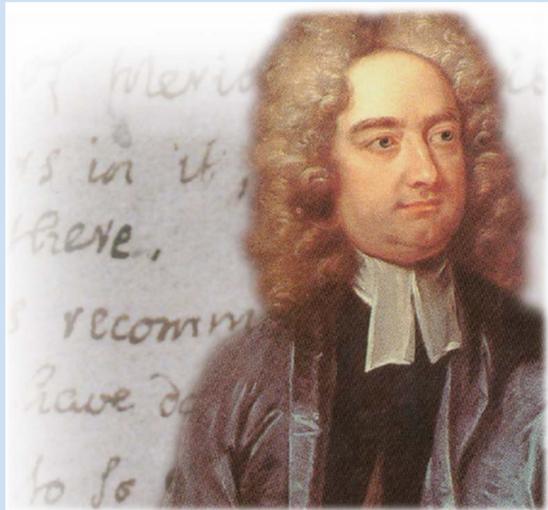


Open-Access Critical Online Edition of the Prose Works of Jonathan Swift



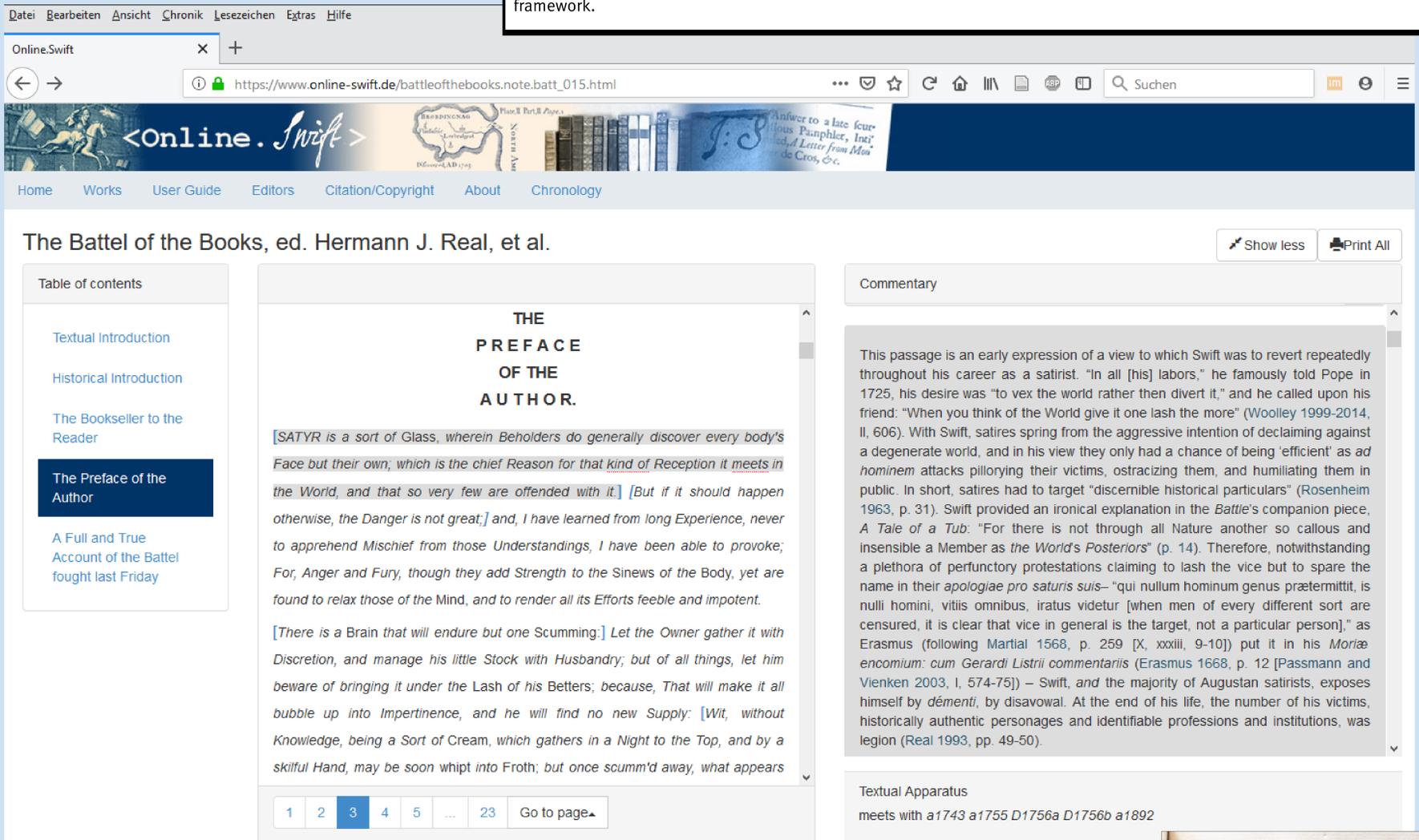
Jonath: Swift Decan

Online.Swift is the Ehrenpreis Centre's most recent and most ambitious project, made possible through the financial support of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Council) since 2008. Its objective is an open-access, old-spelling critical online edition of the Prose Works of Jonathan Swift, with introductions and variorum commentaries. For such an undertaking, the Ehrenpreis Centre is ideally equipped: its comprehensive collection of Swift criticism and its almost complete replica of Swift's library and reading in identical imprints provide perfect working conditions.

The edition is based on the textual and historical researches of the late Dr David Woolley (London, later Perth, Western Australia) and the late Professor Angus Ross (University of Sussex, Brighton), who in the 1980s were commissioned to prepare a new two-volume edition of Jonathan Swift's prose. This edition was to present, for the first time in the history of Swift scholarship, a text established according to the bibliographical and textual principles of the New Anglo-American Bibliography but was never finished.

The Editors of Online.Swift offer textual and historical introductions to, textual apparatus of, and extensive commentaries on, Swift's prose works. The commentaries summarize the history of Swift criticism since 1745, and explicate and annotate the texts, in many cases for the first time, on the basis of Swift's library and (demonstrable) reading. All commentaries are intended to be in progress; they will be continually updated and adapted to the latest state of research.

In order to make Swift's texts, the introductions to his texts as well as the commentaries accessible to a broad, international readership, the Editors have decided on an open-access online edition. In a first step, all results (texts, introductions, and commentaries) are encoded in XML according to the guidelines of the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI P5), a sustainable format, which meets the demands of digital preservation. A single file contains all data for every work, including bibliographical information. The Oxygen XML Editor is used for the encoding process. The XML files are transformed via XSLT into HTML and embedded in a Javascript framework.



The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu (Home, Works, User Guide, Editors, Citation/Copyright, About, Chronology) and the main content area for 'The Battel of the Books, ed. Hermann J. Real, et al.'. It includes a table of contents with 'The Preface of the Author' selected, a central text area for the preface, and a commentary section on the right.



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