



M. A. Best



THE HISTORY OF THE LIFE OF SAMUEL JOHNSON, ESQ. BY JAMES BOSWELL, ESQ. IN SEVERAL VOLUMES. THE SECOND EDITION, CORRECTED. LONDON: PRINTED BY A. MILLAR, IN THE STRAND, 1791.

J O H N, J U L I U S,

A N D

H E N R Y,

O R T H E

B A N D O F B R O T H E R S ;

In which is introduced the Story of

M A R A C - O U B L O U ,

T H E

*Faithful Indian.*

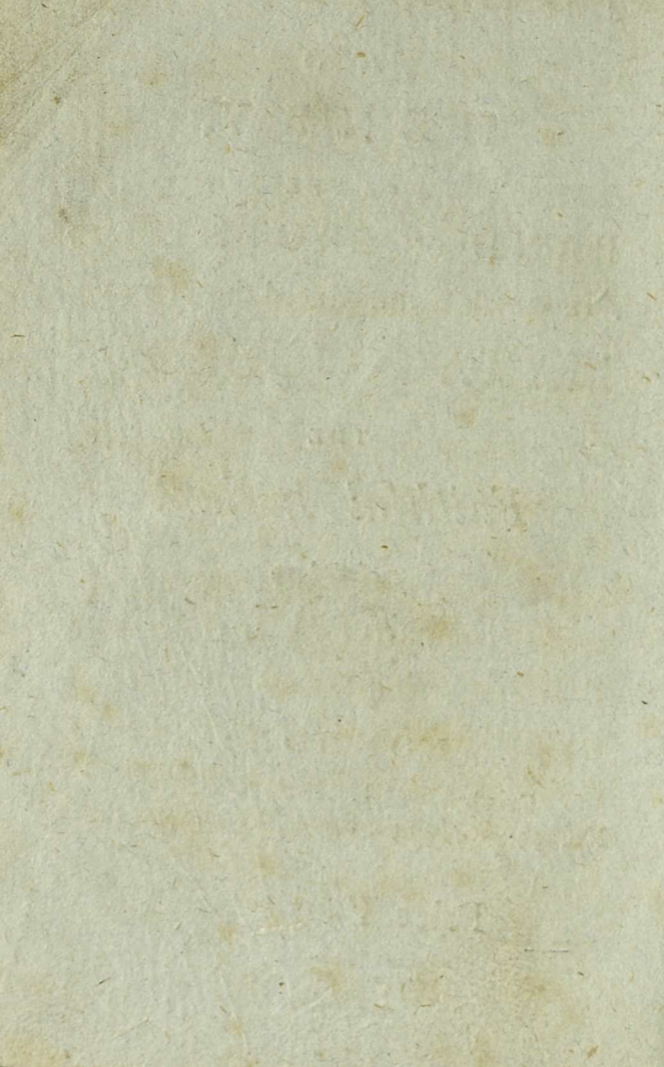


L O N D O N :

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JOHN, JULIUS,  
AND  
HENRY.

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**I**N the pleasant vale of Evesham in Worcestershire, lived Mr. and Mrs Wilkinson, persons, who although of small fortune, were caressed by the rich, and indeed beloved by every one that knew them for the great kindness and humane attention which they on all occasions shewed to those, who

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from

from sickness or other cares, were rendered uncomfortable or unhappy.

This contented and worthy pair were blessed with three sons, whose names were John, Julius, and Henry, possessed of principles congenial with those of their parents.

John, the elder born was placed to business. Julius, whose disposition was formed for martial exercises, was, although not without some reluctance on the part of his parents, enrolled in the army; while Henry, whose inclination



( 7 )

inclination led him to study,  
was, after having attained



an education suitable thereto  
admitted into holy orders.  
The

The brothers thus separated, had not been long apart, before the distressing news of their mother's death reached their different residences, but not immediately from their father, for his feelings were so much hurt by the event, as to disable him from relating the sad tale of woe: the intelligence was communicated by a friend, and no sooner was it known to each of these affectionate brothers but they hastened, as if actuated by one soul, to the house of their father, and comforted him as much as they

they were able for the great loss of love, friendship, and esteem he had experienced. They shed also the tears of filial piety over the corpse of their mother, and after having seen her remains deposited in the earth, and taking an affectionate and dutiful leave of their father, they returned to their different employments, with the blessings of the old gentleman, and the satisfaction of having done their duty.

Mr. Wilkinson finding his habitation lonely, since the death of his amiable partner,

partner, determined to remove to London, to the house of his son John, who was married, and accordingly having disposed of his furniture and let his house, repaired thither. John was made very happy in having the company of his parent, and Julius and Henry who both resided in the vicinity of the City, had now frequent opportunities of paying him their personal respects.

At one of those visits, Julius communicated to his father and brother the orders,  
the

the regiment to which he belonged had received, to repair immediately to America, at that time the seat of civil contention. This news at first seemed to give pain to the old man, but after a short pause he said, "I know my son you will do no act that shall dishonour you, go then and serve your country, you are most fit for the office you have undertaken, for in you are united the Christian, the Citizen, and the Soldier." Julius now took his leave and in a few days embarked at Portsmouth, of whom

whom my little readers shall  
hear further in a short time.



John was so successful in  
trade, as well as respectable  
among his neighbors, that  
they were desirous of be-  
stowing upon him such ho-  
nor as Citizens can bestow,  
and

and he was accordingly, by their free voices elected into a seat in the Common Council. Here he soon became a distinguished member from his great knowledge and probity, and by the support which he gave by his eloquence to every matter wherein the public good was by any means concerned.

Henry had also gained preferment in the church, through the means of his piety. A nobleman having for some time observed his steady attention to the duties

tics

ties of his office, his unaffected simplicity when in the performance of them, and having also enquired into the more private government of himself, found him so worthy that he not only presented him with a Rectory, but likewise entreated him to take upon him the management of his only son at the same time making a liberal settlement upon him for his trouble.

One day when this social family were at dinner together at John's house, the shop-man brought up a letter

ter



ter addressed to his master.  
The trader no sooner saw  
the inscription, than he knew



it to be the hand writing of  
his brother Julius, and he  
immediately announced it to  
his father and the party.  
The exultation on their parts  
seemed to bespeak much hap-  
piness.

piness from its contents, and John instantly opened it, but seeing that it was addressed within to his father, although directed to himself, was about to put it into the old gentleman's hand who refused to take it, saying, "read it aloud, it equally concerns us all." John accordingly read as follows. "Most honored father, It is with much pain I recite to you and to my kind brothers the many afflictions I have undergone since I left London—I well know the relation of my story

ry will much affect the feelings of my dear friends, but who have I to console with me but yourselves? Who have I to relieve me but you?

None!"

"Our passage from Portsmouth to Carolina, though tedious was not unpleasant, for a vessel crowded with men, and the incidents during the time we were on board were of that common nature as not to be worth a place in this paper which I shall fill with matter more immediately relative to myself, and of course more interesting

teresting of you.

“ We had no sooner landed and our men in some measure refreshed, than we received orders to join the grand army, then at about sixty miles distant; accordingly having gotten our baggage together, we began our march, but the weather being excessive warm, by far more so then in the hottest season in England, we were compelled to proceed very slowly, notwithstanding it, many of our men, unused to fatigue, and raw in the service fell sick by the way, and

and it was with the utmost difficulty we reached the place of our destination at the end of six days march, through a country by nature formed to delight the eye and afford abundance to the hand of industry : but cruel war, for so I must term it, has in great measure spread its desolating arm over these fine fields, and Charles-town from whence I write you this once a fine City, is now a ruin, and the best houses which were equal to any in your City, were during the height of the war converted  
into

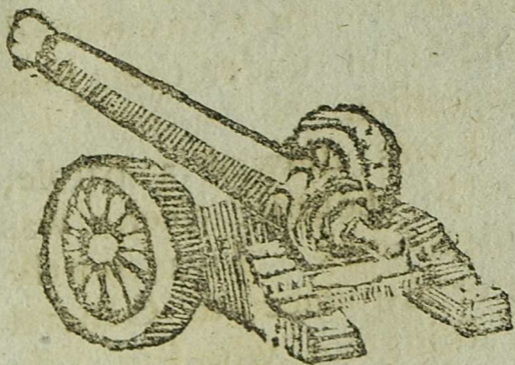
into barracks, and the very wainscoting and floors used as fuel. But to proceed with my story: Having as I have before related reached the head quarters, we were not long there before it was given out in orders to get ready to march, and in three days every article was packed up, and we proceeded to meet the enemy. We had not marched far, before our rear was attacked by several flying parties who greatly annoyed us, however we marched onward, meeting with frequent interruptions, being

being attacked by bodies of men concealed in the woods and the roads through which our route lay, were rendered almost impassable by the vigilance of the enemy. Under these difficulties, together with those scourges of armies the flux and dysentery, we after several days march descried the main body of the American army at a small distance. We were ordered to prepare for action immediately, and intelligence being brought us that General Washington commanded in person, gave us  
hope

hope that the battle we were going to fight, would put an end to the long and unhappy contest between the mother country and its American colonies. The known courage and good conduct of our leader, gave us the most confident hopes of success. The attack was began on our part, which the enemy bore with a firmness hitherto unusual to them and in return charged us with great impetuosity, and at their second fire I had the misfortune to lose my right leg by a cannon ball. I was immediately



immediately carried off the field to a house hard by,



where a Surgeon of the regiment dressed my wound, and where I had not been more than two hours ere the fatal news arrived of our army being vanquished, and the

the greatest part of them made prisoners. This intelligence was nearly as hurtful to me as my wound, and I sunk under their joint depression.

I was allowed a parole, and in about six weeks was able to walk. I was shortly after introduced to General Washington, who I can assure you unites the Gentleman with the Soldier, and the Soldier with the man of feeling: he behaves to every one with great politeness, and has permitted me to return home as soon as I can find

find a vessel bound to France, and for which purpose I am now in this place, and hope to be with you in a very short time.

'Till then I remain,  
Your JULIUS.

This letter had an extraordinary effect on the father and brothers of Julius, however the general thought was how to serve him in his misfortunes.

Although he did not hint a want of money, John proposed that a sum should be sent to Charles-town, as it  
was

was probable he might be detained there much longer than he supposed. The old gentleman and Henry immediately consented to the measure, and John was not tardy in conveying the necessary supplies.

Henry soon after left his father and brother, and retired to his Rectory. His parishioners were all happy to see him, indeed not a villager but came to pay him personal respect, and the gentry in the neighborhood seemed to vie with each other, who should be foremost  
in

in congratulating a Pastor whom they loved.

He received them all with that politeness and affability which none but those of the best heads and hearts are capable of knowing.

After having been about three months at his parsonage he received advice that his brother Julius was arrived in good health at the house of his brother John. Henry no sooner heard this welcome news, than he acquainted his particular friends with an event so joyful to him, and immediately set off

off for London, to partake of a scene of blifs, known only to that happy few who really and unaffectedly love each other.

Henry by reason of an unavoidable delay on the road was not able to reach London fo soon as he could wish, and it was midnight before he arrived at the houfe of his brother : being admitted, he defired the family might not be difturbed, and went to bed, where fleep could not fulfil its office towards Henry, from an ardent defire in him to fee his  
long

long-lost and much-loved brother Julius. The dawn of day came, and Henry with an eye of watchfulness from his window which faced the east, waited anxiously for those streaks of gladdening light, the sure harbingers of day.

The minutes seemed to pass tediously away, between sun-rise and his brother John's breakfast hour, although early: however it came, and the surprize was very agreeable to this happy family, when they with pleasure saw Henry enter  
the

the parlor, first saluting his father and then his brothers alternately. Julius had undergone a considerable change the gay soldier had sunk into the grave philosopher and his fine person, from his wounds, his loss of limb, his sickness and his distress, had become meagre and emaciated. This alteration in his appearance had no other effect on the minds of this amiable family, than to unite them still closer, to make their affection if possible more strong.

The congratulations over,  
Julius



Julius was asked by Henry for an account of the country wherein he had resided and its inhabitants; Julius who was all compliance to his brother's wishes, promised a recital the first opportunity, in the mean time begged their attention to the story of Marac Oublou, the faithful Indian.

THE STORY OF MARAC OUBLOU.

Marac Oublou, was a native of the Chicfaw nation, who at an early period was introduced into one of the British settlements by a party

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ty of hunters, one of which particularly noticed him, took him home, and brought him up as a part of his family. Marac, was at the time of his captivity about thirteen years old, his sense was rather strong for his years, and he very soon discovered the great difference between the rude state of the Indian and the civilized American. He grew more and more attached to his master, Indeed Marac's gratitude kept pace with his master's kindness.

Marac, having attained his eighteenth year, was entrusted

trusted with all that part of his master's concerns as related to the profession of hunting. In one of his excursions, when attending on his master, and having, in pursuit of their game, gone further into the country than was consistent with prudence, a party of Indians, who were laying wait for whatever they could seize, rushed from their hiding place, set up a dreadful yell, and immediately pursued the huntsman and Marac.—Marac whose presence of mind equalled his fidelity, called

to the pursuers in their own language, telling them they were friends to their nation. “ You cannot be friends to us ” replied the eldest of



the Indians, “ thus to tram-  
ple

ple over our fields and spoil our crops," and instantly let fly their arrows at Marac. Marac saw their intention, and by so doing happily escaped their attack by sheltering himself behind a tree, from whence he discharged his gun, which killed the old man on the spot; the other Indians, seeing the old man fall, were enraged beyond measure, and drawing their bows with all their strength, discharged their arrows at Marac's master one of which wounded him in his right arm, but not un-  
 til

till he had discharged his rifle gun at the adverse party and laid one of them dead at the feet of his fellows. The remaining four, now took to their heels and were followed by Marac, who in the course of his pursuit fired twice and wounded the two hindmost. On his return to his master, he found his wound bleeding very much.

Marac instantly took the handkerchief from his head and bound up the wound; this being done, he took up the arrow with which his master had been wounded  
and

and could scarcely keep his feelings within due bounds when he discovered it to have been poisoned. He immediately mounted his master on his horse, leading his own by the side of the Hunter, with his eyes stedfastly fixed on the ground. After some way, having nearly reached the first British settlement, Marac suddenly made a halt, and then it was he told his master, the arrow that had wounded him was poisoned; but that he had the satisfaction to tell him also he had discovered  
its

its antidote. Having drawn this extraordinary root carefully out of the ground, he presented it to his master, desiring him to alight, applied the restoring plant to the wound, and then proceeded on slowly towards their habitation. Night had drawn her veil over nature's works ere the huntsman made his own threshold. His wife received him with her wonted pleasure, but on hearing of the accident that had befallen him, th<sup>e</sup> faculties of her body were subdued by affection and she  
 sunk



sunk breathless into the arms of the wounded hunter.

Marac, who was all fidelity continued with this family, 'till the hunter and his wife died and their children were dispersed into different situations, to gain that subsistence by labor, which it is the duty of every one to fulfil, who is not blessed with affluence.

I had not been long in America, when he was recommended to me as a servant; upon his being brought to me, he made a reverential

tial bow, his features bore the marks of age, and his long hair, once of the finest black, was now intermixed with white. He told me he would serve me if it was my pleasure. I returned him for answer, I thought he was too much advanced in life to undergo the toils annexed to a military station. "Ah master" said he "if you will be so kind as to try me, a short time will I hope convince you, that I have not only bodily strength but fidelity. I took him into my service, and

and in one of those tedious hours which it is the lot of the soldier to experience, I asked him if any circumstance in his life had been rendered extraordinary, to relate it; making his respectful obedience, without any reserve he recited what I have before told you.

“Is he alive?” said John and Henry as in one breath. “No” returned Julius—had he been alive he would at this moment been, with your leave, one of this company.

Poor honest creature!  
continued

continued Julius, Most faithful of men ! His life was lost in saving mine. The sword that gave this wound, shewing a scar on his left breast, must inevitably have reached my heart, had he not rushed forward and with wonderful dexterity struck it from the hand of my adversary ; in consequence of which the bayonets of many of the troops were plunged into his breast and he fell : at the instant a party of the British witnesses to our situation, were coming to our succour. I ordered

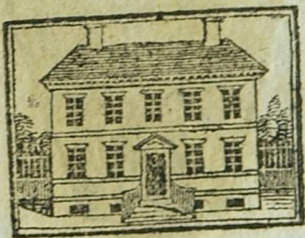
ordered his mangled remains to be conveyed to my tent, from whence I had him buried with every mark of respect in my power,



dropping on the grave of the  
hero

hero, the tears of pity, love and gratitude.

Here Julius concluded the story of Marac, and the company all agreed, that neither color nor country could make the heart more or less good or evil, and that virtue alone constituted true greatness.



Julius, after having con-  
tinued

tinued with his brothers about a week, retired to a small but pleasant house in the country, near the sea side for the benefit of bathing, recommended by his Physician, as a probable means of restoring his constitution to its former strength; and of whom we shall have occasion to speak again before we conclude this work.

John whose credit as a trader was held in the highest respect by his fellow Citizens, was in the course of a few years, raised to an aldermanship, and soon after  
received

received the appointment of Sheriff; his state chariot was decorated with true taste, unconnected with the tawdry tinsel but too commonly seen about the carriages of those who owe their elevation more to chance than to good conduct. A few years more passed away, when he succeeded to the Mayoralty. He never could go abroad in public without receiving the applause of the people: indeed he was the true friend to the necessitated—his hand was ever open to good works, and he was

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so humble in prosperity that the poorest creature had access to him at proper times, and when it was inconsistent to comply with any of their requests, he always dismissed them with such a grace, that they went away probably better satisfied with his refusal, than they would have been, after having received the hoped for favor from the hand of an imperious man.

Henry, as I before informed my reader, had undertaken the charge of the education of the son of a nobleman

bleman of high rank, and  
 he further had by his great  
 attention to that duty, ac-  
 quired the friendship of his  
 employer. He had instruct-  
 ed his pupil in the branches  
 of learning suitable to his  
 situation in life. He had  
 trained him up to virtue,  
 and laid the foundation in  
 his mind on which that no-  
 ble structure, true religion  
 can only be erected: he vi-  
 sited the continent of Eu-  
 rope in the company of his  
 scholar, and taught him to  
 shun those foreign vices,  
 which but too many of our  
 British

British youthful travellers couple with their own, making dark shades black.

The old nobleman entirely approved of his conduct, and took the first opportunity of promoting Henry to a benefice more lucrative than that which he then held. In consequence of this elevation, he resigned his former parish, but not without having previously in a farewell sermon exhorted his flock that rectitude of life, such as he had heretofore advised, telling them also, that he should frequently

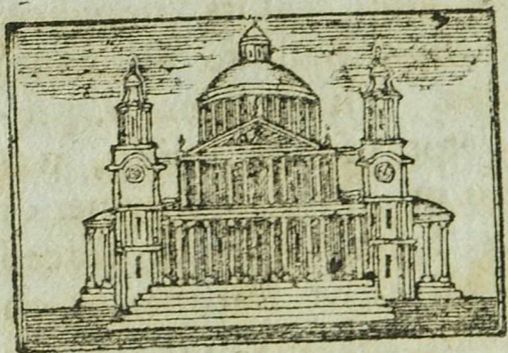
quently

quently visit them, and endeavor by his behavior to set an example to those who were negligent of themselves, meaning such as were idle, drunken or in other respects dissolute, not presuming altogether on himself he said for no doubt some minister, equally able with himself would be appointed to take charge of them. Thus he left his little flock, blessing and blessed, for several miles beyond his stationary village.

His new parishioners did  
not

not like their lord and consequently not knowing Henry, received him altogether as coolly, as the latter had parted with him reluctantly. It was a town of considerable note, and its prejudices he now had to encounter with. The nobleman, proprietor of the living, was also in a manner owner of the town, he had forced members of Parliament on the inhabitants, contrary to their consent in a variety of instances, and the late incumbent of the living or church was also of his appointing

ing, and so very careless, that frequently the pulpit was unoccupied even on Sunday—they naturally supposed that the new presented



minister was of the same way of thinking, coming from the same source; and  
and

they one and all appeared to dislike our worthy Henry, and for no other reason than being recommended by his lordship. Henry had no small trouble to reconcile himself to these people; he used but every endeavour to please for some time without effect, and was about to acquaint his lordship with his intention to resign his situation, when some of the principal of his parishoners, who had remarked the purity of his life and manners, waited upon him and told him they had been much  
in

in error in supposing him of a disposition similar to their late Rector, and were only sorry they had shewn him any slight.

This declaration was indeed comfort to Henry's heart, he received them with open arms, and from that time has been kept up the cordial friendship between the worthy pastor and his docile flock.

Julius who being rather than otherwise fond of the company of military men, took up his entire residence at Woolwich, indeed gunnery



nery and improvements in the military art, may have said to have been the hobby horses on which he rode : he was a mere uncle Toby,



without some part of his whimsicality—he was the very right hand of the Master General of the Ordnance and without arrogating to himself the merit of some very notable things in his line, was actually the inventor

ventor, he only seemed to wish that they might be of benefit to the service.

The vicinity of his dwelling being contiguous to London he frequently visited his brother John, who had now become a member of Parliament for the first city in the world, and by the unanimous voice of his fellow citizens.

The three brothers ever made it a point to meet at Christmas at John's house, and at the parson's alternately, where good old English hospitallity was not lost  
fight

sight of. Sir-loins of beef, and plumb pudding enough to make any little boy's and girl's mouths water for a taste, smoked on their tables during that season of festivity, the poor came in for their share of the good solid joints and foaming ale which made but a part of their Christmas comforts. Warm cloathing and also fuel were distributed to old and young, and the three brothers were never so happy as when doing every service in their power to aged indigence or youthful poverty

verty—they blessed and  
were blessed, thus we take  
leave of them.



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ADVICE TO YOUTH.

**L**ET truth ever dwell on your tongue, scorn to flatter any one, and despise the person who would practice so mean an art upon yourself. Be honestly open in every part of your behaviour and conversation. All with whom you have any intercourse, even to the meanest station, have a right to civility and good humour from you. A superiority of rank or fortune is no licence for proud, supercilious behaviour

haviour; The disadvantages of a dependent state are alone sufficient to labour under; it is both unjust and cruel to increase them, either by a haughty deportment, or by the unwarrantable exercise of a capricious temper.

Examine every part of your conduct towards others, by the unerring rule of supposing a change of places; this will certainly lead to an impartial judgment: Do then what appears to you right; or, in other words, " what you  
would

would they should do unto you, which comprehends every duty relative to society.



A FABLE OF A DROP OF  
WATER,

**A** Drop of water fell out of a cloud into the sea, and finding itself lost in such an immensity of fluid matter, made this reflection, “ How inconsiderable am I in this prodigious ocean of waters ! my  
existence

existence is of no concern to the universe; I am reduced almost to nothing, and become the least of the works of God. How humble ought I"—here an oyster that lay in its neighbourhood, interrupted its soliloquy by swallowing it up. This drop laid a long time hardening in the shell, till, by degrees, it was ripened into a pearl, which, falling into the hands of a diver, after a long series of adventures, is at present that famous pearl which is fixed on the top of the Persian diadem

Arrogance



Arrogance, and conceit of our own abilities, are very shocking to men of sense and virtue, and highly displeasing to the omnipotent being who delights in an humble mind.

F I N I S.

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