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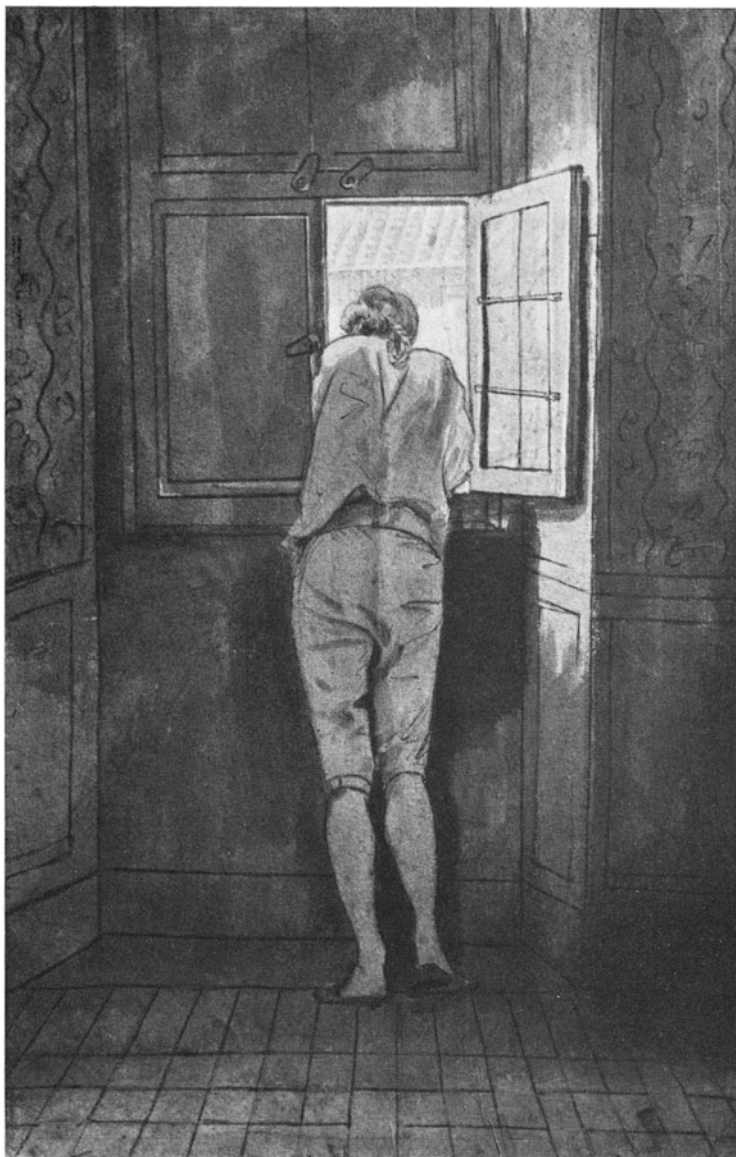
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Wilhelm Tischbein, *Goethe at the window of his studio in Rome*

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*To
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ILLUSTRATIONS

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FOREWORD

First and foremost I should like to express my gratitude to Professor Leonard Forster of Cambridge University and to Professor Siegbert Prawer of Oxford University for their help and encouragement, but for which – no idle words in this case – this book would never have reached completion. I have also to thank the editors of *Anglica Germanica* for including this volume in their series.

It is my hope that this work may be of interest not only to students of German literature in the narrower sense, but also more generally to students of the history of taste – who may have little or no knowledge of the German language. I therefore decided to translate all quotations from German in the body of the text. (The original has been retained for special reasons in a few instances.) This involved the rendering into English of considerable extracts from *Dichtung und Wahrheit* and the *Italienische Reise* and from Goethe's letters, diaries and conversations. In this task I was enormously assisted by the skill and ingenuity of my wife's collaboration. We were indebted for certain phrases to the translation of *Dichtung und Wahrheit* by R. O. Moon (London, 1932), to that of Goethe's letters by M. von Herzfeld and C. Melvil Sym (Edinburgh, 1957) and to the admirable translation of the *Italienische Reise* by W. H. Auden and Elizabeth Mayer (London, 1962).

It should be pointed out that with the kind permission of the Clarendon Press certain passages in the third chapter of this study are taken from the section on 'The Young Goethe' in my book *The Literary Background of the Gothic Revival in Germany* (Oxford, 1965), which is now out of print.

Finally, I should like to express my gratitude to the staff of the British Library, of the London Library, of the Institute of Germanic Studies and of the Warburg Institute for their help and courtesy during long years of research.

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ABBREVIATIONS

- WA: *Goethes Werke. Weimarer Ausgabe* (Weimar, 1887–1919).
GA. *Goethe. Gedenkausgabe der Werke, Briefe und Gespräche* (Zürich), 1948–54).
HA: *Goethes Werke. Hamburger Ausgabe* (Hamburg, 1948–60).
IR. *Italienische Reise*.