

# LIFE OF SARAH AUSTIN

## (1793-1867)



- Sarah Austin was a renowned 19th-century British translator and writer.
- She was proficient in German, French.
- Translated notable works from German and French. She advocated for education reforms in England, shaping the intellectual landscape of her era.



### Early life and Education

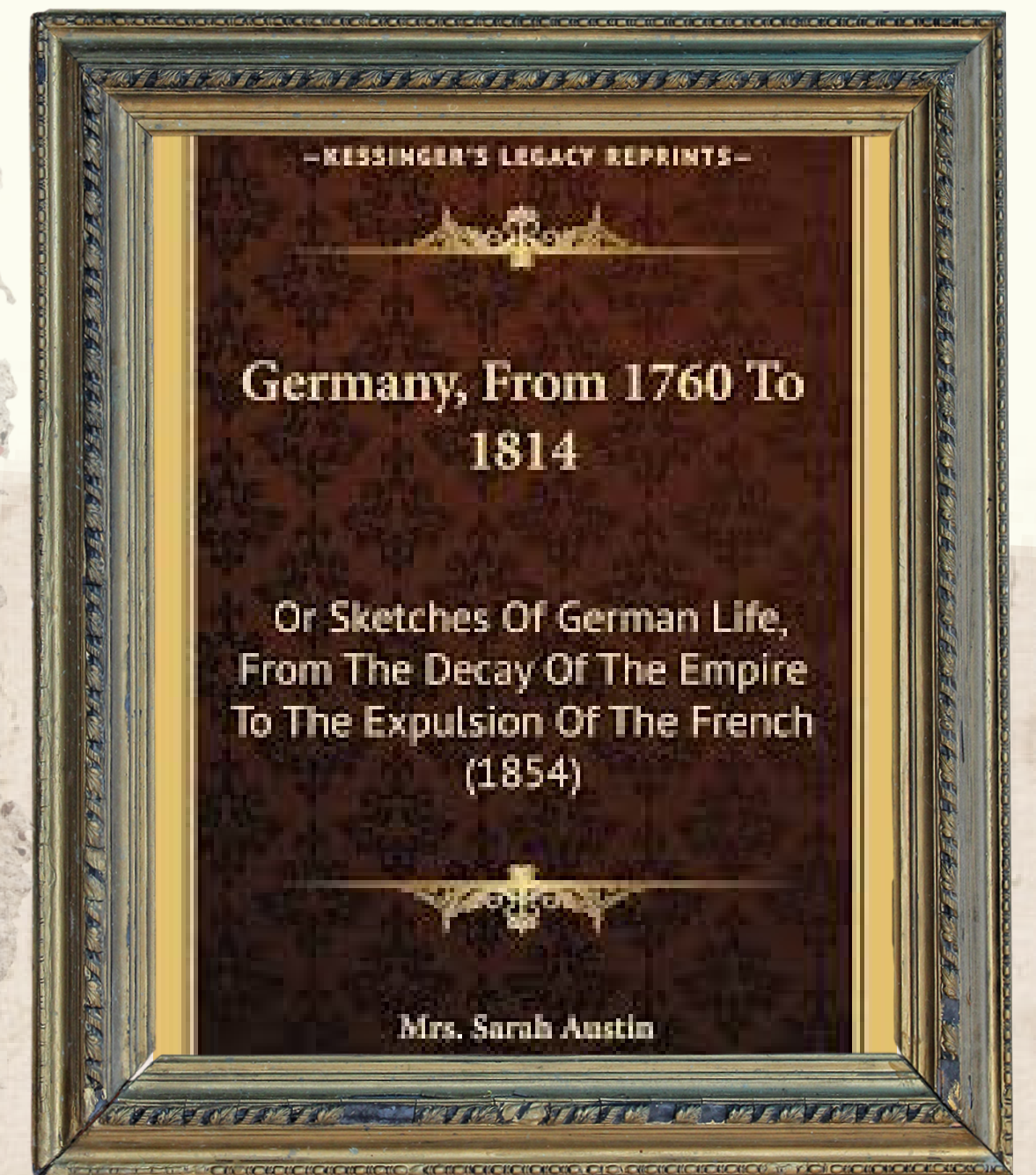
- Sarah Taylor Austin was born on April 1, 1793, in Norwich, England, into a Unitarian family with a strong emphasis on education.
- Influenced by her parents' passion for learning, she received her education at home and became proficient in languages like Latin, German, French, and Italian.
- These early years laid the foundation for her later achievements as a translator.
- Marries John Austin, a legal scholar, in 1819, marking a turning point in her life.

### Later Years of Life

- Sarah Austin entered a new chapter in 1819 with her marriage to legal scholar John Austin. This union became a pivotal turning point, propelling John's appointment as a law professor in 1827 which also initiated Sarah's journey into writing and translation.
- Subsequently, Sarah and John relocated to Malta in 1836 due to John's work, then returned back to England in 1838. Unsatisfied and driven to advance her career, Sarah continued her journey, making significant moves to Dresden (1841-43) and Paris (1843-48). In 1848, the Austin family returned to England, reflecting a dynamic and ambitious pursuit of literary endeavors.
- After John Austin's death in 1859, she edited and published his legal works to secure his legacy as a legal philosopher.
- She passionately advocated for a national education system, addressing crucial topics such as girls' schools. This period of her life reflects a dynamic blend of personal experiences, literary contributions, and advocacy, showcasing Sarah's enduring commitment to intellectual and societal advancement.

### Selected Translations

1. *Tour in England, Ireland, and France, in the Years 1828 and 1829* (1832)
2. *Characteristics of Goethe* (1833)
3. *England in 1834* by Friedrich von Raumer (1836)
4. *The Ecclesiastical and Political History of the Popes of Rome* by Leopold von Ranke (1840)
5. *Fragments from German Prose Writers* (1841)
6. Friedrich Wilhelm Carové's *The Story without an End* (1833)



### Notable Literary Works

- Edits and publishes John Austin's writings after his death, promoting his intellectual legacy.
- Engages in education discourse, advocating for societal advancements.
- Residing abroad, enriches her work *Germany from 1760 to 1814*.
- Sets high standards for translators, emphasizing open communication with authors.

#### Excerpt from Translation Work:

#### From poem called "Elegien" written in German

Manche Töne sind mir Verdruss, doch bleibt am meisten  
 Hundegbell mir verhasst; kläffend zerreisst es mein Ohr.  
 Einen Hund nur hör' ich sehr oft mit frohem Behagen  
 Bellend kläffen, den Hund, den sich der Nachbar erzog.

#### Sarah Austin's Translation:

Many sounds are an annoyance to me, but above all  
 is the barking of dogs hateful-yelping it splits my ear.  
 One dog alone do I hear very often with joyful delight,  
 yelp barking ; the dog which my neighbour has reared.

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