The Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides, with Samuel Johnson

Boswell James
Title: The Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides, with Samuel Johnson

Author: Boswell James

This is an exact replica of a book. The book reprint was manually improved by a team of professionals, as opposed to automatic/OCR processes used by some companies. However, the book may still have imperfections such as missing pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. that were a part of the original text. We appreciate your understanding of the imperfections which can not be improved, and hope you will enjoy reading this book.
JAMES BOSWELL, ESQ.

Engraved by W. Evans from an Original Picture by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Published August 26th. 1791, by Cadell & Davies, Strand.
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 Conversation, 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.
THE SIXTH EDITION REVISED AND CORRECTED.

"O! while along the stream of time thy name
Expanded flies, and gathers all its fame,
Say, shall my little bark attendant sail,
Pursue the triumph, and partake the gale?"
—POPE

London:
PRINTED FOR T. CADELL AND W. DAVIES, STRAND.
1813.
DEDICATION.

The flattering views of Doctor Johnson gave me
a degree of importance which I am far from the most
pretending to. To a warm friendship and a solid
worthiness for the town and nation, I wish to
invent the following expressions of affection.

MY DEAR SIR,

In every narrative, whether historical or
biographical, authenticity is of the utmost
consequence. Of this I have ever been so
firmly persuaded, that I inscribed a former
work to that person who was the best judge
of its truth. I need not tell you I mean Ge-
neral Paoli; who, after his great, though un-
successful, efforts to preserve the liberties
of his country, has found an honourable
asylum in Britain, where he has now lived
many years the object of Royal regard and  

b
private respect; and whom I cannot name without expressing my very grateful sense of the uniform kindness which he has been pleased to shew me.

The friends of Doctor Johnson can best judge, from internal evidence, whether the numerous conversations which form the most valuable part of the ensuing pages, are correctly related. To them, therefore, I wish to appeal, for the accuracy of the portrait here exhibited to the world.

As one of those who were intimately acquainted with him, you have a title to this address. You have obligingly taken the trouble to peruse the original manuscript of this Tour, and can vouch for the strict fidelity of the present publication. Your literary alliance with our much lamented friend, in consequence of having undertaken to render one of his labours more complete, by your edition of Shakspeare, a work which I am confident will not disappoint the expectations of the publick, gives you another claim. But I have a still more powerful in-
DEDICATION.

ducement to prefix your name to this volume, as it gives me an opportunity of letting the world know that I enjoy the honour and happiness of your friendship; and of thus publickly testifying the sincere regard with which I am,

My dear Sir,

Your very faithful

And obedient servant,

LONDON,
20th September, 1785.

JAMES BOSWELL.
ADVERTISEMENT

TO THE THIRD EDITION.

An animated by the very favourable reception which two large impressions of this work have had, it has been my study to make it as perfect as I could in this edition, by correcting some inaccuracies which I discovered myself, and some which the kindness of friends, or the scrutiny of adversaries, pointed out. A few notes are added, of which the principal object is, to refute misrepresentation and calumny.

To the animadversions in the periodical Journals of criticism, and in the numerous publications to which my book has given rise, I have made no answer. Every work must stand or fall by its own merit. I cannot, however, omit this opportunity of returning thanks to a gentleman who published a Defence of my Journal, and has added to the favour by communicating his name to me in a very obliging letter.

It would be an idle waste of time to take any particular notice of the futile remarks, to many of which, a petty national resentment, unworthy of my countrymen, has probably given rise; remarks which have been industriously circulated in the publick prints by shallow or envious cavillers,
ADVERTISEMENT.

who have endeavoured to persuade the world that Dr. Johnson's character has been lessened by recording such various instances of his lively wit and acute judgment, on every topick that was presented to his mind. In the opinion of every person of taste and knowledge that I have conversed with, it has been greatly heightened; and I will venture to predict, that this specimen of the colloquial talents and extemporaneous effusions of my illustrious fellow-traveller will become still more valuable, when, by the lapse of time, he shall have become an ancient; when all those who can now bear testimony to the transcendent powers of his mind shall have passed away; and no other memorial of this great and good man shall remain but the following Journal; the other anecdotes and letters preserved by his friends, and those incomparable works, which have for many years been in the highest estimation, and will be read and admired as long as the English language shall be spoken or understood.

J. B.

LONDON, 15th August, 1786.
CONTENTS.

DEDICATION .................................................. Page i

ADVERTISEMENT ................................................... iv v

INTRODUCTION. Character of Dr. Johnson. He arrives in Scotland ........................................... 1 to 13

August 15. Sir William Forbes, Practice of the law. Emigration, Dr. Beattie and Mr. Hume. Dr. Robertson. Mr. Burke's various and extraordinary talents. Question concerning genius. Whitfield and Wesley. Instructions to political parties. Dr. Johnson's opinion of Garrick as a tragedian ......................................................... 13


