The Cambridge Companion to the Scottish Enlightenment

The Cambridge Companion to the Scottish Enlightenment offers a philosophical perspective on an eighteenth-century movement that has been profoundly influential on western culture. A distinguished team of contributors examines the writings of David Hume, Adam Smith, Thomas Reid, Adam Ferguson, Colin MacLaurin and other Scottish thinkers, in fields including philosophy, natural theology, economics, anthropology, natural science and law. In addition, the contributors relate the Scottish Enlightenment to its historical context and assess its impact and legacy in Europe, America and beyond. The result is a comprehensive and accessible volume that illuminates the richness, the intellectual variety and the underlying unity of this important movement. It will be of interest to a wide range of readers in philosophy, theology, literature and the history of ideas.
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WITTGENSTEIN  Edited by HANS SLUGA and DAVID STERN
The Cambridge Companion to
THE SCOTTISH ENLIGHTENMENT

Edited by
Alexander Broadie
University of Glasgow
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Paul Wood is a member of the Department of History and Director of the Humanities Centre at the University of Victoria, British Columbia. He has written widely on the universities and on the natural and human sciences in the Scottish Enlightenment. His books include *The Aberdeen Enlightenment: the Arts Curriculum in the Eighteenth Century* (1993), and two edited volumes, *Reid on the Animate Creation* (1995) and *The Correspondence of Thomas Reid* (forthcoming), both in the Edinburgh Edition of Thomas Reid. He is currently working on a biography of Reid for Edinburgh University Press.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This is a wide-ranging Companion and my search for advice has been correspondingly wide ranging. Knud Haakonssen, M. A. Stewart and Paul Wood provided inestimable advice and I thank them warmly. I am also deeply indebted to Patricia S. Martin for her unstinting help with the preparation of the typescript. Hilary Gaskin, as philosophy editor at Cambridge University Press, has been involved in the project from its inception, and throughout has provided invaluable guidance. I am grateful to her.

Alexander Broadie
Glasgow
CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS RELATING TO THE SCOTTISH ENLIGHTENMENT

1681 Viscount Stair's *The Institutions of the Laws of Scotland* (rev. edn 1691)
Royal College of Physicians chartered by Charles II

1684–1758 Allan Ramsay (poet)

1685–9 Reign of James VII and II

1687 Sir Isaac Newton's *Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy* (the *Principia*)

1689 William and Mary ascended the throne

1689 Advocates’ Library opened

1690 John Locke's *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*

1694–1746 Francis Hutcheson

1695–1768 John Erskine of Carnock

1696–1782 Henry Home, raised to the Bench as Lord Kames in 1752

1698–1746 Colin MacLaurin

1698–1748 George Turnbull

1702–14 Reign of Queen Anne

1704 Death of John Locke

Sir Isaac Newton’s *Opticks*

1707 Treaty of Union of England and Scotland

1710–96 Thomas Reid

1710 Bishop Berkeley’s *Principles of Human Knowledge*

Hutcheson matriculated at Glasgow

1710–90 William Cullen

1711–76 David Hume

1711 Lord Shaftesbury’s *Characteristicks of Men, Manners, Opinions, Times*
Chronology

First year of Joseph Addison and Richard Steel’s *Spectator*

1713–84 Allan Ramsay (painter)
1713–80 Sir James Steuart
1714–27 Reign of George I
1714 Bernard Mandeville’s *Fable of the Bees*
1715 Jacobite Rising
1718 Carmichael’s commentary on Pufendorf’s *De officio hominis et civis*
1718–1800 Hugh Blair
1719–96 George Campbell
1721–93 William Robertson
1721–71 Tobias Smollett
1722 Reid enters Marischal College, Aberdeen
1723–90 Adam Smith
1723–1816 Adam Ferguson
1723 Hume enters Edinburgh University
1725 Hutcheson’s *An Inquiry into the Original of our Ideas of Beauty and Virtue*
MacLaurin elected Professor of Mathematics at Edinburgh
1725–6 Hutcheson’s *Reflections upon Laughter* and *Remarks upon the Fable of the Bees*
1726–97 James Hutton
1728 Hutcheson’s *Essay on the Nature and Conduct of the Passions, with Illustrations on the Moral Sense*
1729 Death of Gershom Carmichael, Professor of Moral Philosophy at Glasgow
Hutcheson appointed Professor at Glasgow, becoming Professor of Moral Philosophy at Glasgow in 1730
1728–99 Joseph Black
1735–1801 John Millar
1736–1819 James Watt
1736/8–96 James Macpherson
1737 Foundation of Philosophical Society of Edinburgh
1739–40 Hume’s *A Treatise of Human Nature*
1739–1805 John Robison
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1740  George Turnbull’s Treatise on Ancient Painting and
Principles of Moral and Christian Philosophy

1740–95  William Smellie

1740–95  James Boswell

1743–86  Gilbert Stuart

1745–46  Jacobite Rising under Charles Edward Stuart

1747  William Cullen appointed Professor of Chemistry at
Glasgow

1748  Hume’s Philosophical Essays Concerning Human
Understanding (later titled An Enquiry Concerning
Human Understanding)
Colin MacLaurin’s Account of Sir Isaac Newton’s
Philosophical Discoveries
Reid’s ‘Essay on quantity’ in Philosophical
Transactions of the Royal Society of London
Charles-Louis Montesquieu’s L’Esprit des Lois

1749  First volume of comte de Buffon’s Histoire Naturelle

1750–74  Robert Fergusson

1751  Adam Smith appointed Professor of Logic and
Rhetoric at Glasgow, becoming Professor of Moral
Philosophy at Glasgow in 1752
Reid appointed regent at King’s College, Aberdeen
Hume’s An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of
Morals

1752–7  Hume Keeper of the Advocates’ Library, Edinburgh

1752  Foundation of Glasgow Literary Society

1753–1828  Dugald Stewart

1754–62  Hume’s History of England

1754–1835  Sir John Sinclair

1754  Foundation of Select Society

1755  Hutcheson’s A System of Moral Philosophy

1757  Hume’s The Natural History of Religion

1758  Founding of the Aberdeen Philosophical Society, the
‘Wise Club’

1759  Adam Smith’s The Theory of Moral Sentiments
William Robertson’s History of Scotland

1759–96  Robert Burns
Chronology

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<td>John Millar appointed Professor of Civil Law at Glasgow</td>
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<td>1762</td>
<td>Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s <em>Du Contrat social</em></td>
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<td>1762</td>
<td>George Campbell’s <em>Dissertation on Miracles</em></td>
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<td>1764</td>
<td>Hugh Blair appointed first Regius Professor of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres at Edinburgh</td>
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<td>1764</td>
<td>Thomas Reid’s <em>Inquiry into the Human Mind on the Principles of Common Sense</em></td>
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<td>1764</td>
<td>Reid appointed Professor of Moral Philosophy at Glasgow</td>
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<td>1767</td>
<td>Adam Ferguson appointed Professor of Pneumatics and Moral Philosophy at Edinburgh</td>
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<td>1767</td>
<td>Adam Ferguson’s <em>An Essay on the History of Civil Society</em></td>
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<td>1768–71</td>
<td>Sir James Steuart’s <em>Principles of Political Oeconomy</em></td>
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<td>1768–71</td>
<td>First edition of <em>Encyclopaedia Britannica</em>, edited by William Smellie</td>
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<td>1771</td>
<td>John Millar’s <em>The Origin of the Distinction of Ranks</em> (republished with extensive revision in 1779)</td>
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<td>Sir Walter Scott</td>
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<td><em>An Institute of the Law of Scotland</em> by John Erskine of Carnock</td>
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<td>1774</td>
<td>Lord Kames’s <em>Sketches of the History of Man</em></td>
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<td>1776</td>
<td>Adam Smith’s <em>The Wealth of Nations</em></td>
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<td>1776</td>
<td>George Campbell’s <em>Philosophy of Rhetoric</em></td>
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<td>1779</td>
<td>American Declaration of Independence</td>
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<td>1779</td>
<td>Hume’s <em>Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion</em></td>
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<td>1780</td>
<td>James Dunbar’s <em>Essays on the History of Mankind</em></td>
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<td>Immanuel Kant’s <em>Critique of Pure Reason</em></td>
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<td>1783</td>
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<td>1785</td>
<td>Reid’s <em>Essays on the Intellectual Powers of Man</em></td>
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<td>1785</td>
<td>Dugald Stewart appointed Professor of Moral Philosophy at Edinburgh</td>
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