

## From Altrive to Albany: James Hogg's Transatlantic Publication<sup>i</sup>

In 2002, the Stirling/South Carolina Research Edition of *The Collected Works of James Hogg* was awarded a major AHRB research grant, part of which was to enable research into Hogg's association with American periodicals. The following essay is therefore work-in-progress of the larger study.

During his lifetime, Hogg was aware of the popularity of his works with American readers. For example, in his autobiographical *Memoir of the Author's Life* he claimed that his 1815 poem entitled *The Pilgrims of the Sun* 'was reprinted in two different towns in America, and ten thousand copies of it sold in that country.'<sup>ii</sup> Andrew Hook confirmed Hogg's boast when he noted that after Walter Scott, Hogg was 'probably the most popular [writer] in America as both poet and story-teller.'<sup>iii</sup> As Hook has shown, '[t]he great majority of Hogg's works, prose and poetry, were reprinted; and transatlantic critics and reviewers of the day were disposed to find much to admire in them.'<sup>iv</sup> Until recently, the New York publication of Hogg's *Familiar Anecdotes of Sir Walter Scott* in 1834 was thought to have been a one-off, brought about, as Douglas S. Mack has suggested, with 'Lockhart's disapproval having made British publication impractical'.<sup>v</sup> However, research into Hogg's relationship with American periodicals has revealed that at this time Hogg also contributed other original material for publication: 'Tales of Fathers and Daughters. By the Ettrick Shepherd' was serialised in the first three numbers of *The Zodiac, A Monthly Periodical devoted to Science, Literature and the Arts* (New York) between July and September 1835.<sup>vi</sup> The full transatlantic correspondence is not extant and it has not been possible to discover how Hogg's story came to be published in this short-lived, eclectic, monthly magazine. Nevertheless, from the biographical introduction to *Familiar Anecdotes*, from information and editorial notices in North American magazines, and from the little amount of surviving correspondence, it is possible to understand more of Hogg's transatlantic literary publication.

When Scott died in 1832, editors and publishers from both sides of the Atlantic sought out Hogg, and more especially after the publication of Hogg's article in the *Edinburgh Literary Journal* entitled 'Reminiscences of Former Days. My First Interview with Sir Walter Scott' (Vol.2, 1829, 51-2).<sup>vii</sup> As Hogg explained to John Gibson Lockhart in March 1833, he had been 'applied to from all quarters even from a place called Albion in America for something original or anecdotes about Sir Walter.'<sup>viii</sup> This new contact in 'Albion', or Albany, New York, was most likely Simeon De Witt Bloodgood (1799-1844), a merchant, diplomat, author and regular contributor to the periodical press.<sup>ix</sup> In his 'Note on the Genesis of the Texts' of the Research Edition of *Anecdotes of Scott*, Mack has mapped the correspondence between Hogg and Bloodgood until June 1833, when Hogg sent Bloodgood 'the best article that I have in my own estimation': *Familiar Anecdotes of Sir Walter Scott*.<sup>x</sup> Along with arranging publication of *Familiar Anecdotes* with Harper and Brothers, Bloodgood also wrote a biographical introduction entitled 'A Sketch of the Life of the Shepherd' that discloses further information about their transatlantic literary exchange.

In his 'A Sketch of the Life of the Shepherd', Bloodgood reprints an extract from his correspondence with Hogg in which he outlines how *Familiar Anecdotes* came to be sent to America. Bloodgood claims that 'it was well known to some of the friends of the gifted bard [...] that he was still unfortunate [...].' And it was from a desire to assist Hogg in his straitened circumstances that 'offers, that may be termed liberal, were made, in order to induce him to come before the American public, as a contributor to an established periodical.'<sup>xi</sup> Bloodgood quotes from 'a letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> March last' in which Hogg tells him, 'I am most proud of being valued so highly by my transatlantic brethren, it unluckily happens, that the older I grow, and the more unfit for mental exertion, the more it is required.' Hogg goes on to list his publications, offering to 'transfer the copyright of all his English publications, as they come out.' Under both British and American copyright law this was an impossible suggestion, and Hogg was eventually persuaded to send Bloodgood the manuscript of *Familiar Anecdotes*, which was published in book form, 'with the hope of turning their publication to the account of the author.'<sup>xii</sup>

Bloodgood correctly identified Hogg's pecuniary state during the final two years of his life as the major factor in his pursuit of different avenues for publication.<sup>xiii</sup> His long-projected and much desired 'Collected Works' programme collapsed with the publication of the first volume in 1832, although Gillian Hughes has shown that Hogg was still in serious discussions with both Cochrane and McCrone, his London publishers, until at least March 1834.<sup>xiv</sup> And in September 1833 Hogg was 'threatened with a multiple pouding' which sent him scabbling after any money that he felt he was owed at this time. For example, he asked Lockhart to send him

what funds you know of having been paid or subscribed for whether you may term it imprudence or misfortune certain it is I am again in a dilemma a charge having come against me for £91 for which I came security for a nephew of my wife's six years ago I am threatened with a multiple pouding next week! I do not know what it is but I like the name very ill.<sup>xv</sup>

Interestingly, when on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 1833 Robert Shelton Mackenzie also requested some contributions 'to one of the American Magazines' that he was then involved with, Hogg declined.<sup>xvi</sup> Having received no word from Bloodgood as to the fate of his manuscript of *Familiar Anecdotes*,<sup>xvii</sup> Hogg told Mackenzie,

I find my literary correspondence with the United States so completely uncertain, that I have resolved to drop it altogether. I learned from many sources, that my brethren beyond the Atlantic were sincere friends and admirers of mine, and I tried to prop several of their infant periodicals; but I never yet could learn if any of my pieces reached their destination, and I am convinced the half of them never did. But, on the other hand, there are nine or ten vols. of mine, which have been out of print these twenty years. We have a new set of readers altogether, since that period. Why may not your friends copy a tale out of these, every month, and just say, 'By the Ettrick Shepherd', without saying how acquired? Every one of them will pass for originals.<sup>xviii</sup>

Of course, Hogg did not 'drop' his 'literary correspondence with the United States'. The germ of why Hogg went on to contribute literary material to Bloodgood's publication after declining Mackenzie's request may be found in the postscript to the letter of June 1833 that accompanied Hogg's manuscript of *Familiar Anecdotes*, in which he asks Bloodgood,

Pray is there such a place in the state of New York as Pensylvania [sic]? Not the province but a township. My brother Robert has gone there to settle this year. I only saw one of my nieces a young girl before they went away as they emigrated from the Highlands and she said they were going to the township or parish of Pensylvania [sic] in the state of New York and that the name of the farm was "Silver Lake" pray [...] if you can hear of such a man or such a place if it can be reached either by post steam or carrier let him know that you have heard from me that we are all well and that I will long with the most ardent impatience to hear from. He is as honest a fellow as ever breathed the breath of life [...]. Perhaps you could find means of forwarding his letters to me His son James my namesake is as fine a lad as ever I saw<sup>xix</sup>

In the 'Sketch of the Life of the Shepherd', Bloodgood notes that his biographical information is derived from 'the Shepherd's own narratives [...] periodical publications [...] and] from the widow of his brother Robert', who had 'recently died on his passage to the United States', and it is therefore probable that Bloodgood (urged by Hogg) made contact with Hogg's widowed sister-in-law soon after their arrival at Silver Lake, Pennsylvania.<sup>xx</sup> Hogg had three brothers: William, Robert, and David. In the summer of 1830, Robert's two eldest sons emigrated to America, followed in 1832 by their brother Samuel, and in June 1833, Robert Hogg emigrated with the remainder of his family. It was Robert Hogg senior who died on the passage to America.<sup>xxi</sup>

Bloodgood's personal interest in Hogg's family is confirmed in a letter from Hogg to Bloodgood dated 25<sup>th</sup> January 1834.<sup>xxii</sup> Alongside discussing final publication details for *Familiar Anecdotes* (which was published in April of that year), Hogg also replied to requests for two kinds of contributions that appear to have some connection with Hogg's family at Silver Lake.<sup>xxiii</sup> Firstly, Hogg writes concerning negotiations over republishing his writing in some collected form: 'Mr Rose has twice mentioned Mr Waldie's scheme to me who it seems is an old acquaintance of my own but I have no power over the American press save what I send you in Nos'. The 'Mr Rose' that Hogg mentions was Dr. Robert H. Rose, a major land-owner of Scottish-Irish descent, who owned over one hundred thousand acres of land in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. From 1830, Hogg's three nephews shepherded for Dr. Rose, and Hogg's brothers initially leased land from him during their first few years in America. As Hogg explained to Bloodgood, 'he is a very extraordinary man Mr Rose of Silver Lake [...] I am thinking of sending out a great colony of friends and acquaintances to his settlement in Susquehana [...]. My brother's family are all under him and he is kind beyond measure to them'. And indeed, in the summer of 1834, Hogg's youngest brother, David and his family joined Elizabeth Hogg, Robert's widow, and her children at Silver Lake, Pennsylvania.<sup>xxiv</sup>

'Mr Waldie', also mentioned by Hogg, was a printer of domestic and foreign literature. He also initially leased land from Dr. Rose after emigrating with his wife and sisters from Scotland in 1819, eventually settling close by Rose in Forest Lake, Pennsylvania. In 1832, Adam Waldie moved to Philadelphia to concentrate on his publishing and printing business where he published the first number of his successful *Select Circulating Library* in October 1832.<sup>xxv</sup> Waldie also acted as editor for this weekly magazine that contained selections of 'the Best Popular Literature, Including Memoirs, Biography, Novels, Tales, Travels, Voyages &Co.' He reprinted Hogg's poem entitled 'I Hae Naebody Now' 'from Fraser's Magazine', for example, in October 1835.<sup>xxvi</sup> Waldie also remained in contact with Dr. Rose and his family. In the *Journal of Belles Lettres*, (a two page supplement attached to *The Select Circulating Library*) of the 8<sup>th</sup> April 1834, Waldie notes 'To Correspondents' his thanks 'to a friend who has sent us a very characteristic original letter from the "Ettrick Shepherd"'. It shall occupy a high place in our interesting collection of autographs of celebrated men.' The 'friend' who contributed this letter was Major Robert H. Rose; a son of Dr. Rose, as extracts from the letter that was later published in the *Journal of Belles Lettres* make clear. It appeared on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 1836, several months after Hogg's death, as an 'Original Letter of the Ettrick Shepherd'. Waldie explains how Hogg's death served as a reminder 'that we possess, among a large number of autographs, a characteristic original letter from him, dated "Altrive, Sept. 24 1833", addressed to a gentleman who had befriended some of his near relatives, emigrants to Susquehanna county, in this state.' Hogg's letter, which has not been noted previously, relates details of his personal circumstances during the summer of 1833. Hogg writes,

were it not that I am the very man that I am, 'the Ettrick Shepherd', I should be in America the first of them all, for I have long viewed, with wonder and amazement, the resources of that astonishing country. But my name has so long been identified with Scotland and Ettrick Forest, that I cannot leave them. True, my native country has been but a stepmother to me, though I think I have done her some honour. I was a poor shepherd, a very poor shepherd, more than half a century ago, and I have never got further to this day. But I know that I can never be an object of pity, either to myself or any other person, being conscious that my soul has been endowed by my Maker with the powers of immortal song. I am, however, happy to hear from every corner of the great community of the west that I am more read there, and oftener reprinted, than any other living author.

Hogg relates news 'from the wilds of Yarrow', including the fact that he has had 'an influx of visitors' since his London visit, 'sometimes thirty in a day [...] it is utter ruination; and the worst thing is, that I have it not in my nature – nay, it is entirely out of my power – to be anything but kind to strangers: there were seven of them did us the honour to stay with us six weeks this summer.' The letter concludes with mention of Robert's widow, Elizabeth, as Hogg asks to 'be remembered to poor sister \*\*\*\* and all her promising family'.

Perhaps the idea for 'Mr Waldie's scheme' originated with this letter from Hogg, who was clearly suffering under his mantle of 'Ettrick Shepherd' at this time. Whatever the case, it

is clear that prior to January 1834, Bloodgood contacted Hogg's sister-in-law at Silver Lake, and through this contact some form of literary 'scheme' was proposed.

The 'scheme' was outlined at the conclusion of a review of *Altrive Tales* that appeared in the *Journal of Belles Lettres* of 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1834:

It has lately been proposed to issue in this country a selection from his works, with a view of raising a sum for his assistance. We know of none whom we would more sincerely lend our aid to serve than James Hogg, and certainly no labours are more honourable and deserving of recompense than those of a literary character. We hope some liberal bookseller will commence the undertaking, when the public mind can be brought to think of other subjects than currency and politics. (Vol. 3, No. 43, unpaginated)

Waldie continued his support of Hogg by printing notices and reviews of Hogg's recently published work, in which he repeatedly urges the public to buy them to help to ease 'the stings and arrows of [Hogg's] straitened circumstances'. For example, in the review of *Familiar Anecdotes* there are extracts from Bloodgood's 'Sketch of the Life of the Shepherd', but not any lengthy quotations from the work itself because, as Waldie explained:

We shall not attempt to analyse the contents, but merely give a taste of its value to induce every one to purchase it. Six or seven thousand copies of a book by David Crockett are said to have been sold within a few weeks! Shall it be said that we patronise such works in preference to an original one like the present, from the pen of a man of genius eulogising his great departed friend? [...] we say to every man, woman and child, go buy Jamie Hogg's Anecdotes of Sir Walter Scott. (*Journal of Belles Lettres*, Vol. 3, No. 45, unpaginated)

Along with the notices of new works, Waldie also reprinted Hogg's poetry and prose. 'I Hae Naebody Now', as has been mentioned above, was reprinted in *The Select Circulating Library*, while 'The Turners', a tale, and the poem 'The Sky Lark' were reprinted in the *Port Folio, and Companion to the Circulating Library*.<sup>xxvii</sup> Moreover, when Waldie took over responsibility for the *Museum of Foreign Literature, Science and Art* from E. Littell late in 1834, he serialised Hogg's long poem entitled 'Love's Legacy' and reprinted 'A letter to the Ettrick Shepherd'.<sup>xxviii</sup> It has not been discovered whether any publisher took up the Rose/Waldie idea of publishing 'a selection' of Hogg's works, but it is interesting to find Hogg being treated with such affection and genuine concern by an American editor.

Alongside of 'Waldie's scheme', Hogg also contributed original material to Bloodgood for American publication. When Hogg sent the manuscript of *Familiar Anecdotes* he told Bloodgood, 'Publish it in what shape or form or as many shapes and forms as you like',<sup>xxix</sup> and initially, it would appear that Hogg assumed they would be serialised in an American periodical. He related to an American visitor to 'Altrive Lake' in August 1833 that he corresponded with gentlemen in Albany, and that he had 'some time before sent a

manuscript entitled “Reminiscences of Sir Walter Scott” which they had advised him would be published in the *Mirror*.<sup>xxx</sup> As Batho notes, ‘the only paper of note of that name was, as the tourist told Hogg, the *New York Mirror*’, which did not publish any original material by Hogg.<sup>xxxi</sup> In his letter to Bloodgood in January 1834, Hogg promises, ‘I shall enclose you a tale and one or two ballads for your periodical and I think you may depend on the one or the other every month [...] I have just finished No I of Tales of Father’s and Daughters which I think I shall send you’. Subsequently, a tale ‘by the Ettrick Shepherd’ entitled ‘Tales of Fathers and Daughters’ was published in an eclectic literary magazine entitled *The Zodiac, A Monthly Periodical devoted to Science, Literature and the Arts*, published in Albany, New York.<sup>xxxii</sup> It has not as yet been possible to locate extant correspondence between Bloodgood and Erastus Perry, the editor of *The Zodiac*, and it is not clear how Hogg’s tale came to be serialised over the first three numbers of *The Zodiac*, some eighteen months after his claim to ‘have just finished it’.<sup>xxxiii</sup> It is likely that the ‘*Mirror*’ that Hogg mentioned to his American visitor failed prior to publication, and that Bloodgood held on to Hogg’s manuscripts until another avenue opened with the establishment of *The Zodiac*. This magazine also serialised ‘A Series of Lectures on American Literature, Delivered by request before the Young Man’s Association in the city of Albany, New York, by Simeon De Witt Bloodgood’, and it is probable that Bloodgood passed on Hogg’s contributions.<sup>xxxiv</sup>

Hogg’s death in November 1835 came as a blow for *The Zodiac*’s then-editor, Mathew Henry Webster, who explained in a notice in February 1836, ‘[O]riginal articles from his pen were confidently expected in addition to those which had already appeared in our columns, and such arrangements were made that we felt no hesitation in promising to the public a continuation of his contributions.’<sup>xxxv</sup> Indeed, a small note from Hogg to Bloodgood reveals that Hogg contributed further material. In the above-noted letter of January 1834, Hogg tells Bloodgood that his nephew ‘is exceedingly bent on coming to America’, and he hints that Bloodgood might employ him ‘in some respectable house’. James Gray subsequently left for America in March 1834, and in a short note written from Hogg to Bloodgood on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 1834 Hogg explains, ‘[T]his will likely be handed to you by Mr James Gray the nephew whom I wrote so earnestly to you about lately. His friend Mr Boyd will deliver something for your miscellany and I mean to be your correspondent every month.’<sup>xxxvi</sup> Hogg clearly intended, then, to contribute regularly to Bloodgood’s New York periodical. ‘Tales of Fathers and Daughters’ is the only tale to be located, and it may be that as *Familiar Anecdotes* had not yet been published, ‘Mr Boyd’ delivered ‘Tales of Fathers and Daughters’ to Bloodgood by hand.

It is not known whether Hogg was aware of the publication of his tale in *The Zodiac*, or whether he received any payment. As mentioned above, in the letter of January 1834 Hogg promised to send Bloodgood ‘a tale and one or two ballads for your periodical and I think you may depend on the one or the other every month’, and he included the following friendly editorial advice:

Let only one thing of mine appear in your periodical at once and if I am in health I shall try to keep going for so kind a heart as your’s I would do anything in the world without the

most distant thought of remuneration.

It is important to stress that his financial circumstances notwithstanding, Hogg is here suggesting that he send original material to Bloodgood 'without the most distant thought of remuneration'. Accounts must be made for Hogg's pride, however; it may be that through Major Rose's personal interest in Hogg's widowed sister-in-law that Hogg perceived his literary contributions as a form of payment in gratitude for American interest in his family. Whatever the case, there is no doubt that Hogg would have been delighted to find that at least one of his original 'pieces reached [its] destination'.

The full nature of Hogg's transatlantic literary exchange will hopefully emerge as work continues into his relationship with American periodicals. For now, it is interesting to find two American editors of the 1830s with an apparently genuine interest in promoting Hogg's literature, and the publication of an original tale by James Hogg in an American periodical adds a significant new dimension to the bibliographical history of this complex literary figure.

---

<sup>i</sup>Transatlantic literary projects such as this necessarily incur debts of assistance of many forms. I would therefore like to record my particular thanks to the following: the Department of English, Stirling University for travel assistance; the staff of the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass, for their invaluable guidance locating early American periodicals during my stay in November 2002; the staff at the microform room, Cambridge University Library; and to the staff at the British Library for assistance and information on the American Periodicals Serials (II), microfilms. Shannon Lanner, a postgraduate student at the University of South Carolina assisted by double-checking the APS material. I am grateful, too, for Professor Douglas Mack's support and encouragement, as well as scholarly advice.

<sup>ii</sup>In the footnotes to his 1976 edition of the *Memoir* Douglas Mack writes, 'no doubt Hogg exaggerates his American sales' (*Memoir of the Author's Life and Familiar Anecdotes of Sir Walter Scott* (Edinburgh & London: Scottish Academic Press), p. 36. Nevertheless, Hogg was clearly interested in promoting his American readership, and his books clearly sold well in America.

<sup>iii</sup>*Scotland and America: A Study of Cultural Relations 1750-1835* (Blackie: Glasgow and London, 1975), p. 152.

<sup>iv</sup>See his essay entitled, 'Hogg, Melville and the Scottish Enlightenment' in *From Goosecreek to Ganderclough: Studies in Scottish-American Literary and Cultural History* (East Linton: Tuckwell Press, 1999), pp. 116-134 (p. 128). See also Stephanie Anderson-Currie's *Preliminary Census of Early Hogg Editions in North American Libraries*, South Carolina Working Papers in Scottish Bibliography, 3 (Columbia, S.C: University of South Carolina, 1993), which bears out Hook's thesis.

<sup>v</sup>'Note on the Genesis of the Texts', in *Anecdotes of Scott*, ed. Jill Rubenstein, S/SC Research Edition, 7 (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1999); see also Douglas S. Mack's 'Note on the Genesis of the Texts' on pp. xxxi-lvi of this edition.

<sup>vi</sup>'Appendix: Hogg in the Zodiac' has the full references.

<sup>vii</sup>For a full discussion on the background to Hogg's treatment of Scott, see *Anecdotes of Scott*, edited by Jill Rubenstein, S/SC Research Edition, 7 (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1999); see also Douglas S. Mack's 'Note on the Genesis of the Texts' on pp. xxxi-lvi of this edition.

<sup>viii</sup>Hogg repeats this information in a letter to his London publisher, John M'Crone, on the 12th May of the same year, this time getting the place-name correct: '[I] got a tempting offer from a place called ALBANY somewhere in America for some original anecdotes of Scott'. These letters are reprinted in Douglas S. Mack's 'Note on the Genesis of the Texts', Rubenstein, pp. xxxviii-xlvi.

<sup>ix</sup>He wrote, for example, *The Sexegenary; or, Reminiscences of the American Revolution* (Albany, New York: W.C. Little & O. Steele, 1833).

<sup>x</sup>'Note on the Genesis of the Texts', pp. xxxi-lvi.

---

<sup>xi</sup> *Familiar Anecdotes of Sir Walter Scott, by James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd. With a Sketch of the Shepherd* by S. DeWitt Bloodgood (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1834), p. 108.

<sup>xii</sup> *Familiar Anecdotes of Sir Walter Scott*, pp. 108-112.

<sup>xiii</sup> Hogg had quarrelled with William Blackwood in 1831, and had temporarily closed one of the major outlets for his publications, although 'a truce of sorts was arranged': see *James Hogg at Home: Being the Domestic Life and Letters of the Ettrick Shepherd*, by Norah Parr (Dollar, 1980), pp. 89-116.

<sup>xiv</sup> A projected series of collected tales by Hogg had foundered after the publication of the first volume (*Altrive Tales*) in 1832, when the London publishers, J. Cochrane & Company were declared bankrupt: see the Introduction to *Altrive Tales*, edited by Gillian Hughes, S/SC 13 (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2003). By 1834 Hogg had re-negotiated his desired collected edition of tales, this time with Blackie of Glasgow, as Hogg told Bloodgood: 'I am, likewise, engaged to commence a series of tales in November, which will run from ten to twelve volumes' (*Familiar Anecdotes*, p. 110). Gillian Hughes and Peter Garside have prepared a full account of Hogg's relations with Blackie and Son (note 50 in *Altrive Tales*, ed. Hughes, p. lxii-lxiii).

<sup>xv</sup> The letter is dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 1833: see NLS MS 934, ff. 219-20. I am grateful to the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland for permission to cite material in their care. Lockhart sent Hogg £61 gathered from a projected subscription edition of *The Queen's Wake*, I am grateful to Meiko O' Halloran for permission to cite information on the subscription edition from her essay entitled, 'Hogg, Mary Queen of Scots, and the Illustrations to *The Queen's Wake*', forthcoming in Douglas S. Mack's Research Edition of *The Queen's Wake*.

<sup>xvi</sup> Mackenzie was an editor and author of Irish descent who worked on several British journals and newspapers during the 1830s, for example, he sub-edited the *Liverpool Mail*. He was appointed first overseas correspondent for the *New York Evening Star* in 1834. He contributed to several American periodicals, for example, the *New York Mirror*, and in 1852 he emigrated to the United States, see *DAB*.

<sup>xvii</sup> The manuscript was forwarded to Albany through the Rev. Dr. Raffles of Liverpool on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 1833: see 'Thomas Raffles Collection', MS.353/111, John Rylands University Library, Manchester.

<sup>xviii</sup> The letter that was sent from Hogg's home at Altrive Lake, was printed in Mackenzie's edition of *Noctes Ambrosianae*, 5 vols (New York: W.J. Widdleton, 1859) IV (p. xx). No connection between Bloodgood and Mackenzie has been confirmed.

<sup>xix</sup> The letter is addressed to 'S.De Witt Bloodgood Esq. City of Albany care of Dr Sprague', Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Room, University of Yale, James Hogg Collection, Gen. Mss 61, Box 1 Folder 43. I am grateful to the Rare Book and Manuscript Room for permission to cite material in their care.

<sup>xx</sup> *Familiar Anecdotes of Sir Walter Scott*, p. 15.

<sup>xxi</sup> Genealogical information is taken from Donald Whyte's two articles in *Scottish Genealogist*, 'American Links with the Ettrick Shepherd', 12:4 (1965), 69-85; 13:3 (1966), 35-8. See also Claude Howard, 'The Emigration of Hogg's Brothers I: Leaving Scotland', *Newsletter of the James Hogg Society*, 5 (May 1986), 11-13. This work was completed by Nancy Armstrong in 'The Emigration of Hogg's Brothers II: The Voyage and Life in America', *Newsletter of the James Hogg Society*, 6 (May 1987), 7-10.

<sup>xxii</sup> The letter is discussed by Gillian Hughes in her introduction to Hogg's *Lay Sermons*: see S/SC 5 (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1997), p. xii.

<sup>xxiii</sup> The letter is at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in the Gratz Collection, British Poets, Case 10, Box 39. I am grateful to Lee Arnold, Director of the Library, for reference information, and also to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania for permission to cite material in their care.

<sup>xxiv</sup> See note xxi above.

<sup>xxv</sup> This information is derived from *The Centennial History of Susquehanna County*, Rhamanthus M. Stocker, at [www.AccessibleArchives.com](http://www.AccessibleArchives.com): 'Central Pennsylvania'. More information on American periodicals can be found in Jayne K. Kribbs, *An Annotated Bibliography of American Literary Periodicals, 1741-1850* (Boston: G.K. Hall, 1977).

<sup>xxvi</sup> See, Vol. 6, Pt. II, No. 18 (October 27 1835), 303.

<sup>xxvii</sup> They appeared in the January to June 1836 issue. I am grateful to Constance Carter of the Library of Congress for assistance with locating this rare American periodical. 'The Turners', was reprinted from *Fraser's Magazine for Town and Country*, see 13 (May 1836), 609-19, while 'The Sky Lark' was most



---

probably reprinted from another American periodical, *Atkinson's Casket, or Gems of Literature, Wit and Sentiment*, Vol. 4, January 1835, No. 1 (p. 40).

<sup>xxviii</sup> 'Love's Legacy', appeared in January, February and March 1835, Vol. 26, 31-33; 134-135, and 249-251, where it was reprinted from *Fraser's Magazine* 10 (October, November and December 1834), 403-08, 556-60, 639-44. 'A Letter to the Ettrick Shepherd' was first published in the *Amulet* for 1836, pp. 212-25.

<sup>xxix</sup> 'Note on the Genesis of the Texts', in Rubenstein, p. xlvi.

<sup>xxx</sup> 'A Visit to the Ettrick Shepherd. By An American Tourist', *American Monthly Magazine* (New York), Vol. 3, No. II (April 1834), 85-91 (p. 87).

<sup>xxxi</sup> Edith Batho, *The Ettrick Shepherd* (Cambridge, 1927), p. 163. *The New York Mirror and Ladies Literary Gazette* did, however, reprint Hogg's work. 'Nancy Chisolm' from *The Shepherd's Calendar*, appeared in Vol. VI, No. 45 (Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 1829), 357-359.

<sup>xxxii</sup> The manuscript of the same title survives in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, in the James Hogg Collection, GEN MSS Oversize Box Folder, Series II, folder 50. The text of the tale as it appeared in *The Zodiac* is currently being co-edited by Douglas S. Mack and Wilma Mack for publication in a future number of *Studies in Hogg and His World*. I am grateful to Douglas Mack and Gillian Hughes for information on the Beinecke manuscript version.

<sup>xxxiii</sup> For example, neither Erastus Perry nor *The Zodiac* are listed in *A Register of Artists, Engravers, Booksellers, Bookbinders, Printers and Publishers in New York City, 1821-1842*, compiled by Sidney and Elizabeth Stege Huttner (New York: New York Bibliographical Society of America, 1993).

<sup>xxxiv</sup> *The Zodiac* was 'issued from the steam press of Packard & Van Benthuyzen' and was edited by 'E. Perry'. In July 1836 the proprietors are listed as 'Ducoudray, Holstein and Perry', however, from September 1836, the magazine reverts to 'E. Perry' alone. Later bound in two volumes, the second volume notes that Matthew Henry Webster was also an editor. Information from *The Zodiac*.

<sup>xxxv</sup> This note headed a letter containing 'some particulars in relation to the last illness of the shepherd', Vol. I, No. 8, 120-121 (p. 120).

<sup>xxxvi</sup> The letter, dated 24th March 1834 was sent by Hogg from Altrive Lake and is addressed to S. De Witt Bloodgood Esq., City of Albany, NY, postmarked 'Rochester Jun 9 NY': see the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Rochester Library, USA. Thanks to the Rare Books and Special Collections for permission to cite manuscript material in their care. I am also grateful to Suzanne Gilbert, Associate General Editor of the Hogg Edition for drawing it to my attention.

## APPENDIX

### Hogg in *The Zodiac*

The survey below reveals that Hogg's name played a prominent part of *The Zodiac* between July 1835 and February 1836. There is no further mention of Hogg after the February number, and the repeated notice of his death in this month was clearly written to sever the 'Hogg' connection.

Vol. I, No. I, July 1835, 'Tales of Fathers and Daughters', 2-4.

Vol. I, No. 2, August 1835, 'Letters from India: Letter III, To a Distinguished Scotch Poet', is addressed to Hogg (18-19). The correspondent, who was 'a young Artillery Officer in the East India Company's service' (p. 28), tells Hogg that his 'fame has even travelled into the wild of India, where your Donald McDonald is almost as great a favorite as "Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled", or "Auld Lang Syne".' He offers positive criticism on *The Brownie of Bodsbeck* (1818), and advises Hogg 'never to forget you are the Ettrick Shepherd, and that your grey plaid is your most becoming dress.' He concludes by congratulating Hogg on 'the birth of your son': James Robert Hogg was born in 1821 which gives an estimated date of composition.

---

Vol. 2, No. 2, August 1835, 'Tales of Fathers and Daughters' [continued], 25-26.

Vol. I, No. 2, August 1835, also contains 'A Letter from Professor Wilson' to Hogg, 26-7. Wilson details his recently completed summer excursion to the Scottish Highlands before going on to give a contemporary view of Wordsworth's 'White Doe', Southey's 'Roderic', and Scott's 'Field of Waterloo'. And he asks that Hogg hints to the London publisher John Murray that he is about to offer his poem, 'The City of the Plague' to 'a London bookseller', before concluding with satirical remarks on contemporary poets. Internal evidence dates the letter around 1814-16, when Hogg was also in the Highlands beginning his long poem, *Mador of the Moor* (1816). An edited version of this letter was later published in *Christopher North. A Memoir of John Wilson*, Mrs Gordon, 2 vols. (Edinburgh, 1862), II, 217-219.

Vol. I, No. 3, September 1835, 'Tales of Fathers and Daughters' [concluded], 39-41.

Vol. I, No. 4, October 1835, 'The Fall of the Leaf', by Hogg (p. 49), from *Songs, by the Ettrick Shepherd* (Edinburgh: William Blackwood, 1831), pp. 260-1 (the second verse is omitted).

Vol. I, No. 4, October 1835 'original letters from a brother of the Ettrick Shepherd, Mr. William Hogg, to an intimate friend' under the heading 'the Early Days of the Ettrick Shepherd', 49-50. The letters, addressed to James Gray sen., are in the James Hogg Collection, General Collection, GEN MSS 61, Box 1, Folder 19, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Room, Yale University. They were one of the principal sources for the first part of 'The Life and Writing of James Hogg' by 'Y' that was serialised in the January, February and March issues of the *Edinburgh Magazine*, Vol. 2 (1818), 35-40, 122-29, 215-23. They were later published as the concluding part of 'Some Particulars Relative to the Ettrick Shepherd' by 'G', that was serialised in 1836 in the February, March and April issues of the *New Monthly Magazine and Literary Journal* (London: Henry Colburn.), Vol. 46, Pt. I (No. clxxxii, 194-203; No. clxxx, 111; and No. clxxxiv, 443-46). The later letters are derived from the edited version of the letters that was published in *The Zodiac*. These letters were most likely contributed by James Gray, Jun., for example, 'India- a Poem', by the 'Rev. Mr. Grey' [sic.] was serialised in *The Zodiac*: 'The manuscript from which [it] was printed, was received from his son, who was recently on a visit to the United States', Vol. I, No. I (July 1835), (p. 15). For further information on James Gray, sen.'s relationship with Hogg: see 'Notes on Contributors' to *The Spy*, edited by Gillian Hughes, S/SC 8 (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2000), pp. 562-563. I am grateful to Douglas Mack for information on the Beinecke letters.

Vol. I, No. 4, October 1835, a poem 'Selected for the Zodiac', entitled, 'The Moon was A-Waning' by Hogg (p. 59), from *Songs, by the Ettrick Shepherd* (Edinburgh: William Blackwood, 1831), pp. 253-55. Vol. I, No. 8, February 1836, poem entitled, 'Verses to the Comet', by Hogg (p. 113), from *Poetical Works*, 4 vols., II, 241-44 (slightly altered, l. 32 empyreal, PW] imperial, *Zodiac*, and l. 48 Light, PW] Seek, *Zodiac*).

Vol. I, No. 8, February 1836, 'Lines on the death of the Ettrick Shepherd' by J. M. Gray, signed 'Liverpool, December 15 1835', 119-120, followed by a letter that relates 'some particulars in relation to the last illness of the shepherd', 120-121. The letter reveals previously undisclosed details about Hogg's fatal illness that accounts it as 'in consequent of a diseased liver', and Hogg's last moments are detailed: 'at length [he] became blind

---

and speechless, unable to recognize his friends'. In concluding, the unidentified correspondent notes, 'I fear your uncle had little else to leave his family but the farm', it is therefore likely that the recipient of the letter was Hogg's nephew, James Gray, who had gone to America in March 1834.

Vol. I, No. 9, March 1835, poem entitled, 'A Father's Lament. By James Hogg' (p. 144), from *Songs, by the Ettrick Shepherd* (Edinburgh: William Blackwood, 1831), pp. 79-80, without change.

Vol. I, No. 11, May 1836, a series of letters from 'the pen of Emerson, the celebrated traveller in Greece', 62-4. James Emerson (Sir James Emerson Tennent 1804-1869: see *DNB*) was in the midst of a European tour gathering autographs for his album from celebrated authors and poets on the way. In these letters he relates his meetings with Hogg 'whose genius, good humor and unprecedented kindness to me, I have no words to express'. He relates that Hogg gave him a letter of introduction to Southey: 'a most delightful and agreeable personage', and overall, his letters relate his meetings and opinions of contemporary writers, including John Wilson, Wordsworth, Hartley Coleridge, Allan Cunningham and John Galt. Interestingly, in a letter dated 'London August 19', Emerson notices the contemporary reception of *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner*: 'I suppose you have Hogg's new book or the Confession of a Sinner. It is very much liked in London, though in Edinburgh it was rather reprobated. Here it is looked on as an original and strikingly clever production, and proves clearly, that Hogg can do something yet' (p. 164). The recipient of these letters was most likely James Gray, Jun. For example, in the first letter, Emerson describes his visit to the home of John Grieve, Hogg's life-long friend and early literary correspondent, and comments that 'I consider him fully deserving your father's friendship' (p. 162). Interestingly, Emerson had once been engaged to Janet Gray, see *Margaret Phillips (Wife of the Ettrick Shepherd)*, by Mary Gray Garden (1898), p. 14.

Vol. I, No. 12, June 1836, further letter from Emerson dated 'Paris, Nov. 3d, 1824'. It is more formal in tone than the preceding letters, and concludes by sending regards to 'Mrs G\_, Agnes, Mary, Jannet, and the boys' (p. 182). The recipient was most likely the Rev. James Gray.

**Janette Currie**  
**November 2003**