

*The Yale Editions of  
the Private Papers of James Boswell*

RESEARCH EDITION

CATALOGUE  
OF THE PAPERS  
OF  
JAMES BOSWELL  
AT  
YALE UNIVERSITY

By Marion S. Pottle, Claude Colleer Abbott  
and Frederick A. Pottle



Volume 3

# *Catalogue of the Papers of James Boswell at Yale University*

For the Greater Part Formerly the Collection  
of Lieut.-Colonel Ralph Heyward Isham

BY

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VOLUME III



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THE YALE EDITIONS OF  
*The Private Papers*  
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RESEARCH EDITION

*The Correspondence of James Boswell and John Johnston of Grange,*  
EDITED BY RALPH S. WALKER, 1966

*The Correspondence and Other Papers of James Boswell Relating to the  
Making of 'Life of Johnson',* EDITED BY MARSHALL WAINGROW, 1969

*The Correspondence of James Boswell with Certain Members of The Club,*  
EDITED BY CHARLES N. FIFER, 1976

*The Correspondence of James Boswell with David Garrick, Edmund Burke,  
and Edmond Malone,* EDITED BY PETER S. BAKER, THOMAS W. COPELAND,  
GEORGE M. KAHRL, RACHEL MCCLELLAN, AND JAMES M. OSBORN, 1986

# Cue Titles and Abbreviations

- Adam Cat.: R. B. Adam, *The R. B. Adam Library Relating to Dr. Samuel Johnson and His Era*, 4 vols., 1929–30.
- Analyt. Rev.: *The Analytical Review*, 1788–99.
- Ann. Reg.: *The Annual Register*, 1758–1862.
- Army List: *A List of the Officers of the Army*, etc., 1756–.
- Boswelliana: *Boswelliana. The Commonplace Book of James Boswell*, ed. Charles Rogers, 1874.
- BP: *Private Papers of James Boswell from Malahide Castle in the Collection of Lt.-Colonel Ralph Heyward Isham*, ed. Geoffrey Scott and F. A. Pottle, 18 vols., 1928–34. References are to the editorial commentary only.
- Burke's Reflections: Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, 1790.
- Cal. Merc.: *The Caledonian Mercury*, 1720–1867.
- Corsica: James Boswell, *An Account of Corsica, the Journal of a Tour to that Island, and Memoirs of Pascal Paoli*, 1st ed., 1768.
- Crit. Rev.: *The Critical Review*, 1756–1817.
- Critical Strictures: James Boswell, Andrew Erskine, and George Dempster, *Critical Strictures on the New Tragedy of Elvira, Written by Mr. David Malloch*, 1763.
- Daily Adv.: *The Daily Advertiser*, 1731–98.
- Diary: *The Diary, or Woodfall's Register*, 1789–93.
- Edin. Adv.: *The Edinburgh Advertiser*, 1764–1859.
- Edin. Eve. Cour.: *The Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 1718–1859.
- Edin. Her.: *The Edinburgh Herald*, 1790–1806.
- Edin. Mag.: *The Edinburgh Magazine, or Literary Miscellany*, vols. 1–16, 1785–92; N.S. vols. 1–22, 1793–Dec. 1803. Also:
- The Edinburgh Magazine and Literary Miscellany; a new series of The Scots Magazine*, 18 vols., 1817–June 1826.
- Edin. Museum: *The Edinburgh Museum; or, North-British Magazine*, 1763–64.
- Edin. Weekly Mag.: *The Edinburgh Weekly Magazine*, 1768–84.
- Eng. Rev.: *The English Review*, 1783–96.
- Englishman: *The Englishman*, 1779.
- Erskine-JB Letters: Andrew Erskine and James Boswell, *Letters between the Honourable Andrew Erskine and James Boswell, Esq.*, 1763.
- Eur. Mag.: *The European Magazine*, 1782–1826.

- Fasti Scot.*: Hew Scott, *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, 7 vols., 1915–28.
- Fettercairn Catalogue*: *A Catalogue of Papers Relating to Boswell, Johnson and Sir William Forbes Found at Fettercairn House, a Residence of the Rt. Hon. Lord Clinton, 1930–1931*, ed. Claude Collier Abbott, 1936.
- Freeman's Journal*: *Public Register: or, The Freeman's Journal*, Dublin, 1763–74.
- Gazetteer*: *The Gazetteer and London Daily Advertiser*, 1756–96.
- Gen. Adv.*: *The General Advertiser*, London, 1776–1790.
- Gen. Eve. Post*: *The General Evening Post*, 1733–1822.
- Gent. Mag.*: *The Gentleman's Magazine*, 1731–1907.
- Hyde Collection*: The Hyde Collection, Somerville, New Jersey.
- Isham Catalogue*: *The Private Papers of James Boswell from Malahide Castle in the Collection of Lt.-Colonel Ralph Heyward Isham: A Catalogue*, ed. Frederick A. Pottle and Marion S. Pottle, 1931.
- Jurid. Rev.*: *The Juridical Review*, 1889–.
- Letter to the People, 1783*: James Boswell, *A Letter to the People of Scotland, on the Present State of the Nation*, 1783.
- Letter to the People, 1785*: James Boswell, *A Letter to the People of Scotland on ... Diminishing the Number of the Lords of Session*, 1785.
- Letters JB*: *Letters of James Boswell*, ed. C. B. Tinker, 2 vols., 1924.
- Letters SJ*: *The Letters of Samuel Johnson, with Mrs. Thrale's Genuine Letters to Him*, ed. R. W. Chapman, 3 vols., 1952.
- Life*: *Boswell's Life of Johnson, Together with Boswell's Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides and Johnson's Diary of a Journey into North Wales*, ed. G. B. Hill, rev. L. F. Powell, 6 vols., 1934–50; vols. v and vi, 2nd ed., 1964.
- Lit. Anec.*: John Nichols, *Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century*, 9 vols., 1812–15.
- Lit. Car.*: F. A. Pottle, *The Literary Career of James Boswell, Esq.*, 1929; reprinted 1965, 1967.
- Lit. Illust.*: John Nichols and John Bowyer Nichols, *Illustrations of the Literary History of the Eighteenth Century*, 8 vols., 1817–58.
- Lloyd's Eve. Post*: *Lloyd's Evening Post*, 1757–1808.
- Lond. Chron.*: *The London Chronicle*, 1757–1823.
- Lond. Mag.*: *The London Magazine*, 1732–85.
- Mirror*: *The Mirror*, Edinburgh, 1779–80.
- Monthly Rev.*: *The Monthly Review*, 1749–1844.
- Morn. Chron.*: *The Morning Chronicle*, 1769–1865.
- Morn. Her.*: *The Morning Herald*, 1780–1869.
- Morn. Post*: *The Morning Post*, 1772–1937.
- North Briton*: *The North Briton*, 1762–63.
- Oracle*: *The Oracle and Public Advertiser*, 1789–98.
- P&N*: Frederick A. Pottle, *Pride and Negligence: The History of the Boswell Papers*, 1981.
- Polit. Reg.*: *The Political Register and Impartial Review of New Books*, 1767–72.
- Pub. Adv.*: *The Public Advertiser*, 1752–94.
- Pub. Ledger*: *The Public Ledger*, 1760–1836.
- Reg. Let.*: JB's register of letters sent and received.
- St. James's Chron.*: *The St. James's Chronicle*, 1761–1866.

Scots Mag.: *The Scots Magazine*, 1739–1817.

Seward Letters: *Letters of Anna Seward: Written between the Years 1784 and 1807*, ed. A. Constable, 1811.

SJ's Journey: Samuel Johnson, *A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland*, 1st ed., 1775.

Star: *The Star and Evening Advertiser*, 1788–1831.

Tour: Boswell's *Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides*. References are to the fifth volume of the *Life* (q.v. this list) unless otherwise indicated.

Univ. Mag.: *The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure*, 1747–1803.

Univ. Scots Almanack: *The Universal Scots Almanack*.

Waingrow: *The Correspondence and Other Papers of James Boswell Relating to the Making of the "Life of Johnson"*, ed. Marshall Waingrow, 1969.

Walpole's Correspondence, Yale ed.: *The Yale Edition of Horace Walpole's Correspondence*, ed. W. S. Lewis and others, 1937–83.

Whitehall Eve. Post: *The Whitehall Evening-Post*, 1746–1801.

World: *The World*, 1787–94.

*Catalogue of the Papers  
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VOLUME III



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C 2063] MUIR, GEORGE. 23 March 1767, Paisley. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed: Geo. Muir. Seal. Postmark. Addressed: To Mr. James Boswell younger of Auchinleck, Advocate, Ayr.

Muir was the minister of High Kirk Parish, Paisley. He thanks JB for sending him 'the two memorials in the Douglas Cause'.

C 2064] MUIR, WILLIAM. 22 April 1791, Kilmarnock. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed. Wrapper, with black seal. Addressed: James Boswell Esqr., London.

He asks JB to recommend him for some light post on his retirement from medical practice.

MURATTI, ACHILLE, see C 829.

C 2065] MURRAY, JAMES. 5 December 1779, Cally. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed: Jas. Murray. Seal. Postmark. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr., Advocate, Edinburgh. Endorsed: '3d. Received Decr. 8 1779. Mr. Murray of Broughton asking my interest with Horatius Cannan in the Stewartry of Kircudbright. My Answer is within on the same paper.' JB's reply (L 980) is copied on side 2.

C 2066] MUSGRAVE, SIR WILLIAM, Bt. 9 November 1791, Park Place, St. James's [London]. 2 leaves, 2 sides written on. In the third person. Fragment of wafer. Addressed: James Boswell Esqr.

The compiler of the *Obituary* is here writing as a collector of engravings, requesting to be supplied with one of the *earliest* and *best* impressions of the engraving of SJ prefixed to the *Life*.

C 2067] MUSGRAVE, SIR WILLIAM, Bt. 12 November 1791, Park Place, St. James's [London]. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. In the third person. Wafer. Addressed: James Boswell Esqr.

Thanking JB for the present of the prints of SJ, and accepting an offer to procure for him one of Mr. Sheridan. He wishes to know the address of Heath, the engraver.

C 2068] MYLNE, ROBERT. 31 December 1789, New Riverhead, Islington. 1 leaf, 1 side written on. Signed. Endorsed: 'Mr. Mylne'.

Mylne, the architect of Blackfriars Bridge, is sending a paper in which quotations from Sir John Hawkins's *Life of Johnson* are set over against his own comments. He asks for the return of his paper, which evidently furnished material for JB's note on the Blackfriars Bridge (*Life* i. 351 n. 1).

N., S., see [?NOTT, SAMUEL].

C 2069] NAIRNE, JOHN. 22 January 1766, Sens. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed. Black seal. Postmark. Addressed: A Monsieur, Monsieur L'abbé

Gordon, Principal du College des Ecossois pour faire tenir S'il lui plait a Monsr. Boswell D'aflect, rue des fossées St. Victor, a Paris.

Reg. Let. records a letter received 25 January 1766 from 'Captain Nairne'. The writer calls himself 'your affectionate cousin' and says he has had a search made in all the villages adjacent to Auxerre, but has discovered no trace of JB's dog (the hapless Jachone).

NAIRNE, SIR WILLIAM, BT., see DUNSINNAN.

C 2070] NASMITH, MICHAEL. 1 August [1774, Edinburgh]. 2 folio leaves, 1 side written on. A portion of the 2d leaf has been cut off without damage to the text. Signed: M. Nasmith. Wafer. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr., Advocate.

Nasmith, a Writer to the Signet, was associated closely with JB in the affair of John Reid; this group of letters by him concerns the trial and JB's attempt to save the convicted sheep-stealer. Nasmith has just learned the verdict, and expresses his keen disappointment in the decision of the Court.

C 2071] NASMITH, MICHAEL. 2 September [1774, Edinburgh]. 2 folio leaves, 2 sides written on. Signed: M. Nasmith. Wafer. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr., Advocate.

He as heard from John Reid's wife information which may be of service to them in their efforts to save the poor man, now living under a respite of fourteen days.

C 2072] NASMITH, MICHAEL. 6 September 1774, Edinburgh. 1 folio leaf, 1 side written on. Signed: M. Nasmith. Wafer. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr., Advocate.

Before his respite came, John Reid made a 'last speech' in which he implicated a certain Gardner, now about to be transported for the crime of housebreaking. Nasmith asks if he should not send a copy of this portion of the speech to his friend Wilson in Glasgow so that Gardner might be questioned.

C 2073] NASMITH, MICHAEL. To John Wilson, Jr. 6 September 1774, Edinburgh. 2 folio leaves, 3 sides written on. In the hand of Nasmith's clerk; signature and endorsement in Nasmith's handwriting. Signed: M. Nasmith. Endorsed: 'Copy Letter to Mr. John Wilson Junr., writer in Glasgow, anent John Reid 6th Sept<sup>r</sup>. 1774'. This was sent to JB with C 2074.

Gives a summary of JB's defence of Reid before the Court of Justiciary and the situation since the respite was granted: 'The Battle is betwixt Boswel and the Court—He is opposing all his Interest—He is all Humanity.' He is enclosing a copy of that part of John Reid's last speech which concerns Gardner, whom he asks Wilson to question on certain subjects. For reply see C 3126.

C 2074] NASMITH, MICHAEL. 6 September 1774, Edinburgh. 1 folio leaf, 1 side written on. Signed: M. Nasmith. Wafer. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr., Advocate.

A covering letter for C 2073. He asks JB to read his letter to Wilson and make any changes he thinks proper.

C 2075] NASMITH, MICHAEL. 8 September 1774, Edinburgh. 2 folio leaves, 1 side written on, with address on side 1. Signed: M. Nasmith. Wafer. Addressed: To James Boswell Esquire, Advocate.

He encloses Wilson's reply to his letter of 6 Sept. (see C 3126). Nasmith also reports that 'the composition' (an account purporting to be dictated by John Reid, but written by JB) has been dispatched to the printer but seems to have met with a mischance. See Lg 24:1.

C 2076] NASMITH, MICHAEL. 20 September 1774, Edinburgh. 2 folio leaves, 3 sides written on. Signed: M. Nasmith. Wafer. Addressed: To James Boswell Esquire, Advocate.

He tries to dissuade JB from his scheme to resuscitate John Reid.

C 2077] [NASSAU BEVERWEERD, JOHANNA GEVAERTS (VAN GANSOYEN), COUNTESS OF]. List of ladies. [26 November 1763]. 1 leaf, 1 side written on. Probably in the hand of the Countess of Nassau Beverweerd. Unsigned.

The Countess, who had made herself a patroness of JB in Utrecht society, furnished him with this list of ladies to whom he might pay his respects and so get invited to the assemblies, which were about to begin. Each name is followed by a number ('1', '2', or '3'), presumably to indicate the number of cards to be left.

C 2078] NASSAU BEVERWEERD, JOHANNA, COUNTESS OF. To Elisabeth Agnes Jacoba, Baroness von Spaen. 18 December 1763, Utrecht. 2 leaves, 1 side written on; C 1161 on side 3. In French. A copy, including signature, in JB's hand. Signed: C. De Nassaú née Gevaerts.

JB has subjoined the note: 'Lettre de Madamé La Comtesse De Nassaú Beverwerd á Madame La Baronne de Spaan née Comtesse de Nassaú La Lecq recommandant Mr. Boswell, quand il alloit premierement á la Haye'.

NASSAU LA LECQ, JAN NICOLAAS FLORIS, COUNT OF, see C 1426.

C 2079] NEALSON, JAMES EPHRAIM LUKE. 29 March 1795, Great George Street, Westminster. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. In the third person. Endorsed: 'Major Semple'.

Nealson, a stockbroker, asks JB to transmit an enclosed card to T. D. Boswell. The connexion with Major Semple is not apparent.

C 2080] [NEEDHAM, JOHN TURBERVILLE]. 'To The Authour of The Letter To The worthy Electors of Aylesbury. Remarks upon The Athanasian Creed'. [After October 1764]. 4 leaves, 8 sides written on. A copy in JB's handwriting. With this a note, consisting of 1 leaf, both sides written on, in

Needham's hand, with heading: 'To be inserted before the imitation of the athanasian creed'.

JB met Needham, priest and scientist, at Turin in Jan. 1765. In his Memoranda (J 7) under date of 17 Jan. JB writes, 'Yesterday morning Mr. Needham came and read his Athanasian Defence very well ...'; the essay was a reply to a statement in Wilkes's *Letter to the Electors of Aylesbury*, which was dated Paris, 22 Oct. 1764. This copy was no doubt made at Turin, Needham adding his note to it. JB had an opportunity in February in Rome to show it to Wilkes and reported Wilkes's answer to Needham in a letter now missing, but referred to by Needham in his of 13 Mar. (C 2082).

C 2081] [NEEDHAM, JOHN TURBERVILLE]. Itinerary. [c. 19 January 1765]. 2 leaves, 4 sides written on.

Before JB left Turin on 23 Jan., Needham wrote out for him a plan for his Italian journey, beginning with Milan and ending at Genoa; the itinerary makes note of inns and the principal objects to be seen in many of the places.

C 2082] NEEDHAM, JOHN TURBERVILLE. 13 March 1765, Turin. 2 leaves, 3 sides written on. Signed: T. Needham. Seal. Addressed: al illustrissimo signore Padrone colendissimo, il signor Boswell, cavaliere Inglese à la casa di Marchese Belloni, à Roma.

Needham's letter is taken up with a mock metaphysical reply to an apparently flippant remark Wilkes had made to JB upon reading Needham's note 'to be inserted before the imitation of the athanasian creed' (see C 2080). He also argues against JB's saying he thinks it best to hold all these matters 'in devout scepticism'. In closing, the priest thanks JB for some verses, and for his high opinion of 'my microscopical observations'. JB sent his letter to Wilkes with his of 22 Apr. For JB's reply to Needham see L 983.

C 2083] NEEDHAM, JOHN TURBERVILLE. 17 May 1765, Turin. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed: T. Needham. Seal. Addressed: Firenzé. A Monsieur, Monsieur Boswell, chez Messieurs Joseph Frescobaldi et Fils, Banquiers, à Florence. A reply to L 983.

He is just setting out on his tour of Italy and hopes to meet JB in the course of it. In a postscript he warns JB of the falsity of his 'devout scepticism'.

C 2084] NEILL, ADAM. 7 June 1785, Edinburgh. 2 leaves, 2 sides written on. Signed. Addressed: James Boswell Esqr., London.

Fifty copies of the *Letter to the People of Scotland* are sold at 2s. 8d. each, and fifty more are asked for.

C 2085] NEILL, ADAM. 1 July 1785, Edinburgh. 2 leaves, 2 sides written on. Signed. Wafer. Addressed: James Boswell Esqr., London.

The further fifty copies have arrived and have all been sold. John Johnston wishes to know when JB is to be in Edinburgh. See also A 58.

C 2086] NEILL, JAMES. 30 August 1768, Ayr. 2 leaves, 1 side written on.

Signed. Wafer. Addressed: To James Boswell Esq., Advocate, now at Auchinleck. Sent enclosed with C 2087.

He sends William Harris's letter of 27 Aug. (C 1497); explains the crime laid to Harris's charge and hopes that JB will undertake his defence.

C 2087] NEILL, JAMES. 30 August 1768, Ayr. 2 leaves, 1 side written on, with address on side 1. Signed. Wafer. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr., Advocate, now at Auchinleck.

He has seen Harris, who earnestly appeals to JB to come to him. Neill enclosed his earlier letter and Harris's note in this.

C 2088] NEILL, JAMES. 18 June 1772, Ayr. Fragment of a letter. Signed. JB has written a reading note on the verso (M 237:8).

Concerns his inability to serve JB's interest as he is not entitled to a vote; and asks JB to aid him in a purchase from Mr. Fergusson.

C 2089] NÉNY, [?CORNELIUS], COMTE DE. [?23 June 1794] Hotel Leicester Fields [London]. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. In the third person. In French. Seal. Addressed: Mr. Boswell Esq., portland St. No. 47.

He writes to apologise for not meeting JB at Sir Joseph Banks's as he had engaged to do; he still wishes to become acquainted with Sir Joseph, for whom he has brought letters of introduction. He also wishes JB to introduce to Mr. Planta at the British Museum his travelling companions, the young Counts de Metternich and his own nephew. He closes with grateful acknowledgement of the attentions JB has paid him on his previous visits.

C 2090] NEROT, J. 22 March 1786, King Street Hotel, St. James's [London]. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. In French. Signed: J. Nerot. Seal. Postmarks. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr. at the Honble. Genl. Paoli's, Upper Seymour Street, Portman Square.

He is prevented from carrying out JB's order for a barrister's and a scratch wig, having lost the measurements. Upon JB's arrival (from the circuit) the measure must be taken again.

C 2091] NEWBIGGING, ROBERT. To James Sommers. 7 December 1766, Lanark. 2 leaves, 2 sides written on, with address and endorsement on side 1. Signed. Fragment of seal. Postmark. Addressed: To Mr. James Sommers, Writer, in Edinburgh. Endorsed, presumably by Sommers: '2d. Rob. Newbigging about John Reid. Received 8 December 1766'.

Testimony of one Paton on events connected with John Reid's first trial for sheep-stealing.

C 2092] NEWCASTLE, HENRY PELHAM FIENNES PELHAM, 4TH D. OF. To [James Boswell the younger]. 10 February 1815, Berkeley Square [London]. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed.

Returning thanks for sending him 'the copy of Spence's Anecdotes as arranged by Mr. Malone with his notes'.

C 2093] NICHOLLS, NORTON. 18 November 1780, Blundeston, near Lowestoft, Suffolk. 2 leaves, 3 sides written on. Signed. Wrapper, with seal. Postmarks. Addressed (by Henry Duncombe): James Boswell Esqr., Edinburgh, N.B. Franked: Free H. Duncombe.

Conveying thanks for kind attention to him during his stay at Edinburgh and asking JB to visit him. He has heard through their friend Clarke that Temple is well.

C 2094] [NICHOLS, JOHN]. Note concerning *Windsor Forest*. [?October 1780]. 1 leaf, 1 side written on. In Nichols's handwriting. SJ has jotted down an itinerary (C 1602) on the blank side.

The note was doubtless a contribution to the *Life of Pope*, which SJ was writing at this time (see *Letters SJ* ii. 707ff.). It has to do with two lines said to be originally in *Windsor Forest*; also a memorandum concerns Pope's introducing himself to Spence upon the publication of the first part of the *Essay on the Odyssey*.

C 2095] [NICHOLS, JOHN]. List of SJ's contributions to *The Gentleman's Magazine*. 1 leaf, both sides written on. In Nichols's handwriting, with an anecdote concerning SJ's authorship of the 'Apotheosis of Milton' subjoined on side 1 in JB's hand.

Contributions are noted for 1739, 1741, 1742, 1743, and 1744; two items are queries. This list may be dated 7 Dec. 1784 from Nichols's *Anecdotes* v. 15. For excerpts from SJ's letter to Nichols, 10 and 28 Oct. 1782 (*Life* iv. 160), and the letter of 20 Oct. 1784 (iv. 369) see M 145 pp. 161, 924–25. For the anecdote about subscriptions to SJ's *Shakespeare* (*Life* iv. 110–11) see M 145 p. 795.

C 2096] NICOL, GEORGE. To Samuel Johnson. 22 November 1784, Strand [London]. 2 leaves, 3 sides written on. Signed. Endorsed by Nicol: 'Letter G. Nicol to Dr. Johnson'.

A plan for bringing out an edition of SJ's works. For a copy of SJ's letter to Nicol, 19 Aug. 1784 (*Life* iv. 365), see M 145 p. 921.

C 2097] NISBET, CHARLES. 28 January 1784, Montrose. 2 leaves, 2 sides written on. Signed: Chas. Nisbet. Wafer. Postmark. Addressed: James Boswell Esqr., Advocate, Edinburgh. Endorsed: '4d. Received 29 Janry. 1784. Rev. Mr. Charles Nisbet at Montrose begging I may write to Mr. Dempster to support the Petition of the Scotch Schoolmasters for an Augmentation of salaries. Answer Within'. JB's reply (L 986) is copied on side 3.

The Rev. Charles Nisbet was minister of Montrose from 1764 until 1785, when he came to America as the first president of Dickinson College.

\*C 2098] NOBLE, MARK. 'The Family of Boswell of Auchinleck'. 1 leaf, both sides written on. Signature and date '1808' in upper corners. Mounted on a sheet of paper, now trimmed.

Contains a chart of JB's family with information gathered 'from various works'. Some of the information was added at a later date.

\*C 2099] NOBLE, MARK. 'James Boswell Esq. of Auchinleck'. 2 leaves, each having 1 side written on, mounted on a single sheet of paper, which has been trimmed.

The leaf mounted at the top bears the signature and the date '1820'; it contains a quotation about JB 'from the Barrister Will. Cooke of the Middle Temple's Poem *Conversation*'. The lower leaf, with heading, 'Mr. Boswell', consists of a narrow strip of paper, bearing in its upper corners the signature and the date '1821'; on it is written Hume's description of JB in a letter to the Countess de Boufflers.

C 2100] NORNAVILLE, JOHN. 10 April 1784, London. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed. Seal. Postmark. Addressed: James Boswell Esq., Auchinleck, Dumfries, Cumnock. JB has filled the blank spaces of sides 1 and 4 with memoranda, and has also written on sides 2 and 3, as noted below.

Reg. Let. shows that JB had written to Dilly asking when 'the Temple Commons for Easter term may be eaten'; in the absence of Dilly, his clerk sends the desired information. As indicated by the many jottings, JB took this letter with him when he left Auchinleck for London on 27 Apr. 1784. On side 1 he gives an account of fellow travellers on the way: Jeanie Henderson, wife of John Trumbull, Mr. Ewen, Thomas Braithwaite, Thomas Richardson, 'the famous Cockfeeder', and a 'Curious fellow at Siege of algiers', now a leather dresser, are mentioned, with extensive notes of Richardson's remarks; the stages of the journey mentioned are Moffat, Lockerbie, Carlisle, Penrith, and Kendal. The earliest dated memorandum reads, 'Jo. Ware and Son Whitehaven packet 27 April'. Ten items in the style of Boswelliana are described in M 42, verses 'made in the Wolds of Kendal, 29 April 1784' in M 307, and notes of conversations at Lichfield in M 189.

C 2101] NORTHCOTE, JAMES. [1791 or 1792] Argyll Street [London]. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. In the third person. Wafer. Addressed: James Boswell Esqr., great portland Street, portland place. [Added in pencil in another hand] No. 47. Endorsed: 'Mr. Northcote'.

Thanking JB for the pleasure he has had in reading the *Life*.

C 2102] NORTHCOTE, THOMAS. To Charles Dilly. 9 March 1782, Cheney Walk, Chelsea. 1 leaf, 1 side written on. Signed: Thos. Northcote. At foot of side 1, in Charles Dilly's hand: 'answered Sat. Evg. 9th March'. Endorsed by JB: 'Regulus to Mr. Dilly'. The leaf is mended, having been torn in two.

Unconditional subscriptions for Northcote's books have been handed to Dilly, and the author, who has been very ill, asks for some of the money. The obituary of the Rev. Thomas Northcote (*Gent. Mag.* 1787, lvii. 366) states that he was a 'chaplain (on half-pay) in the Royal Artillery, well known by his letters in the Public Advertiser, and other purposes'.

C 2103] NORTHUMBERLAND, ELIZABETH (SEYMOUR), DUCHESS OF. 26 June [1761] Syon. 2 leaves, 2 sides written on. Signed. A reply to L 987.

She thanks JB for his verses and asks him to forgive her delay, as it was caused by the illness and death of her daughter.



C 2104] NORTHUMBERLAND, ELIZABETH, DUCHESS OF. 22 April [1763, London]. 2 leaves, 2 sides written on. Signed. Seal. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr. This was also transcribed by JB into the journal for 22 Apr. 1763 (J 2.1 pp. 518–19). A reply to L 992.

She is glad to hear he is to have a commission in the Army. Should there be a suitable vacancy in Lord Northumberland's establishment as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland they would be glad to offer it to JB, but at present all posts have been filled.

C 2105] NORTHUMBERLAND, HUGH PERCY, 2<sup>D</sup> D. OF. 13 April 1791. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed. Wrapper, with seal. Postmarks. Addressed: To James Boswell Esqr., No. 47 Portland Street, London. Franked: Islesworth, April thirteenth 1791. Free Northumberland. A reply to L 994.

He is obliged to refuse JB's solicitation on behalf of a person in distress.

C 2106] [?NOTT, SAMUEL]. To [?Sir Joshua Reynolds]. 6 February 1790, Bull's Library, Bath. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed: S.N. Enclosed is a poem of 18 Lines written on side 1 of a folded sheet. Endorsed in Sir Joshua Reynolds's hand: 'Dr. Johnson'.

A 'sincere admirer' of SJ, upon hearing that a public monument is to be erected to his memory, sends some verses as a token of his esteem. The Rev. Samuel Nott, a correspondent of Garrick and translator of the *Basia* of Secundus, is suggested as the author, although it is possible that the initials S.N. merely represent 'sine nomine'.

C 2107] NUNN, JAMES. To Charles Dilly. 4 March 1795. 2 leaves, 1 side written on. Signed. Wafer. Addressed: Mr. Dilly.

Ordering twelve sets of the second edition of the *Life*; also a supply of Nugent's *Dictionary*. Dilly sent this note to JB with C 1060.

OFFALY, LADY, see DIGBY (LETTICE FITZGERALD), LADY.

\*C 2108] OGBORNE, ELIZABETH (ELIOT). To John Thomas Smith. 2 August [18—] Great Portland Street [London]. 1 leaf, 1 side written on. In the third person. The leaf bearing the address has been removed, and the letter mounted on a sheet of paper, now trimmed.

Information concerning JB's house, No. 47 Great Portland Street. Mrs. Ogborne, author of the *History of Essex*, and wife of John Ogborne, the engraver, lived at No. 58.

C 2109] OGILVIE, JOHN. 16 November 1762, Midmar Manse. 1 leaf, both sides written on. Signed: J. Ogilvie.

The Rev. John Ogilvie (later D.D.) had recently published *Poems on Several Subjects*, which JB records reading with much pleasure on 7 Nov. 1762 (J 2). After a long apology for delaying to answer a letter from JB, he proceeds to discuss Kames's *Elements of Criticism*, and commends it especially for the 'Taste and Judgment' shown by its author in his choice of illustrations.