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Front Matter

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VOLUME XX

Studies
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Table Of Contents

Editorial	vii
Young Boswell defends the Highlanders Richard C. Cole.	1
Carlyle, Sterling, and the Scavenger Age Michael Timko	11
Myth and Realism in <i>Gillespie</i> Christopher Whyte.	34
Henryson's <i>Fables</i> : "the subtell dyte of poetry" Gregory Kratzmann	49
A Strange Judgement of God's? Stevenson's <i>The Merry Men</i> Tom Shearer.	71
The Cheka's Horrors and <i>On a Raised Beach</i> T. J. Cribb	88

From Letter to "Letter": Smollett's <i>Travels</i> Robert E. Kelley	101
Constancy and Change: The Process of History in Scott's <i>Redgauntlet</i> Margaret M. Criscuola	123
Cresseid Excused: A Re-reading of Henryson's <i>Testament of Cresseid</i> Mairi Ann Cullen	137
John Galt at Work: Comments on the MS. of <i>Ringan Gilbaize</i> Patricia J. Wilson	160
The Sources of <i>The Silver Darlings</i> Alistair M. McCleery	177
George MacDonald's <i>Lilith</i> and the Conventions of Ascent Michael Mendelson	197
A Tribute that Never Was: The Plan for a Lewis Grassie Gibbon <i>Festschrift</i> Ian Campbell	219
Realism and Romance: Stevenson and Scottish Values K. G. Simpson	231
Notes and Documents	248
Book Reviews	267
Brief Notice	332
Contributors	335
Index	338

Editorial



With its twentieth volume *Studies in Scottish Literature* goes to word processor and laser printer production. As our contributors were informed when they read proofs of their MSS., there were production problems and in consequence their proofreading was made more laborious. It is to their credit that they responded goodnaturedly. There may be production problems which escape our notice until after publication, and should these occur the Editor will take responsibility after the fact. It should perhaps be pointed out that *SSL* is probably the only periodical of its size and importance produced in this country, or perhaps in any other country, which is solely edited, produced and distributed by an unpaid Editor who is also a full time faculty member and part time administrator, his unpaid wife who holds full time professional employment, and a Research Assistant who is assigned to work with the Editor part time for the academic year. Members of the Editorial Board and academics who act as readers for the MSS. submitted, also give generously of their time, and for reasons of anonymity readers of MSS. cannot even be acknowledged. Put briefly *Studies in*

Scottish Literature has survived and prospered because people of good will have wanted it to do so.

In this same spirit of good will, readers are invited to comment on the presentation of the new *SSL*. The Editor will be pleased to hear from readers who can offer suggestions as to how automation can be better achieved. Obviously the best way to make this publication more efficient will be for authors to submit their MSS. on diskettes. This will allow the editorial process to be performed with lesser expenditure of time, and greater efficiency. Several articles which appear in this volume of *SSL* were submitted from word processor printouts; these MSS. were then reentered on a word processor, and obviously errors may be generated where none previously existed. It is in the best interests of both parties that such errors be held to a minimum, and the best way to do this is for authors to submit MSS. in machine readable form. Details of compatible systems are given below.

1. Wordstar 3.30 files created on IBM PC using DOS 2.0 or higher are compatible.
2. If using other processing programs or processing diskettes, contact *SSL*. Give as much technical information as possible.

Homer Steedly—technical consultant
Laurel Ensminger—production assistant
G.R.R.