

**OXFORD HISTORICAL AND  
LITERARY STUDIES,  
VOL. 4: A BIBLIOGRAPHY  
OF SAMUEL JOHNSON**

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**WILLIAM PRIDEAUX COURTNEY & DAVID NICHOL SMITH**

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O X F O R D  
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S T U D I E S

Issued under the direction of C. H. FIRTH  
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Modern History and English Literature in  
the University of Oxford

V O L U M E 4  
BIBLIOGRAPHY OF JOHNSON

By *WILLIAM PRIDEAUX COURTNEY*

Revised and seen through the press by

*DAVID NICHOL SMITH*

OXFORD  
At the *Clarendon Press*

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## PREFACE

THIS bibliography was the last work of William Prideaux Courtney. He had long been engaged on it, and within a few weeks of his death on November 14, 1913, he had sent his manuscript to the press. He saw none of it in type. The completion of his work has thus passed to other hands.

He had revised for me last year a condensed bibliography of Johnson in the *Cambridge History of English Literature*, and I had looked forward to assisting him in turn with his proofs. Instead I have had the duty of seeing his work through the press. The consistent accuracy of his references has greatly facilitated the revision; the real difficulty was to be assured that his work was completed with the thoroughness at which he aimed. What I have occasionally inserted is duly indicated. An asterisk is prefixed to the additional entries, and the new matter in the descriptions and notes is enclosed within square brackets and signed 'Ed.'

Accounts of Johnson's personality and his talk do not come strictly within the scheme of the volume. Its purpose is to give a record of the publication of his writings and compositions. No mention is thus made of such books as *Johnsoniana, or a Collection of Bon Mots, &c.* (1776), or *Dr. Johnson's Table Talk* (1785, &c.); and Boswell's *Life* and Mrs. Piozzi's *Anecdotes* are included only because the one prints many of his letters and much that he had dictated, and the other has preserved several of his lighter and

impromptu verses. But the descriptive passages are rich in references to pamphlets that were connected with his work, and in details about his associates. This bibliography is more than a mere list of editions. It presents the facts of Johnson's literary career. And it will be found to contain much that has not been easily accessible, and much also that is new.

D. NICHOL SMITH.

OXFORD,  
*May 20, 1914.*

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Latin Translation of Pope's 'Messiah'.

A Miscellany of Poems By several Hands. Publish'd by 1731  
J. [John] Husbands, A.M. Fellow of Pembroke-College, Boswell,  
Oxon. Oxford: Printed by Leon. Lichfield, near the i. 60-2.  
East-Gate, In the Year M D C C X X X I. 8°.

It is stated in the preface that 'The Translation [pp. 111-17] of Mr. *Pope's Messiah* was deliver'd to his Tutor [William Jorden], as a College Exercise, by Mr. *Johnson*, a Commoner of *Pembroke College* in *Oxford*, and 'tis hoped will be no Discredit to the excellent Original'. It was reprinted in the third volume of Edward Popham's *Selecta Poemata Anglorum Latina* (1776), pp. 16-21.

Dr. Taylor told Boswell 'that it was first printed for old Mr. Johnson without the knowledge of his son, who was very angry when he heard of it'. This is the first printed composition of Johnson, but Boswell states that there are in the library of Penbroke College four more of his college exercises, two in verse and two in prose. One of the latter two is printed by him under the date of 1728 (Hill's ed., i. 61); and one of the copies of verse under July 16, 1754 (ib. 271).

John Husbands was the son of the Rev. Thomas Husbands, of Marsh Baldon, Oxfordshire, and was baptized there on February 12, 1705/6. He matriculated from Pembroke College, Oxford, on July 28, 1721, aged 15, and graduated B.A. 1725, M.A. 1728. He entered into Holy orders and was elected Fellow of his college on June 7, 1728. Husbands died on Nov. 21, 1732. Latin verses by him are in the Oxford University set on the death of George I and the accession of George II (1727). At the time of his death 'he was preparing for the press a comparison of the Eastern and Western poetry' (*Gent. Mag.*, 1732, p. 1083; *N. & Q.*, 8th S., xii. (1897) 8, 95).

Johnson's connexion with Penbroke College is described by the Rev. Douglas Maclean in his *History of the College* (Oxford Hist. Soc. (1897), pp. 330-50).