

ian style of architecture, and was erected by Lord Auchinleck towards the end of last century.

For well nigh four hundred years the respected family of Boswall have held the estate and from this and the still more secluded shelter of the old mansion witnessed the eventful acts of the world's great drama. Nor have they been mere onlookers.

Thomas Boswall, the first of Auchinleck, accompanied James IV and fell with that chivalrous monarch and the flower o' the nation on the fatal field of Flodden. His descendants have rendered themselves illustrious in wielding both the sword and pen. Lord Auchinleck, already referred to, distinguished himself as a Lord of Session, as an eminent Jurist and a literary antiquary. He beautified the estate and enriched the Auchinleck library by the collection of many rare and valuable works. A man of judgment and good taste he entertained none of the respect or admiration which his son had toward the burly Dr. Johnson of dictionary fame. On the contrary he is said to have had a positive contempt for the sage; and to have quaintly expressed himself so, by styling him "a dominie. an auld dominie; he keepit a schule and called it an academy." James Boswall, the author of *Corsica* and the well known biographer of "Dictionary Johnson," (he used to be called), will long be remembered as the prince of biographers. "Amid great names can Boswall be forgot?"

He possessed what is an essential to all good authorship, an intense love of his subject, admiring, almost idolising the great lexicographer. He anticipated Captain Cuttle's advice: "When found make a note of" and by keeping voluminous notes of his table-talk, conversational remarks and correspondence, extending throughout a friendship of many years he has succeeded in portraying the man and revealing the mind of the great lion of literature in a way as yet unequalled, and which is regarded as the great model