

Further letters of David Hume

Additions and Emendations

A number of additions and emendations were discovered too late for incorporation or correction in the text of my edited volume *Further letters of David Hume* (Edinburgh Bibliographical Society, 2014). They are listed below.

1. John Gibson Lockhart, *Memoirs of the life of Sir Walter Scott* (Paris, 1838), II, p. 190 transcribes a letter of 2 Oct. 1815 from Walter Scott to J. B. S. Morritt. Scott there reports that he has encountered a pane of glass bearing four lines of verse by Hume:

‘We visited Corby Castle on our return to Scotland, which remains, in point of situation, as beautiful as when its walks were celebrated by David Hume, in the only rhymes he was ever known to be guilty of. Here they are, from a pane of glass in an inn at Carlisle:

Here chicks in eggs for breakfast sprawl,
Here godless boys God’s glories squall,
Here Scotchmen’s heads do guard the wall,
But Corby’s walks atone for all’.

This pane of glass has recently been offered for sale privately, after its purchase from the Old Bush Inn, Carlisle. The pane bears the verses as transcribed by Scott with some small differences – the ‘do’ in in the third line is not present; ‘Corbies’ and ‘attone’ are used in the fourth line; and the second line ‘Here godless boys’ has been heavily scratched out. The hand which has inscribed the verses is not Hume’s. There is no indication on the pane itself that the verses are by Hume nor is there any other evidence for the verses’ ascription to Hume, aside from Scott’s letter. The verses should therefore be incorporated in Appendix V, Section 6 (Apocrypha) after **C**: 604, pending further evidence.

2. National Records of Scotland, GD1/616/140: Hume to [Alexander McKonochie], [1764] cited in L23 n. 4 was incorrectly omitted from Appendix V; it should be incorporated after **C**: 193.

3. In August 2013 the National Library of Scotland acquired a *Sammelband* of five works by Voltaire apparently bearing a ‘State A’ Hume bookplate and a table of contents in Hume’s hand (RB.s.2874 (1)-(5)). The works are *La guerre civile de Genève* ([Amsterdam?], 1769) (1), *Le philosophe ignorant* ([Amsterdam?], 1766) (2), *Le dîner du comte de Boulainvilliers* ([Geneva?], [1768?]) (3), *Lettres a son altesse monseigneur le prince de ***** ([Amsterdam], 1768) (4), and *La défense de mon oncle* ([Amsterdam?], [1767?]) (5). These volumes should have been mentioned in p. 193 n. 2.

4. Greig: 506, no. 717 in Appendix IX, should be re-dated to ([April 1776]) on the basis of L43 n. 6. The addressee should be corrected to [Thomas Coutts/Coutts & Co.] on the basis of L48 n. 4.

5. Five typographical errors should be corrected: p. 12: *NQ* should precede *NRAS*; L21 n. 8: 12 May 1763); p. 114, l. 24: ‘suggests’; p. 141, l. 5: ‘heartening’; p. 185, l. 29: ‘indicate’.