

(5) A volume, once the property of Leigh Hunt, another writer remarkable for a chequered literary and political career. He and his brother, during the Regency, established the *Examiner* newspaper; and three times they were prosecuted for their strictures on the government. On the third occasion, they were imprisoned for two years, and fined £500 each. This sentence caused Leigh Hunt to become very popular. In 1847 he received a pension of £200 per annum, which he enjoyed until 1859, when he died at the age of seventy-five. But it was not chiefly as a journalist that he was distinguished, but rather as an elegant English essayist, poet, dramatist, novelist, and translator from the Italian. He was the personal friend of Coleridge, Lamb, Keats, Shelley, Proctor, Moore and Byron. It was probably during his sojourn with the last-named in Italy, in 1823, that Leigh Hunt provided himself with the volume which is in my collection, which, besides having his autograph signature on the title page, is full of MS. annotations and reference-memoranda written by himself. It is a beautiful copy of Dante's "*Amorì è Rime*," printed at Mantua in 1823; *co' tipi Virgiliani di L. Caranenti*. Brief fragments, that need not be transcribed, from the hands of (6) Sir Charles Lyell, (7) Sir Roderick Murchison, (8) Thackeray, and (9) Miss C. M. Yonge, (10) Miss Mary Russell Mitford's copy of Scott's "*Lay of the Last Minstrel*," and (11) Mark Anthony Lower's copy of Bowditch's "*Suffolk Surnames*," with the fine signature of the former owner, and an autograph letter of the author himself, inserted. As associated with the name of Sir Walter Scott, I place here (12) a copy of Smith's Translation of "*Longinus on the Sublime*," printed in London in 1756. It has fairly written on the title-page, in a hand of the last century, "*E Libris. James Sanson*." The Rev. Mr. James Sanson, of Leadhills, Lanarkshire, the former owner of the book, was a zealous bibliomaniac, well-known to Sir Walter; and it is held by Mr. Sanson's immediate family connexions in Scotland and here, that the novelist had him chiefly in his eye when he drew the world-famous "*Dominie Sampson*," venturing in the surname rather near that of his original.

Thackeray's relic, above referred to, is the following note, in which a too forward literary neophyte receives a rather stern rebuff. "My dear Sir: I cannot do what you have set your mind upon. Though I am always inclined to oblige, I at the same time am unable to do that which is utterly out of my power. You must not, young Sir,