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Edited by Mary Richardson

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### Autobiography of Mrs. Fletcher of Edinburgh

Eliza Fletcher (born Eliza Dawson) (1770–1858) was an English writer, literary patron and supporter of parliamentary reform and liberal politics. Fletcher became a patron of the popular poets Ann Yearsley and Hannah More, and later in life formed friendships with prominent writers Elizabeth Gaskell and Harriet Martineau. After her marriage to politician and electoral reformer Archibald Fletcher in 1791, she became more radical in her political views, and was a supporter of the French Revolution. This volume, first published in 1874, contains Fletcher's autobiography, edited by her daughter, Lady Mary Richardson. Fletcher describes her life chronologically, providing fascinating detail on her childhood and adolescence, and citing correspondence illustrating her relationships with her contemporaries and friends. She provides sharp observations on contemporary political issues and describes the social and literary circles in which she participated, giving valuable information on literary society and politics during the early nineteenth century. For more information on this author, see [http://orlando.cambridge.org/public/svPeople?person\\_id=fletel](http://orlando.cambridge.org/public/svPeople?person_id=fletel)

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*With Selections from Her Letters  
and Other Family Memorials*

EDITED BY MARY RICHARDSON



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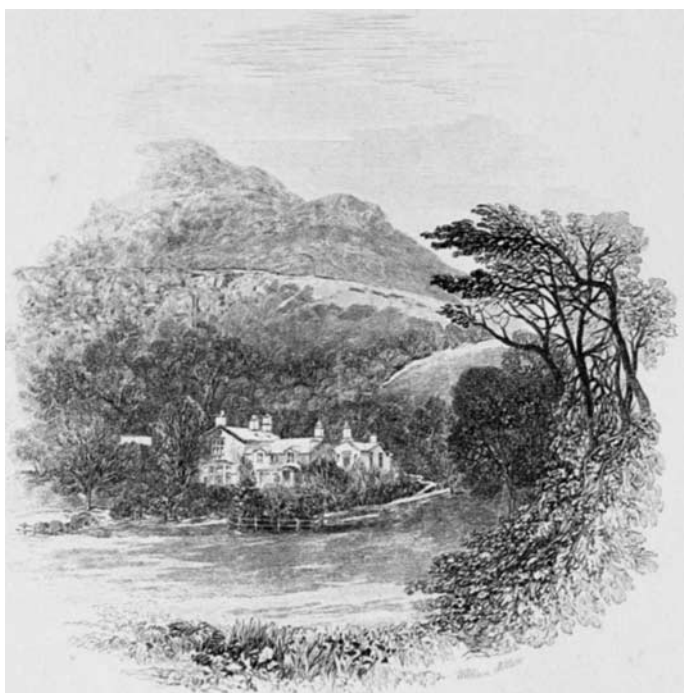
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OF

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WITH

SELECTIONS FROM HER LETTERS AND OTHER  
FAMILY MEMORIALS.

COMPILED AND ARRANGED

BY THE SURVIVOR OF HER FAMILY.

---

We live by Admiration, Hope, and Love,  
And even as these are well and wisely fixed,  
In dignity of being we ascend.

WORDSWORTH.

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THIS VOLUME  
IN MEMORY OF A BELOVED MOTHER AND  
FRIEND  
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED TO HER  
GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN  
*BY HER SURVIVING DAUGHTER,*  
IN THE EARNEST HOPE  
THAT IT MAY TEND TO CONFIRM IN HER DESCENDANTS  
A LOVE OF GOODNESS,  
AND ASSIST TO NOURISH IN THEIR HEARTS  
THE ETERNAL TRUTH  
THAT LOVE IS THE FULFILLING OF THE LAW,  
BOTH TOWARDS GOD AND TOWARDS MEN.

M. R.

LANCRIGG, *June*, 1874.

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