



Painted by Sir Elfridum  
(1838.)

Engraved by R. W. Dodson.

SIR WARNER SCOTT, BART.

EMERY, LEA & BLANCHARD.

MEMOIRS

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OF

T H E L I F E

OF

SIR WALTER SCOTT, BART.

BY

J. G. LOCKHART.

VOL. I.

BOSTON:

OTIS, BROADERS, AND COMPANY.

1837.

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TO  
JOHN BACON SAUREY MORRITT,  
OF ROKEBY PARK, ESQ.

THESE MEMOIRS OF HIS FRIEND  
ARE RESPECTFULLY AND AFFECTIONATELY  
INSCRIBED.

## P R E F A C E .

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IN obedience to the instructions of Sir Walter Scott's last will, I had made some progress in a narrative of his personal history, before there was discovered, in an old cabinet at Abbotsford, an autobiographical fragment, composed by him in 1808—shortly after the publication of his *Marmion*.

This fortunate accident rendered it necessary that I should altogether remodel the work which I had commenced. The first Chapter of the following Memoirs consists of the *Ashestiel* fragment; which gives a clear outline of his early life down to the period of his call to the bar—July, 1792. All the notes appended to this Chapter are also by himself. They are in a hand-writing very different from the text, and seem, from various circumstances, to have been added in 1826.

It appeared to me, however, that the author's modesty had prevented him from telling the story of his youth with that fulness of detail which would now satisfy the public. I have therefore recast my own collections as to the period in question, and presented the substance of them, in five succeeding chapters, as *illustrations* of his too brief autobiography. This procedure has been attended with many obvious enough disadvantages; but I greatly preferred it to printing the precious fragment in an Appendix.

I foresee that some readers will be apt to accuse me of trenching upon delicacy in certain details of the sixth and