

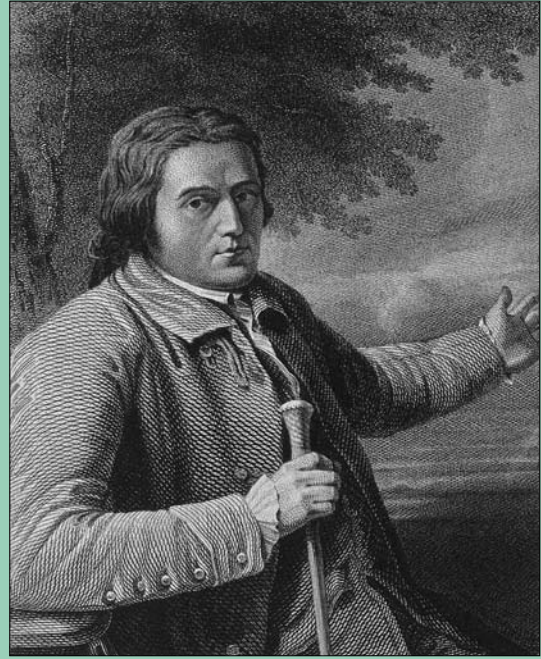
# The Travel Writings of John Moore

General Editor: **Ben P Robertson**, Troy University

4 volume set: c.1600pp: June 2014  
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John Moore (1729–1802) was a Scottish physician who travelled extensively and wrote immensely popular accounts of these travels. He records his encounters with Voltaire, Frederick the Great, Prince Charles Edward Stuart and the Pope, along with other notable figures, and gives a first-hand account of the September Massacres and the downfall of the French monarchy during the Revolution. His work brought him international fame. He became friends with Edmund Burke, Sir Joshua Reynolds and Robert Burns and won the admiration of Lord Byron and Maria Edgeworth. Later, Thomas Carlyle used Moore as a key source for his seminal work, *The French Revolution* (1837).

Despite his contemporary fame, Moore's travel writings have not been republished since 1820. This collection will be the first in almost two centuries to present Moore's works to historians and literary scholars of the eighteenth century. *The Travel Writings of John Moore* will be of value to all scholars of the eighteenth century, especially those interested in travel writings and the French Revolution.



John Moore, line engraving by W H Lizars (1820),  
after G Hamilton  
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- First edition in almost 200 years
- Includes first-hand accounts of visits to Germany, France, Switzerland and Italy
- Texts are published in full
- Editorial apparatus includes a general introduction, volume introductions and endnotes
- A consolidated index appears in the final volume



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## Contents

### Volume 1

Robert Anderson, *A Short Biography of John Moore* (1820)

*A View of Society and Manners in France, Switzerland and Germany* (1779)

The first volume contains the first half of Moore's travels on a five-year Grand Tour with the 8th Duke of Hamilton, starting in 1772. This epistolary narrative – some of it real, some of it contrived – relates Moore's often humorous observations about the people and cultures he encountered along the way. As the travelogue unfolds, Moore describes specific details of conversations with French, Swiss and German men and women who held a diversity of roles in both the aristocracy and the peasantry. As companion and personal physician to the Duke of Hamilton, Moore was introduced into some of the most prestigious Continental royal society of the time, including the court of Frederick the Great. Also included in this volume is Robert Anderson's 1820 biography of Moore.

### Volume 2

*A View of Society and Manners in Italy* (1781)

Volume 2 continues Moore's account of his travels with the Duke of Hamilton, focusing on their adventures in Italy. Throughout the narrative, Moore continues his descriptions of the customs and people he encounters, adding his own witty reflections from the viewpoint of a foreigner. Unimpressed by Catholicism, he presents wry descriptions of priests and religious relics through the countryside. In Naples, he narrates 'the famous Neapolitan miracle' of the liquefaction of dried blood said to have been collected from St. Januarius at the saint's beheading. Moore reports that when the miracle does not manifest, the presiding prelates deceive the crowd in the interests of preserving harmony in the community – not to mention their own reputations. Also included is Moore's description of the government of the Venetian Republic and his own experiences at the Vatican during the investiture of Pope Pius VI, with whom he and the duke later had a personal audience.

### Volume 3

*A Journal During a Residence in France, from the Beginning of August to the Middle of December, 1792* (1793)

One of the most compelling of Moore's narratives, *A Journal* relates his experiences in revolutionary France in 1792 as the travelling companion of the Earl of Lauderdale. Moore concentrates especially on the embattled French monarchy, describing the reaction of 'le peuple souverain' [the sovereign people] to the aristocracy. Not surprisingly, the witty playfulness of the earlier volumes is largely absent from this narrative. Moore was witness to the aftermath of the 10th of August attack on the Tuileries Palace that marked the end of the Bourbon monarchy. He describes turning away from the grisly scene in disgust at the violence inflicted on the Swiss Guards, and he also narrates his visits to meetings of the National Assembly and the National Convention, during some of which the French royal family were present. Moore even attended several gatherings of the famous Jacobin Club, where he heard inflammatory speeches by Jean-Paul Marat and Maximilien Robespierre. Largely sympathetic to the monarchy, Moore takes great pains to describe the groupthink that characterized the insurgents and prompted much of the violence.

### Volume 4

*A View of the Causes and Progress of the French Revolution* (1795)

The final volume contains Moore's thoughts about the genesis of the French Revolution, which he describes as 'one of the most awful events of which history affords any record'. Essentially a work of cautionary historical analysis, this volume presents Moore's assessment of the revolution primarily as a product of the abuse of power in the French government and of the misappropriation of public funds. Moore laments that the revolution, intended to overturn tyranny and despotism, became abusive in its own turn, so that liberty became the watchword of the new oppressors. Ever the constitutional royalist in sentiment, Moore denounces the cruelty and lawlessness of the revolutionaries and calls for all sovereigns to take heed lest they fall into the same errors as had the French royalty. For Moore, the alternative is tantamount to anarchy in which liberty truly exists for no one.

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