THOMAS CARLYLE: A STUDY OF HIS LITERARY APPRENTICESHIP, 1814-1831

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Thomas Carlyle: A Study of His Literary Apprenticeship, 1814-1831 by William Savage Johnson

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WILLIAM SAVAGE JOHNSON

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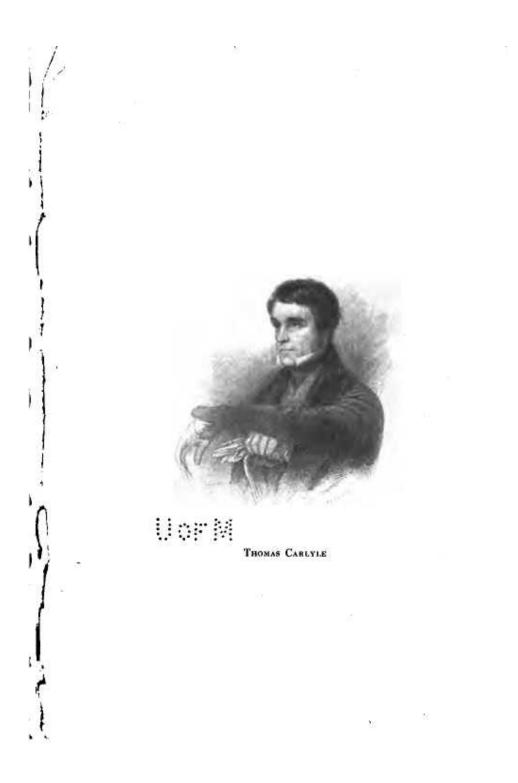
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A STUDY OF HIS LITERARY APPRENTICESHIP

1814-1881

BY

WILLIAM SAVAGE JOHNSON



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PREFACE

à,

The following essay is the result of a course in Carlyle and Emerson, given first at Yale University and later at the University of Kansas, in which Sartor Resartus was used as a text-book. In teaching this work it became evident that it could be appreciated properly only when studied, first, in relation to the social and economic conditions which produced it, and secondly, as the culmination of a long period of reflection and experimentation. One of the primary aims of the present undertaking is, therefore, to render clearer to general readers the meaning and origin of Sartor.

In studying the Critical Essays, however, it soon became clear that Carlyle had formulated before 1831 all of the important doctrines which constitute the gospel that he was to preach during the next thirty-five years. The present study will help the student of Carlyle to see where he found and how he developed many of these ideas.

In arranging the materials for this sketch I am aware that perfect proportion has not

PREFACE

been observed. The analysis of the magazine literature of the period in Part IV., for example, is perhaps unduly expanded. It has seemed best in such cases, where the facts are comparatively unfamiliar, to treat the subject at greater length and to condense the more familiar passages.

I wish to express my thanks to Professor Selden L. Whitcomb of the University of Kansas, and to Professor John C. Adams of Yale University for valuable suggestions and criticism.

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