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The Life and Times of Henry, Lord Brougham

A child prodigy, Henry Brougham (1778–1868), later Lord Brougham and Vaux, entered in 1792 the University of Edinburgh, where he focused on mathematics and then law, while his amateur scientific studies led him to become a fellow of the Royal Society at the age of twenty-five. Called to both the Scottish and English bars, and moving in radical political circles, he became famous as a defender of free speech, a passionate abolitionist, and co-founder of the *Edinburgh Review*. After many years as an MP, he was given a peerage in 1830 and became Lord Chancellor in Lord Grey's Whig government, where he was instrumental in the passing of the 1832 Reform Act. This three-volume autobiography was published posthumously in 1871, with additional notes. Volume 2 covers the period 1811–28, including the scandal of George IV's marriage, during which Brougham advised Queen Caroline.



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The Life and Times of Henry, Lord Brougham

VOLUME 2

HENRY BROUGHAM





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THE

LIFE AND TIMES

ΟF

HENRY LORD BROUGHAM



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ОF

HENRY LORD BROUGHAM

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF

IN THREE VOLUMES

VOL. II.

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TO THE READER.

The following instructions were given by Lord Brougham to me, as his executor:—

"Before the Autobiography can be published, you must see that it is arranged chronologically.

"If (writing from memory) I have made mistakes in dates, or in proper names, let such be corrected; but the *Narrative* is to be printed, *AS I HAVE WRITTEN IT*.

"I alone am answerable for all its statements, faults, and omissions. I will have no Editor employed to alter, or rewrite what I desire shall be published, as EXCLUSIVELY MY OWN.

"BROUGHAM, November 1867."

In publishing Lord Brougham's Autobiography, the above explicit directions, have been scrupulously obeyed.

BROUGHAM & VAUX.

BROUGHAM, January 1871.



NOTE

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SECOND EDITION OF VOLUME I.

Many inquiries having been made as to the dates at which these Memoirs were written, the following memorandum on the subject is supplied by the present Lord Brougham:—

"On Saturday, 5th October 1861, Lord Brougham, then in his 84th year (for he was 83 on the 19th September 1861), began with me, at Brougham, to look out all the letters and papers relating to the Princess Charlotte, the Princess of Wales, and the Queen's Trial. On Tuesday, 8th October, he began to write upon that subject.

"On Thursday the 17th, the narrative of the Trial, and all that related to his connection with the Princess of Wales and her daughter, was sketched out.

"On the 29th November we went to Cannes, taking with us all letters and papers, which were there copied and arranged with the narrative.



xii NOTE TO SECOND EDITION.

"In September 1862 he began, while at Brougham, the Political part—i.e., Canning and his Government, Lord Grey and his Government, and so on to the end of 1834.

"When we went to Cannes in November 1862, all Lord Grey's letters were taken, and from these he made selections. In the autumn of 1863, when at Brougham, he completed this part, by the addition of his own narrative, and letters—letters which he had before that time received from Lady Grey, Lord Grey's widow, and without which he could have done nothing.

[&]quot;BROUGHAM, March 1871."