who, by the death of her brother and grandfather, became the heiress of Kingcussie, and by whom he left one son and two daughters. Two etchings of him will be found in *Kay*, Nos. 262 and 300.

[*Kay's Original Portraits and Etchings* (1877), i. 126, 298, ii. 277-8, 380, 384, 386; *Brunton and Haig's Senators of the College of Justice* (1832), p. 544; *Personal Recollections of Mary Somerville* (1873), pp. 55-6.] G. F. R. E.

BOSWELL, EDWARD (1760-1842), antiquary, was born at Piddletown, Dorsetshire, on 5 April 1760, and practised as a solicitor, first at Sherborne, and afterwards at Dorchester, where he died on 30 Oct. 1842. He published: 1. 'The Civil Division of the County of Dorset,' Sherborne, 1795, 8vo. 2. 'The Ecclesiastical Division of the

Diocese of Bristol, Sherborne [1826?], 8vo.

[Gent. Mag. N. S. xix. 95; Cat. of Printed Books in Brit. Mus.; Biog. Dict. of Living Authors (1816), 34.] T. C.

BOSWELL, JAMES, the elder (1740–1795), biographer of Johnson, was the descendant of an old Scotch family. One of his ancestors, Thomas Boswell, killed at Flodden (1513), had obtained from James IV the estate of Auchinleck in Ayrshire. His father, Alexander Boswell (1706–1782), is noticed in a separate article. James was educated by a private tutor, John Dun (who became minister of Auchinleck on Lord Auchinleck's presentation in 1752), then at a school kept by James Mundell at Edinburgh, and afterwards at the Edinburgh High School. In childhood he professed to be a Jacobite, his father being a thorough whig, and prayed for King James till an uncle gave him a shilling to pray for King George (*Life of Johnson*, 14 July 1763). Boswell entered the university of Edinburgh, where he began a lifelong friendship with William Johnson Temple, afterwards rector of Mamhead, Devon, vicar of St. Gluivias, Cornwall, and a friend of Gray. Temple went to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and Boswell, writing to him there in 1758, says that he has been introduced to David Hume, and describes his desperate love 'for Miss W—t.' The only other confidant of his passion is Mr. Love, an actor from Drury Lane, who taught elocution at Edinburgh. In 1758 Boswell also went the northern circuit with his father, travelling in the same post-chaise with Sir David Dalrymple, advocate-depute, afterwards Lord Hailes, and by Love's advice already keeping an 'exact journal.' He had also begun to publish trifles in the magazines. In November 1759 Boswell went to Glasgow as a student of civil law, and heard Adam Smith's lectures. He made the acquaintance of Francis Gentleman, then acting at the Glasgow theatre, who in 1760 dedicated to him an edition of Southern's 'Oroonoko.' Meeting some catholics in Glasgow he straightway resolved to become a Romish priest. The distress of his parents induced him to abandon this plan on condition of being allowed to exchange the law for the army. In March 1760 his father took him to London, and asked the Duke of Argyll to get him a commission in the guards. The duke replied, according to Boswell: 'I like your son; that boy must not be shot at for three-and-sixpence a day.' Boswell's military ardour meant a love of society. There was, he said long afterwards (to Temple, 4 Jan. 1780), 'an animation and relish of existence' amongst

soldiers only to be found elsewhere amongst players, and he loved both varieties of life. He was eager (*Letters*, p. 14) to 'enjoy the happiness of the beau monde and the company of men of genius,' and he stayed in London for a year, where he never managed to see Dr. Jortin, who was to have removed his religious heresies, but did see Lord Eglinton, who took him to Newmarket and introduced him to the Duke of York. Boswell wrote a poem called 'The Cub of Newmarket,' with a dedicatory epistle to the duke, describing himself as a 'curious cub' from Scotland. Lord Eglinton grew tired of the vagaries of his young friend, who had to return to Edinburgh and law studies in April 1761.

Boswell groaned under the necessity of exchanging London gaieties for legal studies in the family of a strict father. He sought all the distractions possible in Edinburgh society. He wrote some notes on London life, which gained him the acquaintance of Lord Somerville. He was admitted to the society of Kames, Dalrymple, Hume, and Robertson. He became intimate with an actor, David Ross, who was now giving private entertainments in Edinburgh, and who afterwards (December 1767) obtained permission to open the first theatre there, on which occasion Boswell contributed a prologue. Meanwhile his chief associate was Andrew Erskine, captain in the 71st regiment, and son of the fifth Earl of Kellie, with whom he carried on a correspondence from August 1761 to November 1762. The young men did their best to be vivacious in prose and verse, and published their letters in 1763. Erskine had edited in 1760 the first volume of 'A Collection of Original Poems by the Rev. Mr. Blacklock and other Scotch gentlemen,' published by Donaldson, an Edinburgh bookseller; a second, partly edited by Boswell, followed in February 1762, but the reception was not such as to encourage an intended third. From one of the twenty-eight poems contributed by Boswell we learn that he was the founder of a 'jovial society called the Soaping Club,' from the proverbial phrase, 'Let every man soap his own beard.' Boswell gives one of his numerous self-portraits, calls himself king of the soapers, boasts of his volatility, his comic singing, and conversational charms, and ends by declaring that 'there is no better fellow alive.' In December 1761 he published an anonymous 'Ode to Tragedy,' gravely dedicated to himself as to one who could 'relish the productions of a serious muse' in spite of his apparent volatility. These amusements had not extinguished his love of London, for which he has 'as violent an affection as the most romantic lover ever

had for his mistress' (*Letters to Erskine*, p. 101), and he had persuaded his father to let him return thither, still with a view to a commission in the guards. He reached it in November 1762, and immediately plunged into the pleasures of the town.

Lord Hailes had impressed upon Boswell a veneration for Johnson. Gentleman had mimicked 'Dictionary Johnson' in Glasgow. Boswell had made acquaintance on his first visit to London with Derrick, afterwards Nash's successor at Bath, who promised an introduction, but did not find an opportunity. In 1761 the elder Sheridan had lectured in Edinburgh and made the same offer. When Boswell reached London, Derrick was at Bath, and a coolness had separated Sheridan from Johnson. Boswell, however, made the acquaintance of Davies, the actor, who now kept a bookseller's shop at 8 Russell Street, Covent Garden. And here, 16 May 1763, the famous introduction of his future biographer to Johnson took place. The friendship rapidly ripened. Boswell had evenings alone with Johnson at the Mitre, was taken to see his library by Levett, saw him in company with Goldsmith, introduced his friend Temple and another friend, Dempster, whose free-thinking principles were sternly rebuked by Johnson (*Letters to Temple*, p. 33); made notes of the great man's conversation from the first interview, and received from him much good advice. Johnson encouraged Boswell to keep a full journal, and said that he would some day go with his new friend to the Hebrides.

Lord Auchinleck was meanwhile threatening to disinherit his son (ROGERS, *Boswell*, p. 35), and in June Boswell had agreed to pacify his father by going to study civil law at Utrecht. Johnson exhorted Boswell to be steady, and accompanied him to Harwich in the stage-coach, leaving London 5 Aug. 1765. Boswell started with an allowance of 240*l.* a year from his father (*Letters to Temple*, p. 37), with plenty of letters of recommendation, and with a resolution to study the civil law and to transcribe Erskine's 'Institutes.' He studied through the winter, and became intimate with Trotz, a distinguished professor of civil law, and with William Brown, pastor of the English congregation, and afterwards professor at St. Andrews; but he could not stay out the intended two years. In July 1764 he was at Berlin, whither he probably travelled in company with the Earl Marischal, who was at the same time returning to Berlin from a visit to Scotland (STRECKEISEN-MOULTON, *Rousseau*, i. 103-11). Boswell attached himself to the British ambassador Mitchell. He wrote to his father, asking for supplies for

a voyage to Italy. The reply ordered a return to Utrecht, though it permitted a visit to Paris. Boswell complained to Mitchell in a long letter full of sage reflections upon his own character. Mitchell advised implicit compliance with paternal authority. Boswell meanwhile had gone to Geneva, where he visited Voltaire at Ferney, and went to Rousseau at Motiers, with an introduction from the Earl Marischal, who, as governor of Neufchatel, had protected Rousseau (BISSET, *Memoirs of Mitchell*, ii. 381).

Marischal tells Rousseau that Boswell is a hypochondriac visionary who often sees spirits. On 26 Dec. 1764 Boswell (writing from Geneva) triumphantly tells Mitchell that his father has now consented to let him travel in Italy. He sneers at the ambassador's previous counsels of submission, and in the same breath proposes to him a little job. By getting a place in the customs for the now bankrupt father of Temple and doing something for Temple's younger brother, 'you will oblige a worthy fellow, for such I am' (BISSET, *Memoirs of Sir A. Mitchell*, ii. 351-358). In Italy Boswell added Wilkes to his list of friends. He wrote from Rome in April to remind Rousseau—just now expecting to be the Solon of Corsica—of a promised introduction to Paoli (*Tour in Corsica*, p. 264). If it did not come, said Boswell, he should still go, and probably be hanged as a spy. The letter reached Boswell, however, at Florence in August. He crossed from Leghorn to Corsica; saw the great Paoli; talked politics to him and declared himself a kind of Hamlet, a man given to melancholy, bewildered by fruitless metaphysical wanderings, and 'for ever incapable of taking a part in active life.' He also took the liberty of asking Paoli 'a thousand questions with regard to the most minute and private circumstances of his life.' He rode out on Paoli's own horse, with 'furniture of crimson velvet' and 'broad gold lace;' he exulted in being taken for an English ambassador; he played Scotch airs and sang 'Hearts of Oak' to the Corsican peasantry; quoted Johnson's best sayings to the cultivated; and announces, in a letter to Rousseau, 'Ce voyage m'a fait un bien merveilleux. Il m'a rendu comme si toutes les vies de Plutarque fussent fondues dans mon esprit' (MUSSET-PATHAY, *Œuvres inédites de Rousseau*, i. 410). Rousseau, meanwhile, was on his way to England. Hume announces (12 Jan. 1766) that Thérèse Levasseur, Rousseau's mistress, is to be escorted to England 'by a friend of mine—very good-humoured, very agreeable, and very mad.' This was Boswell, who reached England in February 1766, and, after a short stay in

London and some interviews with Johnson, proceeded to Scotland, where his mother was just dead. He was admitted advocate 26 July 1766, and resolved to set to work seriously. His head, indeed, was full of Corsica, and, though Johnson advised him not to write a history, he resolved to turn his experience to account. His father's position brought him, it seems (*Letters to Temple*, p. 95), some legal business, and in March 1767 he announces that he has made eighty guineas. He tried to attract notice by publishing in November 1767 a pamphlet on the famous Douglas case. Boswell considered that he had rendered a service to the claimant, Archibald Douglas; explained upon that ground the coolness with which he was treated by the Duchess of Argyll on his visit to Inverary with Johnson; and seems to have appeared as counsel in the last litigation before the House of Lords in 1778 (*Letter to Johnson*, 26 Feb. 1778). In 1767 he was also employed upon writing his 'Account of Corsica.' He sold it to Dilly for one hundred guineas (*Letters to Temple*, p. 103), and it appeared in the spring of 1768. The book consists of a commonplace historical account of Corsica, followed by a short and very lively description of his tour. A second edition followed in a few months, and a third in 1769. In the spring of 1769 he also published a volume of 'Essays in favour of the brave Corsicans.' The tour excited a good deal of not altogether flattering interest. Johnson, indeed, did not give his opinion till directly charged with unkindness for his silence by the author. He then said (9 Sept. 1769) that the history was 'like other histories,' but the journal 'in a very high degree delightful and curious.' Walpole (who says that Boswell 'forced himself upon me in spite of my teeth') and Gray laughed over it, Gray saying that the journal was 'a dialogue between a green goose and a hero.' Boswell asked Temple for an introduction to Gray, but the poet apparently escaped. Already acquainted with Voltaire, Rousseau, Paoli, Johnson, Goldsmith, Hume, Wilkes, and other eminent men, Boswell had tried to make his Corsican experience a stepping-stone to acquaintance with English statesmen. He called upon Chatham in Corsican costume to plead the cause of Paoli ('Johnsoniana' in CROKER'S *Boswell*, No. 638); he was elated by a note from the statesman in February 1766; and some months later Chatham wrote him a letter of three pages applauding his generous warmth. On 8 April 1767 he tells Lord Chatham that he has communicated the contents of this letter to Paoli, and asks 'Could your lordship find time to honour me now and

then with a letter?' To correspond with a Paoli and with a Chatham is enough to keep a young man ever ardent in the pursuit of virtuous fame' (*Chatham Correspondence*, iii. 159, 244).

On the publication of his book Boswell went to London to enjoy his fame. 'I am really the great man now,' he exclaims to Temple (14 May 1768); he brags of his good dinners, of the great men who share them, and declares that he is about to set up his chariot. The pressure of such engagements probably explains the brevity of his account of Johnson in this visit. Boswell was indeed distracted by other interests. His appetite for enjoyment was excessive and not delicate. He lost money at play, though not, it would seem, to a serious extent (*Letters to Temple*, p. 153). He indulged in occasional drinking bouts, and in spite of vows, virtuous resolutions, and a promise made to Temple 'under a solemn yew tree' (*Letters to Temple*, pp. 199, 209), he never overcame the weakness. In 1776 he tells Temple that he was 'really growing a drunkard,' and that Paoli had made him promise total abstinence for a year (*Letters to Temple*, p. 233). At this period love was more potent than wine. In February 1767 he begins a letter to Temple, who had just taken orders, by some edifying reflections upon his friend's sacred profession and exhortations to marriage. He proceeds to explain that he cannot himself marry during his father's lifetime, and that he 'looks with horror on adultery.' He has, however, taken a house for a 'sweet little mistress,' who has been deserted by her husband and three children; who is 'ill-bred' and 'rompish,' and of doubtful fidelity, but handsome and lively. This entanglement lasted till the end of 1768 (*Letters to Temple*, p. 162). It is not surprising to find that Boswell was 'a good deal in debt' (*ib.*) Meanwhile the statement that he cannot marry is the prologue to an intricate history of half a dozen matrimonial speculations, which occupy all the energy not devoted to law, literature, or dissipation. There are references to an 'Italian angel,' apparently of Siena, who writes a letter which makes him cry (*Letters to Temple*, pp. 85, 95, 102). He has for a time thoughts of a Dutch lady called Zelide (probably the Mlle. de Zuyl of 'Boswelliana'), whom he had known at Utrecht. In March 1767 he is thinking of a Miss Bosville in Yorkshire. She, however, is supplanted by a Miss Blair, a 'neighbouring princess,' with a landed estate of 200*l.* or 300*l.* a year, and whose alliance is favoured by his father. Throughout 1767 this flirtation goes on, with quarrels and reconciliations. In June

he gets Temple (who happens to be in the north) to pay her a visit, and instructs his friend to speak to the lady of his good qualities, and also to mention his oddness, inconstancy, and impetuosity, and to ask her whether she does not think 'there is something of madness in that family' (*Letters to Temple*, p. 99). The effect of these remarkable instructions does not appear. In August all is well; but she tells him in December that she wishes that she liked him as well as Auchinleck. In February 1768 he is jealous of a Sir A. Gilmour, and amuses himself by getting his rival to frank a letter to her. Then he and a Mr. Fullerton agree to make her offers on the same morning, and are both refused in favour, as they suppose, of Gilmour. In April, after temporary thoughts of a 'fine, healthy, young, amiable Miss Dick,' he returns for a time to Zelide, and begs his father's leave to go to Utrecht, but is deterred by Temple's advice. In August he feels 'quite a Sicilian swain' under the influence of 'sixteen, innocence, and gaiety,' united in the person of Mary Anne, called also *la belle Irlandaise* (a Miss Montgomery, see *Notes and Queries*, 2nd series, iii. 381). Finding, however, that Miss Blair has broken with Sir A. Gilmour, his passion for her is awakened for a time; she is cold, and 'all the charms of sweet Mary Anne' revive. In May 1769 he visited Ireland in order to see this lady, who only laughed at him. He complained to his cousin, Margaret Montgomerie, who sympathised and consoled him by accepting his hand (ROGERS, *Boswell*, p. 79). The marriage to a sensible and amiable woman took place 25 Nov. 1769. On the same day, to Boswell's great disgust, his father married his cousin, Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Boswell of Balmuto. Boswell's open expressions of dislike increased his domestic difficulties, but no family rupture resulted, and after his father's death he was 'on decent terms' with his stepmother, who was 'exceedingly good' to his daughter (*Letters to Temple*, p. 313). In August 1768 Boswell sent 700*l.* of ordnance, raised by private subscription, from Carron to Paoli. In June 1769 Paoli, overwhelmed by the French, had left Corsica and retired to London. Boswell came to town in the autumn to attend him. On his way he attended the Shakespeare jubilee at Stratford (August 1769), and appeared in a masquerade in the dress of an armed Corsican chief with 'Viva la Liberté' embroidered in gold letters on his hat. He contributed a minute account of his appearance and his dancing with a very pretty Irish lady to the 'London Magazine,' of which he 'was a proprietor' (see NICHOLS,

Illustrations, vii. 365, and *Letters to Temple*, p. 184), of September 1769. His portrait in costume is given as an illustration. In London he saw Johnson and tried to extract advice upon marriage from his master. He renewed an acquaintance, formed in the previous year, with Mrs. Thrale, and brought about a meeting between Johnson and Paoli. In later visits to London Boswell stayed at Paoli's handsome house (*Life of Johnson*, 11 April 1776; *Letters*, p. 200), and the general tried to break him of his drinking habits.

After Boswell's marriage, a cessation of eighteen months took place in the correspondence between him and Johnson, and they did not again meet until Boswell's return to London in March 1772. The intercourse with Johnson, upon which Boswell's title to fame chiefly rests, was kept up during the remaining years of Johnson's life, who died 13 Dec. 1784. Boswell spent about a couple of months during the spring vacation of the Scotch courts (which at this period (1751-1790) lasted from 12 March to 12 June) in visits to Johnson, chiefly in London. He paid such visits in 1772, 1773, 1775, 1776, 1778, 1779, 1781, 1783, and 1784. Johnson's letters show that he was kept away by pecuniary difficulties in 1774, 1780, and 1782. In 1777 the death of a son seems to have prevented his annual journey (*Letter to Johnson*, 4 April 1777). Besides these visits, Boswell met Johnson at Ashbourne (Taylor's living) in September 1777, and saw him in October 1779 during a tour with Colonel James Stuart. The journey to the Hebrides took place in 1773, Johnson reaching Scotland 18 Aug. and leaving 22 Nov. According to Croker (preface to *Life of Johnson*, 1831), Boswell met Johnson on 180 days, or 276 including the Scotch tour. The details of the intercourse between the two men are set forth with incomparable skill in the most popular biography in the language. It is enough to mention here that Boswell was elected a member of the Literary Club 30 April 1773, owing, as it seems, to his own active canvassing as well as Johnson's influence, and against the wishes of several members. After his election they were reconciled, Burke saying that he had so much good humour naturally, that it was scarcely a virtue (*Tour to the Hebrides*, 21 Aug. 1773).

During this period Boswell was suffering various domestic troubles. Neither his wife nor his father sympathised with his enthusiasm for Johnson. The wife was a sensible woman, who, unlike her husband, preferred staying at home. When Johnson took Boswell on his tour, she remarked that though

she had seen many 'a bear led by a man, she had never before seen a man led by a bear.' Johnson perceived, and frequently notices, the dislike which she endeavoured to conceal by studious politeness (Letter to Boswell, 27 Nov. 1773, and note). His father 'harped' on his 'going over Scotland with a brute (think how shockingly erroneous!)' and wandering to London. As Scott tells us (note on *Tour to Hebrides*, 6 Nov. 1773), Lord Auchinleck pronounced Jamie to be 'clean gyte' for 'pinning himself to the tail of an auld Dominic.' Serious difficulties lay behind. Boswell seems in the main to have behaved well to his wife, though he maintained that he could 'unite little fondnesses [for other persons] with perfect conjugal love' (*Letters to Temple*, p. 197). But his relations to Lord Auchinleck were often strained, and Boswell complains that his father is cold to his wife, and is estranged by the stepmother's influence. His professional prospects did not improve, as Boswell was the last man to impress clients with his businesslike capacity. He tells Temple in 1775 that he had made 124*l.* in the last session, and he frequently consults Johnson upon legal cases in which he was concerned. But he finds the Scotch bar uncongenial (*Letters to Temple*, p. 198). He began in 1775 to keep terms at the Inner Temple (*ib.* p. 193), and in 1780 he complains that he cannot support his family (*ib.* p. 255). His father allowed him 300*l.* a year. In 1775 his father also paid off a debt of 1,000*l.* and threatened (though the threat was not carried out) to reduce the allowance to 200*l.* In 1780 Boswell had incurred another debt of 700*l.* or 800*l.* by advances to his wife's family, and was afraid to inform his father. He had by this time five children: Veronica, *b.* 1773; Euphemia, *b.* 1774; Alexander, *b.* 1775; James, *b.* 1778, and Elizabeth, *b.* 1780; besides two sons who died in infancy. With such demands and difficulties due to his occasional escapades, and loans to Temple, he had some grounds for the hypochondria of which—as of all his personal peculiarities—he was much given to boast. He endeavoured to be conciliatory to his father even at the cost of drinking 'a large quantity of strong beer to dull his faculties' (*Letters to Temple*, p. 216), but is vexed by the thought that he had given to his father 'a renunciation of his birthright,' and is thus entirely dependent on his pleasure. After a long discussion, however, in which Boswell consulted Johnson and Lord Hailes, Lord Auchinleck entailed his estate upon him, 7 Aug. 1776. (The preamble to the instrument is printed in Rogers's 'Boswell,' p. 207.)

Boswell wished that heirs male should be preferred, however remote; though he graciously observes that he holds that daughters should always be treated with affection and tenderness (note upon letter from Johnson, 15 Feb. 1776). During his father's life his difficulties did not diminish, and Johnson had to protest against his borrowing money to visit London in the spring of 1782. In the autumn of the same year he came into an estate of 1,600*l.* a year by the death of his father, 30 Aug. 1782, and proposed to set up as a country gentleman. In December 1783 he writes to Johnson asking for advice about resisting the unconstitutional influence of Scotch peers, and the treatment of old horses, and expressing his exultation at having been twice elected *praeses* at public meetings by the gentlemen of the county. He entertained some hopes of patronage from Pitt, now coming into power, and tried to bring himself into notice by a 'Letter to the People of Scotland on the Present State of the Nation.' He attacks Fox's India Bill and celebrates the virtue of Sir John, an ancestor of Lord Lowther (created Lord Lonsdale May 1784), from whom he had some hopes of support. He sends a copy to Johnson 8 Jan. 1784, and on 17 March put out an address to the freeholders of Ayrshire (printed in Rogers's 'Boswell,' p. 133). On his way to London he heard of the dissolution of parliament, and returned to contest the county, but retired on finding that the old member would stand again. On reaching London, Boswell found Johnson in precarious health, and took an eager part in trying to obtain such an addition to his friend's pension as would enable him to pass a winter in Italy. The last meeting of the two was at a dinner at Sir Joshua Reynolds's, where the plan was discussed. Boswell started next day for Scotland. Upon the death of Johnson, Boswell set about printing his 'Journal of the Tour to the Hebrides,' which had been frequently read by Johnson himself during their journey. Johnson had objected to the publication of this as an appendix to his own narrative, being, as Boswell thought, jealous of a partnership in fame (*Letters to Temple*, p. 192), or more probably fearing the ridicule which it was certain to provoke. Whilst it was going through the press, a sheet was seen by Malone, who thereupon asked for an introduction to the writer, and who revised it throughout, as he afterwards did the life of Johnson. It appeared in the spring of 1786 and reached a third edition in the same year, when Rowlandson published a series of caricatures, and Peter Pindar satirised him in caustic rhymes. A refer-

ence to the meanness of Sir A. Macdonald, who had entertained the travellers in Skye, was softened in the second edition. A 'contemptible scribbler' having 'impudently and falsely asserted' that the omission was compulsory, Boswell emphatically denied that he had ever received any application from Macdonald (*Gent. Mag.* for 1786, p. 285). The scandal is repeated by Peter Pindar and by Dr. Rogers, but apparently without foundation. Meanwhile he proceeded with his life of Johnson, which was announced as in preparation at the end of the first edition of the 'Tour.' Many distractions interfered with his labours. He issued in 1786 another letter to the people of Scotland, protesting against a bill for reconstructing the court of session. He boasts of his previous achievements, and calls upon Lord Lonsdale, 'to come over and help us.' With Lonsdale's help he hoped to represent Ayrshire; and, though he conceived himself still to have claims upon Pitt—whose 'utter folly' for not rewarding a 'man of my popular and pleasant talents' he denounces in 1789 (*Letters to Temple*, pp. 275, 289)—and upon Dundas, he looks to Lord Lonsdale as his patron. He still has hopes of getting in for Ayrshire by a compromise between the opposed parties. Boswell had been called to the English bar in Hilary term 1786, and in 1788 (NICHOLS, *Illustrations*, vii. 309) obtained through Lonsdale's influence the recordership of Carlisle. In 1788 he was in London with his wife; and in 1789 he took a house in Queen Anne Street West for 50*l.* a year, his wife remaining at Auchinleck in bad health. He is looking out for chambers in the Temple, but admits that he gets no practice. He resolves to 'keep hovering as an English lawyer,' but he speaks of the 'rough unpleasant company' on circuit, and complains of the 'roaring bantering' society. A legal tradition tells, not very credibly, how Boswell was found drunk one night on the street and instructed to move for a sham writ of '*quare adhesit pavimento*' (TWISS, *Life of Eldon*, vol. i. c. 6). He was in fact treated as a butt for the horseplay of his companions. His wife's health was breaking. During his last visit to his home he got drunk and was injured by a fall from his horse. He was summoned next morning to Lord Lonsdale, and his wife encouraged him to leave her. He heard soon afterwards in London that her position was dangerous, and posted to Auchinleck with his boys in sixty-four hours and a quarter only to find her dead. He was somewhat comforted by the nineteen carriages which followed her hearse; but his

grief was sincere and his position full of discomfort. His brother David advised him in vain to settle in Scotland. He resolved to stay in London, sending his son Alexander to Eton, James to a school in Soho, and afterwards Westminster, and boarding his three daughters in London, Edinburgh, and Ayr. His connection with Lord Lonsdale came to a bad end. On 23 Aug. 1789 he notices what seems to have been a practical joke at Lowther Castle, some one having stolen his wig. In June 1790 Lord Lonsdale insulted him grossly, in 'a most shocking conversation,' and Boswell resigned his recordership, and hoped to get rid of all communication with 'this brutal fellow.' His income of 1,600*l.* was reduced by various outgoings to 850*l.*, and allowing 500*l.* for his five children, he had only 350*l.* for himself, which was insufficient to keep him from difficulties. He took chambers in the Temple, went the home circuit, which was an improvement on the northern, though he did not get a single brief (*Letters to Temple*, p. 341), and cherished the illusion that some 'lucky chance' might bring him a prize from 'the great wheel of the metropolis' (*ib.* pp. 268, 279). At intervals matrimonial schemes amused him. But he was mainly 'kept up' by the 'Life of Johnson' (*ib.* p. 304), at which he was labouring whenever he could find time, with the help of Malone, and of which he announced in February 1788 that it would be 'more of a life than any work that has ever yet appeared.' Mrs. Piozzi's 'Anecdotes' appeared in 1785, and Hawkins's 'Life' in 1787. He was deeply injured, according to Miss Hawkins, by finding himself described in this as 'Mr. James Boswell' instead of 'The Boswell.' Boswell met Hawkins on friendly terms in 1788-9, but tells Temple (5 March 1789) that his rival is 'very malevolent. Observe how he talks of me as quite unknown.' In 1790 Boswell published two specimens of his work—Johnson's letter to Chesterfield and the conversation with George III—at half a guinea apiece, perhaps to secure the copyright. The trouble of writing made him, as he says, often think of giving it up. He had nearly finished the rough draft in January 1789, but the revision and printing proceeded slowly. Pecuniary difficulties, owing partly to a sanguine purchase of an estate for 2,500*l.*, made him think of selling the copyright for 1,000*l.*, and he tried to avoid this by borrowing the money from Malone and Reynolds. They declined; but he succeeded in raising the money elsewhere and retained the copyright of his book (*Letters to Malone*, published in CROKER'S *Johnsoniana*), and the *magnum opus* at last appeared in two

4to volumes for two guineas on 16 May 1791. The success was immediate. He tells Temple on 22 Aug. that 1,200 out of 1,700 copies were sold, and that the remainder might be gone before Christmas. The second edition, with eight sheets of additional matter, appeared in three 8vo volumes in July 1793. In July 1791 Boswell was elected secretary of foreign correspondence to the Royal Academy (LESLIE and TAYLOR, *Reynolds*, ii. 640). The success of his book must have cheered Boswell, but he still complains, and not without cause, of great depression. His drinking habits seem to have grown upon him. After a melancholy visit to Auchinleck in the spring of 1793 he was knocked down and robbed of a small sum in June, when in a state of intoxication; and he says (for the last time) that he will be henceforth a sober, regular man. In the spring of 1795 he came home 'weak and languid' from a meeting of the Literary Club. His illness rapidly proved dangerous, and he died in his house at Great Portland Street on 19 May 1795. His will (dated 28 May 1785) is printed in Rogers's 'Boswell' (p. 183), and is remarkable for the care taken to secure kind treatment of his tenants. His manuscripts, it is said, were immediately destroyed. [For his sons Alexander and James see BOSWELL, ALEXANDER and JAMES.] His daughter Veronica died of consumption on 26 Sept. 1795. Euphemia showed her father's eccentricity in an exaggerated form. She left her family, proposed to support herself by writing operas, and made appeals for charity, being under the delusion that her relatives neglected her. She died at the age of about 60. Elizabeth married her cousin William Boswell in 1799, and died on 1 Jan. 1814. The entail, upon which Boswell had been so much interested, was upset by his grandson, Sir James, son of Sir Alexander, in 1850.

The unique character of Boswell is impressed upon all his works. The many foibles which ruined his career are conspicuous but never offensive; the vanity which makes him proud of his hypochondria and his supposed madness is redeemed by his touching confidence in the sympathy of his fellows; his absolute good-nature, his hearty appreciation of the excellence of his eminent contemporaries, though pushed to absurdity, is equalled by the real vivacity of his observations and the dramatic power of his narrative. Macaulay's graphic description of his absurdities, and Carlyle's more penetrating appreciation of his higher qualities, contain all that can be said.

The most vivid account of Boswell's manner when in company with Johnson is given

in Mme. d'Arblay's 'Memoirs of Dr. Burney,' and there are some excellent descriptions in later years in her 'Diary' (v. 136, 260). In spite of her perception of his absurdities and her irritation at the indiscreet exposures in the 'Life,' Miss Burney confesses that his good-humour was irresistible. Burke and Reynolds retained their friendship for him through life. Reynolds wrote a curious paper in which he defended the taste for seeing executions, which he shared to some degree with Boswell. Boswell's presence at such scenes is noted in his 'Life of Johnson,' and an account from the 'St. James's Chronicle' (April 1779) of his riding in the cart to Tyburn with the murderer Hickman may be found in the third series of 'Notes and Queries' (iv. 232).

A full-length sketch by Langton, engraved in the 'Works,' gives a good idea of his appearance. There is also a pencil sketch by Sir T. Lawrence engraved in Croker (vol. iv.) A profile by Dance is engraved in Nichols's 'Illustrations' (vii. 300). A portrait of Kit-Kat size was painted by Reynolds in pursuance of a bargain proposed by Boswell (7 June 1785), who undertakes to pay for it from his first fees at the English bar. It has been engraved ten times, and was exhibited at the Grosvenor Gallery, 1884 (LESLIE and TAYLOR, *Life and Times of Reynolds*, ii. 477; and CROKER's *Preface*).

Boswell's works are as follows: 1. 'Ode to Tragedy,' 1761. 2. 'Elegy upon the Death of a Young Lady, with Commendatory Letters from A. Erskine, G. Dempster, and J. Boswell,' 1761. 3. Contributions to 'Collections of Original Poems by Mr. Blacklock and other Scotch Gentlemen,' vol. ii., 1762. 4. 'The Cub at Newmarket,' 1762. 5. 'Letters between the Honourable Andrew Erskine and James Boswell, Esq.,' 1763. 6. 'Critical Strictures on Mallet's "Elvira"' (by Erskine and Boswell). 7. 'An Account of Corsica; the Journal of a Tour to that Island; and Memoirs of Pascal Paoli,' by James Boswell, 1768. 8. Prologue to 'The Coquettes,' at the opening of the Edinburgh Theatre, December 1767. 9. 'British Essays in favour of the brave Corsicans, by several hands, collected and published by James Boswell,' 1769. 10. 'The Essence of the Douglas Cause,' 1767. 11. Contributions to the 'London Magazine,' including an account of the Shakespeare Jubilee, September 1769, 'Remarks on the Profession of a Player,' 1770 (reprinted in Nichols's 'Illustrations,' vii. 368), and 'The Hypochondriack,' a series of twenty-seven articles in the 'London Magazine' from October 1777 to December 1779. 12. 'Doraneo' (a story

founded on the Douglas cause), 1767. 13. 'Decision upon the Question of Literary Property in the Cause of Hunter v. Donaldson,' 1774. 14. 'A Letter to the People of Scotland on the Present State of the Nation,' 1783. 15. 'The Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides with Samuel Johnson, LL.D., by James Boswell, Esq., containing some Poetical Pieces by Dr. Johnson relative to the tour, and never before published: a series of his Conversations, Literary Anecdotes, and Opinions of Men and Books, with an authentick account of the Distresses and Escape of the Grandson of King James II in the year 1746' (three editions in 1786). 16. 'A Letter to the People of Scotland on the alarming Attempt to infringe the Articles of Union and introduce a most pernicious innovation by diminishing the number of the Lords of Session,' 1786. 17. 'The Celebrated Letter from Samuel Johnson, LL.D., to Philip Damer Stanhope, Earl of Chesterfield, now first published, with notes by James Boswell, Esq.:' and 'A Conversation between His Most Sacred Majesty George III and Samuel Johnson, LL.D., illustrated with observations by James Boswell, Esq.,' both in 1790. 18. 'The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D., comprehending an Account of his Studies and numerous Works, in chronological order; a series of his Epistolary Correspondence and Conversations with many Eminent Persons; and various original pieces of his composition never before published. The whole exhibiting a view of literature and literary men in Great Britain for more than half a century during which he flourished, in two volumes, by James Boswell,' 1791. The principal corrections and additions to the second edition were published separately in 1793.

He also mentions as published in 1791 (ROGERS'S *Boswell*, 173; and *Letters to Temple*, p. 337) a poem upon the 'Slave Trade,' which has disappeared.

Boswell died while preparing a third edition of the life of Johnson; the revision of this edition was completed by Malone, who superintended also the next three editions, the last of which (the sixth of the work) appeared in 1811. He introduced various notes, distinguishing them from Boswell's own work, and revised the text. In 1831 Croker published the eleventh edition, in which many useful, together with many impertinent notes, were added, and a great deal of matter from Piozzi, Hawkins, and others interpolated in the text. The whole arrangement was severely criticised by Carlyle and Macaulay in well-known essays. The arrangement was altered in subsequent edi-

tions; in an edition published in 1835, revised and enlarged under Mr. Croker's direction by John Wright, the passages interpolated by Croker were removed to the ninth and tenth volumes (fcap. 8vo), with the exception of the 'Tour to the Hebrides,' which still remained in the body of the work. This edition and the reprints were, till lately, the most convenient form of the life. In 1874 Mr. Percy Fitzgerald republished the original text of the first edition (without the division into chapters afterwards introduced), with an indication of the various changes made by Boswell in the second edition. The 'Tour to the Hebrides' forms the last part of the third (and concluding) volume. In 1884 an edition edited by the Rev. Alexander Napier was published by Bell in five volumes, the fourth containing the 'Tour to the Hebrides;' the fifth, the 'Collectanea Johnsoniana,' with the journal of Dr. Campbell, not previously published in England. An edition in four volumes, edited by Mr. Birkbeck Hill, is now (1885) advertised.

[A short memoir of Boswell by Malone is given in Nichols's *Literary Anecdotes*, ii. 400, reprinted in the later editions of Johnson. The fullest information about his life is given in his works as above, and in the following: *Letters of James Boswell to the Rev. W. J. Temple*, now first published from the original manuscripts, with an introduction and notes, Bentley, 1857. This consists of a series of letters, accidentally discovered in a parcel of waste paper at Boulogne. They had been in the possession of Temple's son-in-law, who had settled in France (*Notes and Queries*, 2nd ser. iii. 381), and are undoubtedly genuine; *Boswelliana*, the *Commonplace Book of James Boswell*, with a memoir and annotations by the Rev. Charles Rogers, LL.D., and introductory remarks by Lord Houghton, published for the Grampian Club. The *Commonplace Book* was sold with Boswell's library at London, and came into the possession of Lord Houghton. In the accompanying biography Dr. Rogers has made use of some unpublished materials. Part of the *Boswelliana* had been published in the second volume of the *Miscellanies of the Philobiblon Society*.] L. S.

BOSWELL, JAMES, the younger (1778-1822), barrister-at-law, second surviving son of the biographer of Johnson [see BOSWELL, JAMES], was born in 1778. He received his early education at an academy in Soho Square and at Westminster School, and is spoken of by the elder Boswell as 'an extraordinary boy, very much of his father,' who destined him for the bar. Entered at Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1797, he took his B.A. degree in 1801, proceeding M.A. in 1806, and was elected a fellow on the Vinerian foundation. While a student at Brasenose he contributed notes

signed 'J. B. O.' to the third edition of his father's life of Johnson, and afterwards carefully revised and corrected the text for the sixth edition (see MALONE'S *Prefaces*). Called to the bar of the Inner Temple, 24 May 1805, he was afterwards appointed a commissioner of bankrupts. He was intimate from an early age with his father's friend Malone [see MALONE, EDMUND], whom he assisted in collecting and arranging the materials for a second edition of his Shakespeare, and was requested by him in his last illness to complete it, a task which he duly performed. He contributed to the 'Gentleman's Magazine' for June 1813 a memoir of Malone, which in 1814 he reprinted for private circulation. One of the earliest members of the Roxburghe Club, he presented to it in 1816 a facsimile reprint of the poems of Richard Barnfield, and in 1817 'A Roxburgh Garland,' which consists of a few bacchanalian songs by seventeenth-century poets, and of which 'L'Envoi,' a convivial lyric in honour of the club, was composed by himself. In 1821 appeared under his editorship what is known as the third variorum Shakespeare, 'The Plays and Poems of William Shakespeare, with the corrections and illustrations of various commentators, comprehending a life of the poet and an enlarged history of the stage, by the late Edmund Malone, with a new glossarial index,' 21 vols. Boswell contributed a long preliminary 'advertisement,' various readings and notes of no great importance, with the completion of Malone's 'Essay on the Phraseology and Metre of Shakespeare' and the Glossarial Index. The collection of old English literature which Malone left him to be used in the preparation of this edition was presented to the Bodleian by Malone's brother after Boswell's death. He died suddenly at his chambers in the Temple, unmarried and apparently in embarrassed circumstances, on 24 Feb. 1822, a few weeks before the death, in a duel, of his brother Sir Alexander [q. v.], who in a poetical tribute to his memory said of him that he had 'never lost one friend or found one foe.' Lockhart in his 'Life of Scott' (edition of 1845, p. 477, note) describes Boswell as 'a man of considerable learning, and of admirable social qualities,' to whom, as to his brother Sir Alexander, Scott was 'warmly attached.' He belonged to the Albemarle Street circle of John Murray the publisher, who thought Boswell's favourable opinion of the first series of 'Tales of my Landlord' worth quoting to Scott, with those of Hallam and Hookham Frere (LOCKHART'S *Scott*, p. 338).

[Gent. Mag. for March 1822; Letters of James Boswell addressed to the Rev. W. J. Temple,

1857; Boswelliana, the Commonplace Book of James Boswell, 1871; Catalogue of Oxford Graduates; Catalogue of Early English Poets, collected by E. Malone and now preserved in the Bodleian Library, 1836; MS. Registers of Inner Temple.] F. E.

BOSWELL, JOHN (1698-1756), author, was descended from a Gloucestershire family, and was born at Dorchester 23 Jan. 1698. After attending the school at Abbey Milton in Dorsetshire, under the Rev. George Marsh, he proceeded to Balliol College, Oxford, as a commoner. Before taking his bachelor's degree in 1720 he acted as tutor to Lord Kinnaird. He subsequently went to Cambridge and took his degree of M.A. at St. John's College. He was ordained deacon at Oxford and priest at Wells, and in 1727 was presented to the vicarage of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton. He was also, from 1736, prebendary of Wells Cathedral. He died in June 1756, aged 58. There is a Latin inscription to his memory in Taunton church.

He published the following works: 1. 'A Sermon on Psalm xvi. 7, preached on the anniversary of the Restoration,' 1730. 2. 'A Method of Study, or an Useful Library, in two parts; part i. containing short directions and a catalogue of books for the study of several valuable parts of learning, viz. geography, chronology, history, classical learning, natural philosophy, &c.; part ii. containing some directions for the study of divinity, and prescribing proper books for that purpose,' vol. i. 1738, vol. ii. 1743, 8vo. The author professed that his object in this work was to assist the poor clergyman in his studies, and to induce the young gentleman to look into books. 3. 'Remarks on the Free and Candid Disquisitions,' two pamphlets published in 1750 and 1751. 4. 'The Case of the Royal Martyr considered with Candour, or an Answer to some Libels lately published in prejudice to the memory of that Unfortunate Prince,' 1758, 8vo, two vols. The author's name is not attached to this work. The authority for ascribing it to the vicar of Taunton is John Nichols (*Literary Anecdotes*). It is a reply to two books published in 1746 and 1747: the first is a tract issued anonymously, but written by G. Coade, jun., woolstapler of Exeter, entitled 'A Letter to a Clergyman relating to his Sermon on 30 Jan.,' and the second, Thomas Birch's 'Enquiry' into the Earl of Glamorgan's negotiations with the Irish catholics. It was written and designed for the press in 1748, and announced for publication in 1754, but delayed apparently for an extension, which, as stated on p. 220, vol. ii., was left unfinished in consequence of the author's death.

[Some Account of the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton, 1845, pp. 43, 49; Nichols's Literary Anecdotes, ii. 507; Le Neve's Fasti, i. 208.] C. W. S.

BOSWELL, ROBERT (1746-1804), psalmist, was a descendant of the Auchinleck family in Ayrshire, and a writer to the signet in Edinburgh. Born in 1746, he received a classical education, and having early in life attached himself to the religious opinions of the 'Glassites,' or 'Sandemanians,' he was chosen by the church in Edinburgh to be one of their teaching elders. He was on a visit to his friends in London, and preached in their chapel there on Sunday, 1 April 1804. His text was 'All flesh is as grass.' In the middle of the sermon he was seized with illness and died in a few minutes.

He was the author of a volume entitled 'The Book of Psalms in Metre from the Original, compared with many Versions in different Languages,' London (J. Johnson), 1784; second edition, 1786. In his 'Prefatory Notes' the author tells us he has adhered chiefly to the version used by the church of Scotland, and that he has compared 233 manuscript and 93 printed editions of the Book of Psalms. The only Sandemanian chapel mentioned in the census of 1851 was near Barbican, with an attendance of 200 worshippers. It was here that Boswell died, and Faraday officiated as elder.

[Holland's Records of Psalmists, 1843; Lowndes's Bibliographer's Manual, 1857.] J. H. T.

BOSWELL, SIR WILLIAM (d. 1649), diplomatist, was a native of Suffolk. He was educated at Jesus College, Cambridge, of which he was elected fellow in 1606. He subsequently entered the diplomatic service, and was appointed secretary to Sir Dudley Carleton, then ambassador at the Hague, to whose post he eventually succeeded, receiving the honour of knighthood in 1633.

There is an interesting tract entitled 'A True Narrative of the Popish Plot against King Charles I and the Protestant Religion,' in which a scheme of the jesuits to raise up Scotland and overthrow Charles I is described, and details are given of how the plot was discovered to Sir William Boswell by one Andreas ab Habernfeld, and communicated by the former to Archbishop Laud, who immediately took steps to thwart the conspiracy. On account of the promptitude shown by Sir William in this affair he was much commended by the king.

A large share of Sir William's attention while ambassador at the Hague was taken up with the religious controversy at that time raging between the Gomarists and the

'remonstrants.' In this matter, for political reasons, he adopted the policy of Sir Dudley Carleton, and supported Prince Maurice and the Gomarists against Barneveldt and the 'remonstrants,' who advocated the more liberal doctrines of Arminius. When the civil war broke out, Sir William's efforts were directed towards preserving the neutrality of Holland, whose leanings were in favour of the parliamentary party, and despite the efforts of Walter Strickland, who was sent over by Cromwell to counteract his influence, was not altogether unsuccessful in his mission.

Besides being a successful diplomatist, Sir William was a man of letters and a scholar, as is shown by his correspondence with John de Laet, which touches upon subjects ranging from Oriental literature and the compilation of an Arab dictionary to Edward VI's treatise 'De Primatu Papæ' and Sir Simon d'Ewes's Saxon vocabulary.

In the Additional MSS. in the British Museum there are two large volumes of letters addressed to Sir William Boswell and a few written by him. The first volume is mainly taken up with matters relating to the state and condition of the English church in the Netherlands, and includes many letters from Stephen Goffe; the second volume contains the correspondence of John de Laet, and comprises letters on theology and literature, as well as on social and political affairs. Sir William Boswell died in 1649.

[Tableau de l'Histoire générale des Provinces-Unies, 1777; Letters from and to Sir D. Carleton, 1775; Grattan's History of the Netherlands, 1830; Add. MSS. 6394, 6395.] N. G.

BOSWORTH, JOSEPH, D.D. (1789-1876), Anglo-Saxon scholar, was born in Derbyshire in the early part of 1789. He was educated at Repton grammar school, and thence proceeded to the university of Aberdeen, where at an early age he took the degree of M.A., and subsequently that of LL.D. He afterwards became a member of Trinity College, Cambridge. He was ordained deacon in 1814, and priest in 1815. After having served as curate of Bunny in Nottinghamshire, he was in 1817 presented to the vicarage of Little Horwood, in Buckinghamshire, a preferment which he held for twelve years.

In 1821 Bosworth published two educational works entitled respectively: 'Latin Construing, or Lessons from Classical Authors,' and 'An Introduction to Latin Construing,' the former of which went through six and the latter through five editions. In 1823 ap-