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MEMOIRS

OF

T H E L I F E

OF

SIR WALTER SCOTT, BART.

BY

J. G. LOCKHART.

VOL. IV.

BOSTON:
OTIS, BROADERS, AND COMPANY.

1837.

ГОСУДАРСТВЕННАЯ
БИБЛИОТЕКА
СССР
ИМ. В. И. ЛЕНИНА

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MEMOIRS

OF THE

LIFE OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.

CHAPTER I.

PUBLICATION OF PAUL'S LETTERS TO HIS KINSFOLK—GUY MANNERING "TERRY-FIED"—DEATH OF MAJOR JOHN SCOTT—LETTERS TO THOMAS SCOTT—PUBLICATION OF THE ANTIQUARY—HISTORY OF 1814 FOR THE EDINBURGH ANNUAL REGISTER—LETTERS ON THE HISTORY OF SCOTLAND PROJECTED—PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST TALES OF MY LANDLORD BY MURRAY AND BLACKWOOD—ANECDOTES BY MR. TRAIN—QUARTERLY REVIEW ON THE TALES—BUILDING AT ABBOTSFORD BEGUN—LETTERS TO MORRITT, TERRY, MURRAY, AND THE BAL-LANTYNES.—1816.

THE year 1815 may be considered as, for Scott's peaceful tenor of life, an eventful one. That which followed has left almost its only traces in the successive appearance of nine volumes, which attest the prodigal genius, and hardly less astonishing industry, of the man. Early in January were published Paul's Letters to his Kinsfolk, of which I need not say more than that they were received with lively curiosity, and general, though not vociferous applause. The first edition was an octavo, of 6000 copies; and it was followed, in the course of the next two or three years, by a second and a third, amounting together to 3000 more. The popularity of the novelist was at its height; and this admitted, if not avowed, specimen of Scott's prose,