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**James Macpherson** (1736-1796)

(Scottish teacher, antiquarian, and man of letters; Farmer's son, b. Ruthven, near Inverness; st. King's College Aberdeen, U of Edinburgh with no degree; private tutor and antiquarian, collected poetry in northern Scotland; "translator" and forger of Ossian poems; lionized forger, trip to Florida in the 60s; propagandist for Lord North during the American Revolution; pensioned by the Government, London agent to the Nabob of Arcot; unmarried, 5 illegitimate children, MP 1780-96, retired to Badenoch)

**Works**

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\_\_\_\_\_. *Original Papers containing the Secret History of Great Britain from the Restoration ot the Accession of the House of Hanover; to which are prefixed Extracts from the life of James II, as written by himself.* Pseudo-historical work, 1775.

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Johnson, Samuel. *A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland.* Travel book. 1775. Ed. Mary Lascelles. New Haven: Yale UP, 1971. (Johnson's denunciations of Macpherson's fraud).

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