

**GATEWAY SERIES.
LIFE OF
SAMUEL JOHNSON**

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Gateway Series. Life of Samuel Johnson by Thomas Babington Macaulay

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THOMAS BABINGTON MACAULAY

**GATEWAY SERIES.
LIFE OF
SAMUEL JOHNSON**

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LIFE OF SAMUEL JOHNSON

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W. P. I

PREFACE BY THE GENERAL EDITOR

THIS series of books aims, first, to give the English texts required for entrance to college in a form which shall make them clear, interesting, and helpful to those who are beginning the study of literature; and, second, to supply the knowledge which the student needs to pass the entrance examination. For these two reasons it is called *The Gateway Series*.

The poems, plays, essays, and stories in these small volumes are treated, first of all, as works of literature, which were written to be read and enjoyed, not to be parsed and scanned and pulled to pieces. A short life of the author is given, and a portrait, in order to help the student to know the real person who wrote the book. The introduction tells what it is about, and how it was written, and where the author got the idea, and what it means. The notes at the foot of the page are simply to give the sense of the hard words so that the student can read straight on without turning to a dictionary. The other notes, at the end of the book, explain difficulties and allusions and fine points.

6 Preface by the General Editor

The editors are chosen because of their thorough training and special fitness to deal with the books committed to them, and because they agree with this idea of what a Gateway Series ought to be. They express, in each case, their own views of the books which they edit. Simplicity, thoroughness, shortness, and clearness, — these, we hope, will be the marks of the series.

HENRY VAN DYKE.

PREFATORY NOTE

IF this little volume has any distinctive character, and therefore any reason for existing, it will be found in the fact that, in addition to the ordinary notes in explanation of the various literary, historical, and other allusions in Macaulay's essay, the editor has called attention continually and specifically to the illustrations of Macaulay's distinctive traits of style and manner. It is hoped that by this means the great master of modern English prose may become to the young reader, not a mere name, but a living spirit. In order to interest the reader in Trevelyan's fascinating volumes, it has been thought wise to write the Introduction largely in Macaulay's own words and in those of his biographer.

J. S. CLARK.

EVANSTON, ILL.