

which are Macaulay's and which Carlyle's in the following selections. Of Johnson they say: "From nature, he had received an uncouth figure, a diseased constitution, and an irritable temper." "The perverse irregularity of his hours, the slovenliness of his person, his fits of strenuous exertion, interrupted by long intervals of sluggishness, his strange abstinence, and his equally strange voracity * * * " "He could fast; but when he did not fast, he tore his dinner like a famished wolf, with the veins swelling on his forehead, and the perspiration running down his cheeks." "Through all these things the ill-dressed, coarse, ungainly pedant had struggled manfully up to eminence and command." "Nature had given him a high, keen-visioned, almost poetic soul: yet withal imprisoned it in an inert, unsightly body; he that could never rest had not limbs that would move with him, but only roll and waddle; the inward eye, all-penetrating, all-embracing, must look through bodily windows that were half dim, half blinded; he so loved men, and 'never once saw the human face divine!' Not less did he prize the love of men; he was eminently social; the approbation of his fellows was dear to him; yet the first impression he produced on every man was to be one of aversion, almost of disgust. By nature it was further ordered that the imperious Johnson should be born poor; the ruler-soul, strong in its native royalty, generous, uncontrollable, like the lion of the woods, was to be housed, then, in such a dwelling-place: of disfigurement, disease, and, lastly, of a poverty which itself made him the servant of servants."

Of Boswell they say: "Nay, sometimes a strange enough hypothesis has been started of him: as if it were in virtue of these same bad qualities that he did his good work; as if it were the very fact of his being among the worst men in the world that had enabled him to write some of the best books therein! Falsely hypothesis, we may venture to say, never rose in human soul. * * * * *Bad* is by nature negative, and can do *nothing*; whatsoever enables us to *do* anything is by its very nature *good*. Alas that there should be teachers in Israel, or even learners, to whom this world-ancient fact is still problematical, or even deniable. Boswell wrote a good book because he had a heart and eye to discern wisdom. * * * * "His sneaking sycophancies, his greediness and forwardness, whatever was bestial and earthy in