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Jonathan Swift, Edited by David Womersley  
Frontmatter  
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THE CAMBRIDGE EDITION OF THE WORKS OF  
JONATHAN SWIFT

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JONATHAN SWIFT

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JONATHAN SWIFT

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17. Personal and Miscellaneous Writings, Fragments and Marginalia
18. Index

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# Gulliver's Travels

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DAVID WOMERSLEY



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THE CAMBRIDGE EDITION OF THE WORKS OF  
JONATHAN SWIFT

GENERAL EDITORS' PREFACE

The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift is the first fully annotated scholarly edition ever undertaken of Swift's complete works in both verse and prose. The great editions of Swift by Herbert Davis and Harold Williams have remained standard for over half a century. We are all greatly indebted to them, but the time has come to replace or revise their texts and commentary in the light of subsequent historical, biographical and textual knowledge. Davis's fourteen-volume edition of the Prose Writings offered valuable introductions but no annotation. The commentary to his separate edition of *The Drapier's Letters*, and Williams's commentaries to the Poems and *Journal to Stella*, though excellent in their time, must now be supplemented by a considerable body of more recent scholarship. The Cambridge Edition's detailed introductions, notes and appendices aim to provide an informed understanding of Swift's place in the political and cultural history of England and Ireland, and to establish the historical, literary and bibliographical contexts of his immense achievement as a prose satirist, poet and political writer. The editors of individual volumes include distinguished historians, as well as leading scholars of eighteenth-century literature.

For the Cambridge Edition, Swift's texts will be collated and analysed afresh, with attention to new evidence of drafts, autographs, transcripts and printed editions, including revisions of Swift's own *Works*. All lifetime editions will be investigated for their authority. The choice of the version to be printed will be based on an assessment of the work's nature and of the particularities of its history. As a general rule the last authoritative version of the work will be chosen, but in the case of works that are bound in tightly to an immediate context of controversy (polemical tracts, for example), the first edition will usually be chosen instead. In all cases editors will have regard to Swift's overall conception of his text, including issues of typography and illustration. All substantial authorial variants will be recorded in the apparatus, along with those accidental variants editors deem significant, and full introductions will provide the history of the text and the rationale for editorial decisions.



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I owe grateful thanks to the librarians at the Bodleian; the University Library, Cambridge; the Wren Library, Trinity College, Cambridge; the British Library; the Huntington Library, Pasadena; the Houghton Library, Harvard; the Boston Athenaeum; the National Art Library, the Victoria and Albert Museum; the Pierpont Morgan Library, New York; the Firestone Library, Princeton; and, in particular, the Armagh Public Library. I wish also to thank Mrs Pamela Tickell for permission to examine the Swift and Tickell manuscripts in her possession.

The illustrations for this volume were all taken from copies in the Bodleian Library, and permission to reproduce them is gratefully acknowledged. Full bibliographical details are given in the List of illustrations.

Work on this edition was speeded by grants of sabbatical leave from the University of Oxford, and supported by research grants from its Faculty of English. For all such help I now express my gratitude to a university Swift eventually disparaged as a 'most corrupt seminary', but about which as a younger man he had written in language I can share: 'I never was more satisfied than in the behaviour of the University of Oxford to me' (Woolley, *Corr.*, vol. III, p. 468 and vol. I, p. 116).

DAVID WOMERSLEY  
St Catherine's College, Oxford

## CHRONOLOGY OF SWIFT'S LIFE

**1664** Marriage in Dublin of Swift's parents, Jonathan Swift the elder and Abigail Erick.

**1667** March or April: Swift's father dies; 30 November: birth of Swift in Dublin.

**1673–82** Swift at school at Kilkenny

Birth of John Vanbrugh. Katherine Philips, *Poems* (pirated).

**1665** Second Anglo-Dutch War (until 1667). Commencement of *Philosophical Transactions* by Royal Society. Plague in London.

**1666** Fire of London. John Bunyan, *Grace Abounding*; Nicolas Boileau-Despréaux, *Satires*; Molière, *Le Misanthrope*.

Dismissal of Edward Hyde, first Earl of Clarendon; the 'Cabal' administration of the government (until 1673). Death of Abraham Cowley. Birth of John Arbuthnot. John Dryden, *Annus Mirabilis*, *Indian Emperor*, *Of Dramatick Poesy*; John Milton, *Paradise Lost* (1st edn); Thomas Sprat, *History of the Royal Society*.

**1668** Dryden appointed Poet Laureate. Beginning of *Mercurius Librarius* (*Term Catalogues*); Cowley, *Works*, with life by Sprat.

**1670** Birth of William Congreve. Milton, *The History of Britain*; Blaise Pascal, *Pensées*; Izaak Walton, *Lives*.

**1671** Milton, *Paradise Regained*, *Samson Agonistes*.

**1672** Third Anglo-Dutch War (until 1674); second Declaration of Indulgence. Births of Joseph Addison and Richard Steele. John Sheffield, first Duke of Buckingham, *Rehearsal*; Andrew Marvell, *Rehearsal Transpros'd* (Pt II, 1673).

**1673** Second Declaration of Indulgence withdrawn, and Test Act signed. End of Cabal.

**1674** Death of Milton. Opening of Theatre Royal. Boileau, *L'Art Poétique*;

- Milton, *Paradise Lost* (2nd edn, in 12 books); Thomas Shadwell, *Enchanted Island*.
- 1675** William Wycherley, *Country Wife*.
- 1676** George Etherege, *Man of Mode*; Shadwell, *Virtuoso*.
- 1677** Aphra Behn, *The Rover*, Pt I (Pt II, 1681); Wycherley, *Plain Dealer*.
- 1678** Popish Plot. Death of Marvell; birth of George Farquhar. Bunyan, *Pilgrim's Progress*, I (Pt II, 1684); Samuel Butler, *Hudibras*, III.
- 1679** Exclusion Crisis (until 1681). Birth of Thomas Parnell. Gilbert Burnet, *History of the Reformation* (vols. II and III, 1681 and 1715).
- 1680** Deaths of Butler, John Wilmot, second Earl of Rochester, François de La Rochefoucauld. Sir Robert Filmer, *Patriarcha*; Rochester, *Poems*; Wentworth Dillon, fourth Earl of Roscommon, *Horace's Art of Poetry Made English*; Sir William Temple, *Miscellanea*, I.
- 1681** Thomas Burnet, *Telluris Theoria Sacra*, Books I and II; John Oldham, *Satires Upon the Jesuits*; Dryden, *Absalom and Achitophel*.
- 1682** April: Swift admitted to Trinity College Dublin. He remains there until the outbreak of war between James II and William III.
- Death of Sir Thomas Browne. Dryden, *The Medall*, *Religio Laici*, *Mac Flecknoe*, *Absalom and Achitophel*, II; Lucretius, *De rerum natura* (tr. Thomas Creech); Thomas Otway, *Venice Preserv'd*; Sir William Petty, *Essay Concerning the Multiplication of Mankind*.
- 1683** Rye House Plot. Death of Oldham.
- 1684** Behn, *Love-Letters Between a Noble-Man and his Sister* (1684–7).
- 1685** February: Death of Charles II and Accession of James II. June to July: Monmouth Rebellion. October: Edict of Nantes revoked. Birth of John Gay; birth of George Berkeley. *Sylvae* (including contributions by Dryden); Dryden, 'To the Pious Memory of Mrs Anne Killigrew', *Threnodia Augustalis*.

- 1686** Swift takes his bachelor's degree by *speciali gratia* from Trinity College Dublin
- 1687** April: James II's Declaration of Indulgence. Isaac Newton, *Principia*; Dryden, *The Hind and the Panther*, 'Song for St Cecilia's Day'.  
 Behn, *The Lucky Chance*.
- 1688**  
 Glorious Revolution. November: William of Orange invades England; December: James II flees to France (transfer of the crown to William and Mary in 1689). Birth of Alexander Pope; death of Bunyan; Shadwell named Poet Laureate in succession to Dryden. Charles Perrault, *Parallèle des Anciens and des Modernes* (completed 1697).  
 Civil war breaks out in Ireland. Accession of William and Mary. Birth of Samuel Richardson; death of Behn. John Locke, *First Letter on Toleration*.
- 1689** January: Swift leaves for England; employed in Sir William Temple's household at Moor Park, near Farnham, Surrey; meets Esther Johnson (Stella), then eight years old.  
 James II defeated by William III in Ireland (Battle of the Boyne) and flees to France. Dryden, *Don Sebastian*; Locke, *Two Treatises of Government, Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (enlarged 1694–1700), *Second Letter on Toleration*; Petty, *Political Arithmetick* (see 1682); Temple, *Miscellanea*, II, includes 'An Essay upon the Ancient and Modern Learning', which triggers Phalaris controversy (rev. edn 1692).
- 1690** May: Swift returns to Ireland, on doctors' advice, after first appearance of Ménière's disease.
- 1691** Swift, *Ode. To the King*. Returns to Moor Park by end of year.  
 Treaty of Limerick ends war in Ireland.
- 1692** Swift, *Ode to the Athenian Society* (in supplement to *Athenian Gazette*, vol. V). Swift takes degree of MA at Oxford, for future purpose of ordination.  
 Death of Shadwell. Locke, *Third Letter on Toleration*; Thomas Rymer, *Short View of Tragedy*.
- 1693** Beginning of National Debt. Congreve, *Old Batchelor*; Dryden, 'Discourse Concerning Satire', prefixed to trs. of Juvenal and Persius; Locke, *Thoughts Concerning Education*.
- 1694** Swift returns to Ireland, takes deacon's orders.  
 Death of Mary II; Founding of Bank of England. Congreve, *Double Dealer*; *Dictionary of French Academy*; William Wotton, *Reflections on Ancient and Modern Learning*.

**1695** January: Swift ordained priest, and becomes prebendary of Kilroot, near Belfast.

**1696–9** Swift at Moor Park, at work on *A Tale of a Tub* and related writings.

**1699** January: death of Temple. August: Swift returns to Ireland as chaplain to Earl of Berkeley, Lord Justice of Ireland. Writes 'When I come to be Old'. November: Swift's edition of Temple's *Letters* (dated 1700) is published.

**1700** February: Swift appointed Vicar of Laracor, Co. Meath. October: appointed prebendary of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.

**1701** April: Swift goes to England with Lord Berkeley; August: Esther Johnson's move to Dublin; September: Swift moves back to Dublin with Rochester, new Lord Lieutenant. October: Swift, *Contests and Dissensions in Athens and Rome*; Swift's edition of Temple, *Miscellanea*, III.

Death of Henry Purcell. Richard Blackmore, *Prince Arthur*; Charles Boyle, ed., *Epistles of Phalaris*; Congreve, *Love for Love*; Locke, *Reasonableness of Christianity* and *Vindication of the Reasonableness of Christianity* (second *Vindication*, 1697); Thomas Southerne, *Oroonoko*.

**1697** Birth of William Hogarth. Richard Bentley, 'Dissertation upon the *Epistles of Phalaris*' (in 2nd edn of Wotton's *Reflections*, see 1694); Blackmore, *King Arthur*; Dryden, *Works of Virgil*; Vanbrugh, *Provok'd Wife*.

**1698** Boyle, *Dr Bentley's Dissertations on the Epistles of Phalaris and the Fables of Aesop Examined*; Jeremy Collier, *Short View of the English Stage*; William Molyneux, *The Case of Ireland Stated*.

Bentley, *Dissertation upon the Epistles of Phalaris, with an Answer to the Honourable Charles Boyle*; Samuel Garth, *The Dispensary*.

Death of Charles II of Spain; final statute against Catholics; dispute over Irish forfeitures; Act of Resumption; death of Duke of Gloucester; Partition Treaty. Death of Dryden; birth of James Thomson. Blackmore, *Satire against Wit*; Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, tr. Peter Motteux; Congreve, *Way of the World*; Dryden, *Fables and Secular Masque*; François Fénelon, *Dialogue des Morts*; James Harrington, *Works*, with life by John Toland; Matthew Prior, *Carmen Seculare*.

Death of James II; his son, James Francis Edward (b. 1688), 'Pretender' to the throne, recognized by Louis XIV; Act of Settlement; general election (Tory landslide); Impeachment of John, Baron Somers; general election (Whig recovery). Addison, 'Letter to Halifax' (written); Charles Davenant, *Essay on the Balance of Power*; John Dennis, *Advancement of Modern Poetry*; Steele, *Christian Hero*.

**1702** February: Swift takes the degree DD, Trinity College, Dublin. April: travels to England. August: writes 'Meditation on a Broomstick' (published in *Miscellanies*, 1711). October: returns to Ireland.

**1703** November: travels to England, and stays until May 1704. Swift's edition of Temple, *Letters to the King*.

**1704** May: publication of *Tale of a Tub*, containing also 'Battel of the Books', and 'Mechanical Operation of the Spirit'. 2nd and 3rd edns follow this year. 1 June: arrives back in Dublin; there or in Laracor until November 1707.

**1705** *Tale of a Tub*, 4th edn.

Death of William III, accession of Anne; Tory ministry; influence of Sydney, first Earl of Godolphin, and John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough; Robert Harley, first Speaker of the House of Commons; War of Spanish Succession. Clarendon, *History of the Great Rebellion* (1702–4); Defoe, *Enquiry into Occasional Conformity*, *Shortest-Way with the Dissenters*; William King, *De Origine Mali*; *Observer* (1702–12); *Poems on Affairs of State* (1702–7); Anthony Ashley Cooper, first Earl of Shaftesbury, *Paradoxes of State*.

First Occasional Conformity Bill defeated in Lords; campaign in Flanders; Great Storm (27 November); Defoe imprisoned, pilloried and released. Abel Boyer, *History of the Reign of Queen Anne* (1703–13); Steele, *The Lying Lover*; Ned Ward, *London Spy* (collected edn, eighteen monthly parts, November 1698–1703).

Battle of Blenheim; Queen Anne's bounty; Ministry of Daniel Finch, second Earl of Nottingham, resigns; Harley Secretary of State; Henry St John Secretary at War; death of Locke. Defoe, *Review* (1704–12); Dennis, *Grounds of Criticism in Poetry and Liberty Asserted*; John Philips, *Honoratissimo Viro, Henrico St John, Armigero, Ode*; Wycherley, *Miscellany Poems*.

General election, Whig victory, 'Junto' administration; Marlborough breaks through lines at Brabant; 'Church in Danger'; Haymarket Opera House opened by Vanbrugh; Addison Commissioner of Appeals. Addison, *The Campaign and Remarks on Italy*; Samuel Clarke, *Being and Attributes of God*; Bernard Mandeville, *The Grumbling Hive*; Steele, *The Tender Husband*; Toland, *Socinianism Truly Stated*; Vanbrugh, *The Confederacy*; Wotton, *Reflections upon Ancient and Modern Learning*, 3rd edn, with a *Defense of the Reflections*, including 'Observations upon *The Tale of a Tub*'.

- 1707** April: Swift writes 'Story of the Injured Lady'. August: writes 'Critical Essay'. November: Swift in London on Church of Ireland business; meets Addison, Steele and other authors; writes tracts on political and ecclesiastical issues; begins friendship with Esther Vanhomrigh (Vanessa).
- 1708** January: Swift, *Predictions for 1708*; March: *Elegy on Partridge, Account of Partridge's Death*; December: *Letter concerning the Sacramental Test*; writes *Sentiments of a Church of England Man* (published 1711); writes *Argument against Abolishing Christianity*.
- 1709** April: Swift, *Famous Prediction of Merlin, A Vindication of Isaac Bickerstaff, Project for the Advancement of Religion*. 'Baucis and Philemon' published in various locations. Steele starts *The Tatler* (12 April); Swift's 'A Description of the Morning' appears in No. 9 (30 April). Swift's edition of Temple, *Memoirs III*. June: returns to Dublin.
- 1710** *Tale of a Tub*, fifth edn, with 'Apology' and notes. Swift arrives in London on 1 September, travelling on behalf of the Church of Ireland soliciting for a remission of some financial imposts on the clergy of the Church of Ireland;
- 1706** Act of Succession; Battle of Ramillies; Charles Spencer, third Earl of Sunderland, Secretary of State; Steele made Gazetteer; death of John Evelyn; birth of Benjamin Franklin. Addison, *Rosamond*; Farquhar, *The Recruiting Officer*; Locke, *Conduct of Understanding, On Miracles and Fourth Letter on Toleration*; White Kennett, *Complete History of England* (1706–19).
- Union of England and Scotland; births of Henry Fielding and Charles Wesley. Colley Cibber, *Comical Lovers, The Double Gallant and The Lady's Last Stake*; Defoe, *Modest Vindication of Present Ministry*; Farquhar, *The Beaux' Stratagem*; Delarivier Manley, *Almyna*; John Philips, Prior, *Poems on Several Occasions* (pirated); Thomas Tickell, *Oxford*.
- Battle of Oudenarde; Harley and St John resign; Catalonia Campaign; Somers returns to office; Addison Keeper of Records, Dublin Castle. Joseph Bingham, *Origines Ecclesiasticae*; Collier, *Ecclesiastical History of Great Britain* (1708–14); Bernard Le Bovier, sieur de Fontenelle, *Dialogues of the Dead*, tr. John Hughes; Locke, *Letters*; John Philips, *Cyder*; Shaftesbury, *Letter Concerning Enthusiasm*; Lewis Theobald, *Persian Princess*.
- Charles XII defeated at Pultawa; Naturalization Act; Henry Sacheverell's sermon, *The Perils of False Brethren*; births of Samuel Johnson and George Lyttelton; Copyright Act (first, fourteen-year term, renewable for another fourteen if author is alive); Steele dismissed from the *Gazette*. Berkeley, *New Theory of Vision*; Manley, *The New Atalantis*; Ambrose Philips, 'Pastorals' and Pope, 'Pastorals', published in the Tonson *Poetical Miscellanies VI*; Prior, *Poems on Several Occasions*; Nicholas Rowe's edn of Shakespeare (1709–10); Shaftesbury, *The Moralists*.
- January: Marlborough threatens to resign commission over Tory influence of Abigail Masham at court. March: trial of Sacheverell ends disappointingly for Whig managers. August: Godolphin dismissed as Lord Treasurer, replaced by Tory treasury

begins epistolary diary known as *Journal to Stella*, 1710–13; Swift's letter on corruptions of style published as *The Tatler*, No. 230. October: meets Harley, leader of the new Tory government; still dining regularly with Addison and Steele; 'A Description of a City Shower' appears in *The Tatler*, No. 238; November: takes over pro-government paper, *The Examiner*.

**1711** February: Swift attends Harley's 'Saturday Club' dinners; publishes *Miscellanies in Prose and Verse* (includes 'Sentiments of a Church-of-England Man' and 'Argument Against Abolishing Christianity'). September: Death of Swift's friend Anne Long. November: Swift, *Conduct of the Allies*.

**1712** May: Swift, *Proposal for Correcting the English Tongue*. August: Swift, *Some Remarks on the Barrier Treaty*. Formation of the 'Scriblerus Club' with Pope, Gay, Parnell and Arbuthnot.

**1713** January: Swift, *Mr. C[ollin]s's Discourse of Free-Thinking, put into Plain English*. May: public acrimony between Swift and Steele. June: Swift installed as Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. October: Swift, *Importance of the Guardian Considered*; composes 'Cadenus and Vanessa'.

**1714** February: Swift, *Public Spirit of the Whigs*; declared 'seditious and scandalous libel' by Lords; Swift Governor of Bethlehem Hospital ('Bedlam'). March: Swift helps draft Queen's speech. June: Swift leaves London for Letcombe Bassett, Berkshire; writes *Some Free Thoughts* (not published until 1741). August: sails for Dublin, beginning of six-year break from publication.

under Robert Harley. October: landslide victory brings Tories to power. Samuel Clements, *Faults on Both Sides*; Berkeley, *Principles of Human Knowledge*; September: Addison begins *The Whig Examiner*. Pierre Bayle, *Dictionary*, first English edn; Congreve, *Collected Works*; Manley, *Memoirs of Europe*.

January: Peace conference at Utrecht begins. February: Tory 'October Club' attacks Harley for perceived moderation. March: assassination attempt by Marquis de Guiscard on Harley. May: Robert Harley created Lord Treasurer and Earl of Oxford. November: Nottingham (Swift's 'Dismal') breaks with Oxford. December: Marlborough dismissed. Pope, *Essay on Criticism*; Steele, *The Tatler* final number, January; Addison and Steele, *The Spectator* (1 March 1711 – 6 December 1712); Shaftesbury, *Characteristicks*.

July: St John created Viscount Bolingbroke. October: Oxford and Bolingbroke clash in cabinet. Pope, *Rape of the Lock* (two-canto version); Arbuthnot, *Proposal for an Art of Political Lying*.

March: Peace and commerce treaties signed by Britain and France at Utrecht. August: Bolingbroke's bid to control ministry defeated by Oxford; general election, another Tory victory. December: Queen Anne seriously ill. Pope, *Windsor-Forest*; Gay, *Rural Sports*; Parnell, *Essay on the Different Styles of Poetry*; Addison, *Cato*; Steele, *The Guardian*, *The Englishman*.

January: Steele, *Crisis*. July: Oxford dismissed by Queen Anne. August: death of Queen Anne; accession of George I. Beginning of Whig supremacy.

**1715** June: Pope, *Iliad*, first books published. September: Jacobite rebellion.

**1717** January: Pope, Gay and Arbuthnot, *Three Hours After Marriage*. Pope, *Works*.

**1718** Death of Parnell.



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xviii CHRONOLOGY OF SWIFT'S LIFE

**1719** March 13: Swift writes birthday verses for Stella.

**1720** Swift, *Proposal for the Universal Use of Irish Manufacture*; at subsequent trial of its printer, Edward Waters, Chief Justice Whitshed refuses to accept 'not guilty' verdict from jury.

**1721** April: earliest references to writing of *Gulliver's Travels*, in a letter to Charles Ford. Swift travels over four hundred miles on his 'Summer Rambles' in Ireland.

**1722** April: Swift begins six-month tour of northern Ireland.

**1723** June: death of Vanessa; Swift begins four-month tour of southern Ireland.

**1724** January: Swift finishes book four of *Gulliver's Travels*, and begins book three. March: *Letter to the Shopkeepers of Ireland* (first *Drapier's Letter*). August: *Letter to Harding* (second *Drapier's Letter*). September: *Some Observations* (third *Drapier's Letter*). October: *Letter to Whole People of Ireland* (fourth *Drapier's Letter*). December: *Letter to Molesworth* (fifth *Drapier's Letter*)

**1725** April: Swift created freeman of City of Dublin. April–October: Swift and Stella at Quilca with Sheridan family; completion of *Gulliver's Travels*.

**1726** March: Swift travels to London. April: audience with Princess of Wales. Meetings with patriot members of opposition, and with Walpole. May: at Pope's Twickenham villa with Gay and Martha Blount; visits Richard Temple, first Viscount Cobham at Stowe; Stella seriously ill. August: returns to Dublin amid public acclamation. 28 October: first edn of *Gulliver's Travels*.

June: death of Addison.

March: Declaratory Act (that the British parliament may make laws binding on Ireland). August: collapse of the 'South Sea Bubble'. November: John Trenchard and Thomas Gordon begin publishing *Cato's Letters*.

Emergence of Robert Walpole as *de facto* Prime Minister. September: death of Prior. December: Parnell, *Poems on Several Occasions*, with Pope's 'Epistle to Oxford' as preface.

July: patent to strike copper coins for Ireland granted to William Wood. August: Francis Atterbury implicated in Jacobite plot.

May: trial of Bishop Atterbury. June: exile of Atterbury.

May: death of Oxford. October: £300 reward offered for naming of the author of fourth *Drapier's Letter*. Burnet, *History of his Own Time*.

April: Bolingbroke returns from exile in France. September: cancellation of William Wood's patent. Pope's edition of Shakespeare and translation of Homer's *Odyssey* (to 1726).

March: Lewis Theobald, *Shakespeare Restored*. December: William Pulteney and Bolingbroke launch opposition periodical *The Craftsman*.

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**1727** January: Swift attempts to correct early editions of *Gulliver*. April: travels to London for his last English visit. June: Pope/Swift *Miscellanies*, vols. I and II. August: returns to Ireland, writing 'Holyhead Journal' during a week of delays before crossing.

**1728** January: death of Stella. Swift, 'On the Death of Mrs Johnson'. March: 'last' volume of Pope/Swift *Miscellanies*; Swift, *A Short View of the State of Ireland*. May: Swift and Sheridan begin *The Intelligencer*, runs until May 1729.

**1729** October: Swift, *A Modest Proposal*. December: Swift meets Laetitia Pilkington, author of *Memoirs* (1748–54) concerning Swift, and her husband Matthew.

**1730** February: Swift tells Pope of his friendship with a 'triumfeminate' of Dublin literary Bluestockings (Mary Barber, Constantia Grierson, Mrs Sican).

**1731** Swift works on *Verses on the Death of Dr Swift* (published 1739) and the scatological poems published in 1734.

**1732** April: Swift, *Life and Character of Dr Swift*. June: Swift, *The Lady's Dressing Room*. October: Pope/Swift *Miscellanies*, 'third' vol.; Swift has met his future biographer, the Earl of Orrery.

**1734** A letter of commendation from Swift appears as preface to Mary Barber's *Poems on Several Occasions*. November: George Faulkner begins to publish Swift's *Works* in Dublin. December: Swift, *A Beautiful Young Nymph Going to Bed* published with 'Strephon and Chloe' and 'Cassinus and Peter'.

**1735** Death of Swift's faithful housekeeper, Mrs Brent. Faulkner publishes first four volumes of *The Works of*

June: death of George I, accession of George II. Autumn: floods and crop failures in Ireland. Death of Newton. Gay, *Fables*.

January: Gay's *Beggar's Opera* begins triumphant run at Lincoln's Inn Fields. May: Pope, *Dunciad*; numerous printed attacks on Pope.

April: Pope, *Dunciad Variorum*.

Charles, second Viscount Townshend resigns as Secretary of State. Trial of Francis Charteris. Cibber made Poet Laureate.

December: Pope, *Epistle to Burlington*. First issue of *Gentleman's Magazine*. Death of Defoe.

December: death of Gay. Hogarth, *Harlot's Progress*.

**1733** January: Pope, *Epistle to Bathurst*. February: Pope, first *Imitation of Horace*, *An Essay on Man*. Excise Crisis.

January: Pope, *Epistle to Cobham*. Hogarth, *Rake's Progress* (engravings published 1735).

January: Pope, *Epistle to Arbuthnot*. February: death of Arbuthnot. Bolingbroke returns to France. April: Pope, *Works II*.

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*J.S., D.D., D.S.P.D.*, with revised/restored  
*Gulliver's Travels* as vol. III.

**1736** December: Swift tells Pope that 'I now neither read, nor write; nor remember, nor converse. All I have left is to walk, and ride.' June: *A Character of the Legion Club*.

**1737** August: Swift created freeman of the City of Cork.

**1738** Spring: Swift, *Genteel and Ingenious Conversation*; fifth and sixth volumes of the Faulkner *Works*.

**1739** January: Swift, *Verses on the Death of Dr Swift*, edited by Pope and William King, followed by Dublin edn in February.

**1740** May: Swift makes his last will, on the brink of his final decline; bequests to Rebecca Dingley (Stella's companion), Martha Whiteway (guardian during his final years) and others; land purchased for St Patrick's Hospital. First printing of the Swift–Pope letters.

**1742** November: Swift's understanding 'quite gone'.

**1745** 19 October: death of Swift.

Porteous Riots; repeal of Test and Corporation Acts defeated. Joseph Butler, *Analogy of Religion*.

May: Pope's edn of his letters. Prince of Wales expelled from court; death of Queen Caroline.

October: death of Thomas Sheridan. Pope visited by Bolingbroke. Last report of Society for Reformation of Manners.

October: War of Jenkins' Ear.

War of Austrian Succession.

March: Pope, *The New Dunciad* (i.e. book IV).

**1744** May: death of Pope.

Death of Walpole. Jacobite rebellion.

## CHRONOLOGY OF *GULLIVER'S TRAVELS*

The following chronology of *Gulliver's Travels* collects the dates mentioned in the text, and supplements them with inferences about the dates of events which are mentioned but not precisely dated.

In his 'Letter to Sympson' Gulliver complains that the printer 'hath been so careless as to confound the Times, and mistake the Dates of my several Voyages and Returns; neither assigning the true Year, or the true Month, or Day of the Month' (below, p. 12). Inconsistencies in the time scheme are more frequent in the early editions (see Treadwell, 'Text', pp. 62–79). The complaint about the carelessness of the printer which Swift places in the mouth of Gulliver may, however, be a cover for his own carelessness (as Michael Treadwell speculates: Treadwell, 'Text', p. 71), or a 'bite' aimed at the gullible reader, or an element in his mystification of the process of publication, or in some measure all of these. In general, it seems a safer principle at least to entertain the possibility that irregularities in the text of *Gulliver's Travels* are mischievous, carefully planted Swiftian snares for the reader (and editor), rather than automatically to dismiss such irregularities as the consequence of inadvertence or carelessness. Particularly stubborn problems with the internal chronology are discussed in the notes.

For further discussion of the internal chronology of *Gulliver's Travels*, see *Four Essays*, pp. 50–68.

### Events in *Gulliver's Travels*

- 1660** Birth of Lemuel Gulliver.
- 1674** Enters Emmanuel College, Cambridge, aged fourteen years.
- 1677** Bound apprentice to James Bates.
- 1681** Studies 'Physick' (medicine) at Leyden.
- 1684** Voyage to the Levant.
- 1688** Takes a house in Old Jury; marries Mary Burton.
- 1690** Begins six years of voyages to the East and West Indies; James Bates dies.

### Real events

- Restoration of Charles II.
- 1667** 30 November: birth of Swift.  
 Publication of *Paradise Lost*.
- Exclusion Crisis; John Locke takes refuge in the Low Countries.
- 1685** Death of Charles II.  
 Glorious Revolution.
- 1689** Swift leaves Ireland for England.  
 William III defeats James II at the Battle of the Boyne.

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- 1696** Moves to Fetter-Lane; begins unsuccessful medical practice.  
 War breaks out between Lilliput and Blefuscu.
- 1697–8** Flimnap's accident on the 'strait Rope'.
- 1699** 4 May: sets sail on voyage to Lilliput.  
 5 November: shipwrecked on the coast of Lilliput.  
 6 November: hauled to Mildendo.  
 7 November: arrives in Mildendo; meets Emperor of Lilliput.  
 End of November: able to speak the language of Lilliput.
- 1701** End of January or beginning of February: regains his liberty.  
 June: falls into disfavour with the Emperor.  
 18 August: leaves Lilliput for Blefuscu.  
 21 August: discovers abandoned boat.  
 31 August: brings boat into royal harbour for repairs.  
 24 September: sets sail from Blefuscu.  
 26 September: picked up at sea by Captain John Biddel.
- 1702** 13 April: arrives at the Downs.  
 20 June: sets sail on voyage to Brobdingnag.  
 Winters at the Cape of Good Hope.
- 1703** End of March: sets sail from the Cape.  
 19 April: encounters storm north of Madagascar.  
 2 May: driven east of the Molucca Islands.  
 3 May: southern monsoon.  
 16 June: Brobdingnag sighted.  
 17 June: lands in Brobdingnag.  
 17 August: sets out for Lorbrulgrud.  
 26 October: arrives at Lorbrulgrud.
- 1704** Rebellion of Lindalino.
- 1705** Summer: progress to the south coast of Brobdingnag.  
 September: seized by an eagle; taken on board by Captain Thomas Wilcocks.
- 1706** 3 June: arrives at the Downs.  
 5 August: sets sail on voyage to Laputa.
- Swift resides at Moor Park as secretary to Sir William Temple until 1699.
- Death of Temple. Swift returns to Ireland.
- Death of James II.  
 Act of Settlement.  
 Swift in England from April to September.
- Death of William III; accession of Queen Anne.  
 Swift in England from April to October.
- November: Swift goes to England.  
*A Tale of a Tub.*  
 June: Swift returns to Ireland.

- 1707** 11 April: arrives at Fort St George; remains there three weeks.      Union of England and Scotland.  
 Swift resident in London (until 1709) on ecclesiastical business.
- 1708** 16 February: leaves the flying island.
- 1709** 21 April: arrives in Luggnagg.  
 6 May: leaves Luggnagg.  
 28 May: interview with the Emperor of Japan.  
 9 June: arrives in Nangasac.      June: Swift returns to Ireland.
- 1710** 6 April: lands in Amsterdam.  
 10 April: puts in at the Downs.  
 7 September: sets sail on voyage to the land of the Houyhnhnms.      September: Swift resident in London again on ecclesiastical business; engaged as propagandist in chief to the Harley administration (until August 1714).
- 1711** 9 May: marooned in the land of the Houyhnhnms.
- 1713** Swift installed as Dean of St Patrick's.  
 Treaty of Utrecht.
- 1714** 21 September: quadrennial assembly of the Houyhnhnms.  
 31 December: given notice to depart.      Death of Queen Anne; accession of George I.
- 1715** 15 February: leaves the land of the Houyhnhnms.  
 20 February: picked up by Pedro de Mendez.  
 5 November: arrives at Lisbon.  
 24 November: leaves Lisbon.  
 5 December: puts in at the Downs, and returns to Redriff.      Jacobite rebellion.  
 Death of Louis XIV.
- 1720** December: composes his narrative.
- 1723** Leaves Redriff and moves to Newark.      Death of Vanessa.
- 1726** March – August: Swift in England.  
 Death of George I; accession of George II.
- 1727** 2 April: composes letter to Sympson.