

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Scott Advisory Board and the editors of the Edinburgh Edition of the Waverley Novels wish to express their gratitude to The University Court of the University of Edinburgh for its commitment in supporting the preparation of the first critical edition of Walter Scott's fiction. Those Universities which employed the editors have also contributed greatly in paying salaries, and awarding research leave and grants for travel and materials.

In addition to the universities, the project could not have prospered without the help of the sponsors cited below. Their generosity has met the direct costs of the initial research and of the preparation of the text of the novels appearing in this edition.

BANK OF SCOTLAND

The collapse of the great Edinburgh publisher Archibald Constable in January 1826 entailed the ruin of Sir Walter Scott who found himself responsible for his own private debts, for the debts of the printing business of James Ballantyne and Co. in which he was co-partner, and for the bank advances to Archibald Constable which had been guaranteed by the printing business. Scott's largest creditors were Sir William Forbes and Co., bankers, and the Bank of Scotland. On the advice of Sir William Forbes himself, the creditors did not sequester his property, but agreed to the creation of a trust to which he committed his future literary earnings, and which ultimately repaid the debts of over £120,000 for which he was legally liable.

In the same year the Government proposed to curtail the rights of the Scottish banks to issue their own notes; Scott wrote the 'Letters of Malachi Malagrowther' in their defence, arguing that the measure was neither in the interests of the banks nor of Scotland. The 'Letters' were so successful that the Government was forced to withdraw its proposal and to this day the Scottish Banks issue their own notes.

A portrait of Sir Walter appears on all current bank notes of the Bank of Scotland because Scott was a champion of Scottish banking, and because he was an illustrious and honourable customer not just of the Bank of Scotland itself, but also of three other banks now incorporated within it—the British Linen Bank, Sir William Forbes and Co., and Ramsays, Bonars and Company.

Bank of Scotland's support of the EEWN continues its long and fruitful involvement with the affairs of Walter Scott.

THE BRITISH ACADEMY AND THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES
RESEARCH BOARD

Between 1992 and 1998 the EEWN was greatly assisted by the British Academy through the award of a series of research grants which provided most of the support required for employing a research fellow, without whom steady progress could not have been maintained. In 2000 the AHRB awarded the EEWN a major grant which ensured the completion of the Edition. To both of these bodies, the British Academy and the Arts and Humanities Research Board, the Advisory Board and the editors express their thanks.

OTHER BENEFACTORS

The Advisory Board and the editors also wish to acknowledge with gratitude the generous grants and gifts to the EEWN from the P. F. Charitable Trust, the main charitable trust of the Fleming family which founded the City firm Robert Fleming Holdings, now incorporated within J. P. Morgan; the Edinburgh University General Council Trust, now incorporated within the Edinburgh University Development Trust; Sir Gerald Elliot; the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland; the Modern Humanities Research Association; and the Robertson Trust.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

Without the generous assistance of the National Library of Scotland it would not have been possible to have undertaken the editing of Scott's novels, and the Scott Advisory Board and the editors cannot overstate the extent to which they are indebted to the Trustees and the staff.

THE BETROTHED

The manuscript of The Betrothed is owned by the National Library of Scotland, and the proofs of the novel are owned by the Berg Collection, which is housed in the New York Public Library. A large proportion of the other manuscript material consulted and used in the preparation of this edition is in the National Library of Scotland. The editors are extremely grateful to both of these institutions for the access they have willingly given to these materials. To these should be added the Library of the University of Edinburgh, which provided a home for several important items (including the manuscript itself) during the temporary closure of the National Library of Scotland while this work was in progress. Furthermore, the Librarian of the Advocates' Library responded willingly to requests for access to some volumes from the Abbotsford Library that related to this edition. The staff of all these institutions gave of their knowledge and skills unstintingly, and without this the production of this edition would have been impossible.

Editing Scott demands scholarship beyond the command of any one individual. All along the way, John Ellis has received help and advice from a number of scholars and colleagues, which kept him on the right path.

Alison Lumsden at the outset trained him in accuracy of collation and the interpretation of Scott's manuscript. Thomas Craik provided scrupulous information on Shakespearean and other quotations; Roy Pinkerton likewise identified classical and Biblical references; and William Gillies gave shrewd advice on Welsh matters. Heinz Giegerich gave invaluable assistance in the interpretation and translation of an early nineteenth-century German letter. The General Editors came to the editor's assistance in advocating the adoption of a series of manuscript readings in Chapters 8 and 9 of the second volume of the novel instead of following the normal practice of privileging the first edition. J. H. Alexander helped to perfect the Explanatory Notes and the Glossary. But overall, it has been the editor-in-chief who has been the greatest influence on this edition at every stage of its growth; his hand guided the Emendation List and he has continually made valuable contributions to all aspects of the editorial material, so that it is now only the titular editor who is fully aware of his indebtedness to his Chief.

Above all a scholarly edition must offer a reliable version of the text, and those who have helped to establish the reliability of this work include Ian Clark, Gillian Hughes, Rachel McGregor, and Ainsley McIntosh. To this number must be added the EEWN's compositor, Harry McIntosh of Speedspools. I thank them all.