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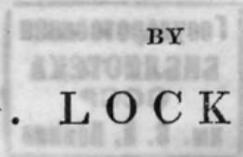
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OF

T H E L I F E

OF

SIR WALTER SCOTT, BART.



BY
J. G. LOCKHART.

VOL. III.

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MEMOIRS

OF THE

LIFE OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.

CHAPTER I.

THE POEM OF ROKEBY BEGUN—CORRESPONDENCE WITH MR. MORRITT—DEATH OF HENRY DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH—GEORGE ELLIS—JOHN WILSON—APPRENTICES OF EDINBURGH—SCOTT'S "NICK-NACKATORIES"—LETTER TO MISS BAILLIE ON THE PUBLICATION OF CHILDE HAROLD—CORRESPONDENCE WITH LORD BYRON.—1811-1812.

OF the £4000 which Scott paid for the original farm of Abbotsford, he borrowed one half from his eldest brother, Major John Scott; the other moiety was raised by the Ballantynes, and advanced on the security of the as yet unwritten, though long-meditated poem of Rokeby. He immediately, I believe by Terry's counsel, requested Mr. Stark of Edinburgh, an architect of whose talents he always spoke warmly, to give him a design for an ornamental cottage in the style of the old English vicarage-house. But before this could be done, Mr. Stark died; and Scott's letters will show how, in the sequel, his building plans, checked for a season by this occurrence, gradually expanded,—until twelve years afterwards the site was occupied not by a cottage, but a castle.

His first notions are sketched as follows, in a letter addressed to Mr. Morritt very shortly after the purchase.