

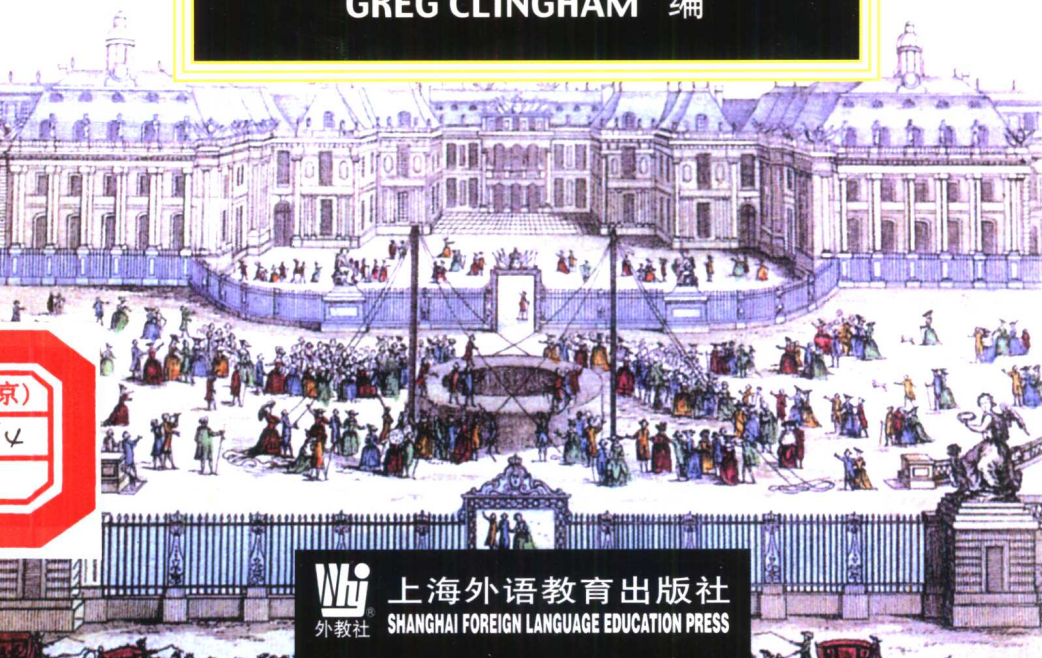
THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO



SAMUEL
JOHNSON

塞缪尔·约翰逊

GREG CLINGHAM 编



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*National Endowment for the Humanities Chair in the Humanities
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出版前言

《剑桥文学指南》是上海外语教育出版社从海外引进的一套研究、介绍外国文学的丛书，内容涉及作家、作品、文学流派、文学史等诸多方面。作者均为在该领域有着较深造诣的专家、学者。

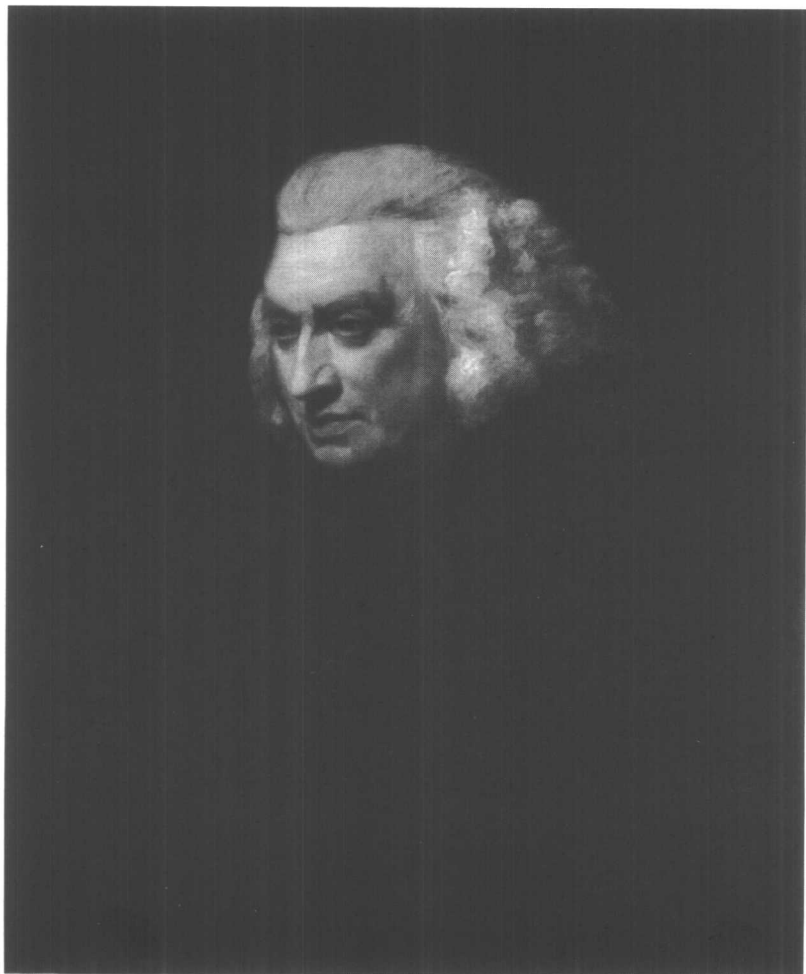
《塞缪尔·约翰逊》是该丛书中的一本。

对于塞缪尔·约翰逊的巨大文学名声究竟是来自他本人的作品还是得部分归功于友人詹姆斯·鲍斯韦尔所写的《约翰逊传》(1791)可能还是文学史上一个有争议的问题，但没有人能否认本书编者及撰稿人之一的格雷格·克林汉姆对约翰逊的以下评价，即约翰逊是英国文学史上最最令人深思和涉及方面最广的作家之一，因为他是历史上第一部英语词典的编纂者，编注过莎士比亚作品集，撰写过至今令人称道的评论性的《诗人传》，发表过大量的散文作品，有不少的诗作，也出版过颇受欢迎的小说和剧作，以至布道书。在种种作品中，他对自己道德观的表述总是明白无误的，也因此引起争议、令人深思。另外，塞缪尔·约翰逊又是英国历史上最引人入胜的健谈者之一。他本人非常重视谈话的艺术，他的一些说法已经成为英语中有名的趣言以至警句，因此有人说约翰逊身后人们之所以尊重他、钦佩他主要是因为那些据认为是他说过的话，而不一定是他的哪部著作。对于涉及面如此之广的一位文学家进行系统评介无疑是非常困难，也是非常有价值的，其所能提供的见解也是所有对英国文学有兴趣的人无比需要的。

由于约翰逊一生文学事业的广泛范围，本书编者不求对其全部作品进行全面探讨，同时避免离开了约翰逊的生活经历孤立地探讨其各个作品。全书的独特视角与出发点正把约翰逊的一生和他的各种著作看作浑然一体，不可分割。并且突出强调约翰逊在一生中表现出的那种富有人情味的智慧。在这种指导思想指引下，编者邀请了英语国家一些知名的研究约翰逊的学者从多个不同而又相互联系的角度介绍约翰逊的全部主要作品和部分人们不很熟悉的作品，以及这些作品中所反映的某些重要题材问题。有的学者从作品出发，有的学者从作品所涉及题材出发，相互交叉，构成了一幅有关约翰逊丰富多采文学事业的丰富多采的画面，有助于读者深入了解这一伟大文学人物，也可引起他们的阅读兴趣。全书在编者写的《引言》介绍全书主旨及特点后，收录了15篇特邀撰写的专题文章，或是深入评介了约翰逊的诗作、谈话艺术、《漫游者》杂志中的散文、词典、小说《拉塞雷斯》、《诗人传》等作品，或是根据近年来西方政治社会思想演变对约翰逊在诸如妇女、政治、帝国等问题上的看法进行系统探讨。书后附有经编者遴选的版本目录介绍，数量可谓恰到好处，内容则极具权威性。

本书的读者对象为大学外语教师，外国文学研究人员，外国文学专业的研究生、博士生，以及具备了较高英语阅读能力的外国文学爱好者。

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2000年12月



Samuel Johnson (1784) by John Opie

ILLUSTRATIONS

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|---|----------------------------|
| <p>Samuel Johnson (1784) by John Opie, by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.</p> | <p><i>frontispiece</i></p> |
| <p>1 Samuel Johnson in his late thirties, by George Zobel, in the possession of Frank H. Ellis, and reproduced by permission.</p> | <p><i>page 5</i></p> |
| <p>2 William Hogarth, <i>Marriage à la Mode: The Marriage Contract</i>, 1747, by permission of the British Museum.</p> | <p>78</p> |
| <p>3 William Hogarth, <i>Garret Scene</i>, 1730(?), by permission of the British Museum.</p> | <p>82</p> |
| <p>4 S. Diamantis, ink drawing from the Arabic translation of <i>Rasselas</i> by Kamel el Mohandes and Magdi Whaba (1959), by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.</p> | <p>116</p> |
| <p>5 S. Diamantis, ink drawing from the Arabic translation of <i>Rasselas</i> (1959), by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.</p> | <p>117</p> |
| <p>6 Samuel Johnson, holograph manuscript of "The Life of Pope," by permission of the Pierpont Morgan Library, New York (MA 205).</p> | <p>182</p> |
| <p>7 View of Skye from Raasay, by William Daniell (1820), from Richard Ayton, <i>Voyage Round Great Britain</i> (1814–25), by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.</p> | <p>217</p> |
| <p>8 Dunvegan Castle, from Francis Grose, <i>The Antiquities of Scotland</i> (1797), by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.</p> | <p>221</p> |

- 9 Pierre Montgolfier, *The Balloon at Versailles near to Capsizing*, 1783. The Gimbel Collection (1067), United States Air Force Academy, Colorado, and reproduced by permission. 238

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

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TOM KEYMER is a Fellow and Tutor in English at St. Anne's College, Oxford, and a Lecturer of the university. His publications include *Clarissa and the Eighteenth-Century Reader* (1992), an edition of Fielding's *Journal of a Voyage to Lisbon* (1996), and articles on Pope, Smart, and Sterne.

STEVEN LYNN is a Professor in the English Department at the University of South Carolina. He is the author of *Samuel Johnson after Deconstruction: Rhetoric and*

"*The Rambler*" (1992) and *Texts and Contexts: Writing about Literature with Critical Theory* (1994). In addition to Johnson and eighteenth-century literature, his interests include critical theory, the history of rhetoric, the teaching of writing, and science fiction. He has two projects forthcoming, *The Briefest Guide to Writing* and *Introduction to Reading, Writing, and Literature*. Mr. Lynn is currently completing a history of eighteenth-century rhetoric.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1709 Samuel Johnson born 7 September 1709 (18 September, “new style,” after the introduction of the Georgian calendar in 1752), Lichfield, Staffordshire.
- 1712 Taken to London by Michael Johnson (father) to be touched by Queen Anne for scrofula, a disease of the lymph glands known as the “King’s evil” because it could supposedly be cured by the royal touch.
- 1717 Enters Lichfield Grammar School.
- 1726 Visits his cousin, Rev. Cornelius Ford, at Stourbridge and attends school there.
- 1728 Goes up to Pembroke College, Oxford in October; leaves in December 1729 without a degree.
- 1731 Michael Johnson dies.
- 1732 Teaches at Market Bosworth.
- 1733 In Birmingham; translates Father Jerome Lobo’s *Voyage to Abyssinia* (1735).
- 1735 Marries Elizabeth Jervis (the widow of Harry Porter).
- 1736 Opens a school at Edial, near Lichfield. Begins writing *Irene*.
- 1737 Nathaniel Johnson (brother) dies. Moves to London with David Garrick in March.

- 1738 Begins writing for the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Publishes *London* and the "Life of Sarpi"; begins translation of Sarpi's *History of the Council of Trent* (later abandoned).
- 1739 *Marmor Norfolciense, Vindication of the Licensers of the Stage* (anti-government pamphlets); "Life of Boerhaave"; translation of Crousaz's *Commentary on Pope's Essay on Man*.
- 1740 Lives of Admiral Robert Blake, Sir Francis Drake, and Jean-Philippe Barretier.
- 1741 For the next four years contributes biographies to Robert James's *Medicinal Dictionary*; "Life of Sydenham"; contributions to the *Harleian Miscellany* and the catalogue of the Harleian Library (with Thomas Birch); *Parliamentary Debates* and many articles for the *Gentleman's Magazine*.
- 1745 Proposals for an edition of Shakespeare (later abandoned); *Miscellaneous Observations on Macbeth*.
- 1746 Contract for the *Dictionary*; drafts *Plan for an English Dictionary*, dedicated to Lord Chesterfield (published 1747).
- 1749 *Vanity of Human Wishes*; *Irene* performed and published.
- 1750 Begins *The Rambler* (to 1752).
- 1752 Elizabeth Johnson (wife) dies.
- 1753 Contributes to *The Adventurer* (to 1754), edited by John Hawksworth.
- 1755 *Dictionary of the English Language*; awarded honorary Master's degree by Oxford University.
- 1756 Edits the *Literary Magazine*; proposals for an edition of Shakespeare.
- 1758 Begins *The Idler* (to 1760).
- 1759 Sarah Johnson (mother) dies; *Rasselas*.

- 1762 Awarded annual pension of £300 by the prime minister, Lord Bute.
- 1763 Meets Boswell in Tom Davies's bookshop.
- 1764 The Literary Club formed – Johnson, Reynolds, Burke, Nugent, Beauclerk, Langton, Goldsmith, Chamier, and Hawkins meet weekly for conversation at the Turk's Head, Soho.
- 1765 Publishes edition of Shakespeare; meets Henry Thrale and Hester Lynch Thrale; awarded an honorary LL D by Trinity College, Dublin.
- 1766 Assists Robert Chambers with Vinerian lectures on the law at Oxford; severe depression.
- 1770 *The False Alarm*.
- 1771 *Thoughts on Falkland's Islands*.
- 1773 4th, revised edition of the *Dictionary* and revised edition of Shakespeare; tours Scotland with Boswell (August to November).
- 1774 Tours Wales with the Thrales; *The Patriot*.
- 1775 *Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland; Taxation No Tyranny*; awarded honorary DCL by Oxford; visits France with the Thrales.
- 1777 Agreement to write prefaces to the lives and works of the English poets (*The Lives of the Poets*); unsuccessful campaign to reprieve Rev. William Dodd, condemned to death for forgery.
- 1779 First four volumes of *Prefaces, Biographical and Critical to the Works of the English Poets*.
- 1781 Henry Thrale dies; last six volumes of *Prefaces, Biographical and Critical*.
- 1782 "On the Death of Dr. Robert Levet."
- 1783 Suffers a stroke and loss of speech; recovers; suffers illness and depression during winter 1783–84.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1784 Undergoes religious “conversion”; Dedication to Charles Burney’s *Account of Commemoration of Handel*; dies 13 December; buried in Westminster Abbey, 20 December.
- 1785 James Boswell’s *Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides with Samuel Johnson, LL.D.*
- 1786 Hester Thrale Piozzi’s *Anecdotes of Samuel Johnson, LL.D.*
- 1787 Sir John Hawkins’s *The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D.*
- 1791 James Boswell’s *Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D.*
- 1793 2nd edition of Boswell’s *Life of Johnson*.

SHORT TITLES AND ABBREVIATIONS

THE YALE EDITION OF THE WORKS OF SAMUEL JOHNSON

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<i>Diaries</i>	<i>Diaries, Prayers, and Annals</i> , ed. E. L. McAdam, with Donald and Mary Hyde (1958).
<i>Idler</i>	<i>The Idler and The Adventurer</i> , ed. W. J. Bate, John M. Bullitt, and L. F. Powell (1963).
<i>Adventurer</i>	<i>The Idler and The Adventurer</i> , ed. W. J. Bate, John M. Bullitt, and L. F. Powell (1963).
<i>Poems</i>	<i>Poems</i> , ed. E. L. McAdam, Jr., with George Milne (1964).
<i>Rambler</i> III–V	<i>The Rambler</i> , ed. W. J. Bate and Albrecht B. Strauss, 3 vols. (1969).
<i>Shakespeare</i>	<i>Johnson on Shakespeare</i> , ed. Arthur Sherbo, introduction by Bertrand H. Bronson, 2 vols. (1969).
<i>Journey</i>	<i>A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland</i> , ed. Mary Lascelles (1971).
<i>Politics</i>	<i>Political Writings</i> , ed. Donald J. Greene (1977).
<i>Sermons</i>	<i>Sermons</i> , ed. Jean Hagstrum and James Gray (1978).
<i>Abyssinia</i>	<i>A Voyage to Abyssinia</i> , ed. Joel J. Gold (1985).
<i>Rasselas</i>	<i>Rasselas and Other Tales</i> , ed. Gwin J. Kolb (1990).
<i>Works</i>	<i>The Works of Samuel Johnson</i> , ed. Arthur Murphy, 15 vols. (Edinburgh, 1806).
<i>Lives</i>	<i>Lives of the English Poets</i> , ed. G. B. Hill, 3 vols. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1905).