

**MEMOIRS OF GREAT
COMMANDERS, IN
TWO VOLUMES. VOL. I**

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Memoirs of great commanders, in two volumes. Vol. I by G. P. R. James

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G. P. R. JAMES

**MEMOIRS OF GREAT
COMMANDERS, IN
TWO VOLUMES. VOL. I**

MEMOIRS

OF

GREAT COMMANDERS.

George Payne Rainsford.

BY G. P. R. JAMES, ESQ.

AUTHOR OF BARNLEY, RICHELIEU, HENRY MASTERTON, THE GIPSEY, &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES

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TO

JOHN WILSON, ESQ.

PROFESSOR OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,

THIS BOOK,

AN OFFERING OF PERSONAL REGARD AND A TRIBUTE OF
SINCERE ADMIRATION,

IS INSCRIBED,

BY HIS VERY FAITHFUL AND OBEDIENT SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE greater part of the following pages were written nearly a year and a half ago, since which time various circumstances have intervened to obstruct the author and impede the publication. He trusts, nevertheless, that these occurrences, however annoying to himself, have not had any effect in injuring the work; for, favoured by the public far more than he is conscious of deserving, there is no labour he would not undertake, no effort he would not make, to secure the continuance of its approbation.

As some of the lives are much more brief and general than others, the word "Memoirs" has been used, perhaps erroneously, as having a more confined meaning than "Lives:" but at the same time, the author thinks it necessary to say a few words in regard to the causes which prevented some of these sketches from being as much finished and as minute as others. In one instance the character he was called upon to portray, though necessarily included in the series, possessed so few points on which the writer's mind could rest with pleasure, that notwithstanding his efforts to the contrary, he unconsciously abridged the detail. In another, he found that a far superior pen to his own, was engaged in giving a lengthened and accurate account of the person to whom the memoir he had commenced referred: and nothing remained for him, but to confine himself to the general outline. In regard to a third,

although an infinity of unauthenticated anecdotes and doubtful statements were to be found, for which the writer could discover no clear authority, yet very little precise information was to be obtained.

It is true, that these circumstances must, more or less, affect every volume of biography; but the excuse, he trusts, will not on that account be held the less valid, for not having been in all instances as full and circumstantial as he could have wished.

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