# LIFE OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE, EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

#### ISBN 9780649202270

Life of Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of the French by Walter Scott

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### **WALTER SCOTT**

## LIFE OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE, EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH





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## LIFE

OF

## NAPOLEON BONAPARTE,

EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH,

CONTAINING

NUMEROUS ANECDOTES OF HIS COURT AND TIMES.

With Illustrations.

PHILADELPHIA: LINDSAY & BLAKISTON.

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GIFT OF

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#### LINDSAY & BLAKISTON

in the clerk's office of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

EDUCATION DEPT

### PREFACE.

Perhaps the wide compass of ancient and modern history does not present to our view a man more eminent than Napoleon Bonaparte. The world has scarcely yet settled down in quietness, from the convulsive agitations produced by his vast ambition and military enterprises. It is essential, therefore, that every person who has the least pretension to historical information, should make himself acquainted with all the important facts in the life of so prominent a Captain; and as it cannot be expected that the youthful reader can have the means or the disposition to study the voluminous works wherein the subject is elaborately treated, the American publisher hopes that he will render an acceptable service in presenting this general outline, with the view of introducing the subject to the attention of juvenile readers.

Philadelphia, Jan. 1844.

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## HISTORY OF NAPOLEON.

### CHAPTER 1.

BIRTH AND CHILDHOOD OF NAPOLEON.



APOLEON was born at Ajaccio, a town of Corsica, on the 15th of August, 1769. The name had formerly been written Buonaparte, but during his first campaign in Italy, he dropped the "u." In this change he had no

other motives than to assimilate the orthography to the pronunciation, and to abbreviate his signature His father, Charles Marie Buonaparte, had, in the year 1767, quitted the gown for the sword; and under the standard of the celebrated General Paoli (who was godfather to his son Joseph), had fought bravely, though unsuccessfully, for the liberties of his country.

While the struggle continued, Madame Buonaparte, the wife of Carolo, was constantly flying