

of the booksellers above mentioned. He now lives near the Seven Dials and is in another way of business.'

The 'Osborne' who wrote *The True Briton* (1751-3) was certainly—as is clear from reciprocal puffs in the two journals—the George Osborn who wrote an earlier Jacobite paper, *The Mitre and Crown*, 1748-51.² The ranting style of the *Remarks* is very similar to that of these two papers. But Osborn is even more obscure than Cartwright; nothing has been learned about him beyond a few facts gleaned from his own writings. On the title-page of *The Mitre and Crown* he describes himself as 'a gentleman late of the Temple'; and in the last issue, for Feb. 1751 (iii. 190-1), he writes, '. . . As to *Primitive Christianity*, I hope to digest my thoughts on that head into a short and clear treatise in a very little time.' This treatise, if ever published, has not been traced. In *The True Briton* for 1751 (i. 15) Osborn complains of the public's indifference to the poems he wrote on two Lord Mayors, John Blachford and Francis Cokayne (who held office successively in 1750 and 1751),³ which were printed by J. Fuller and sold for a penny. These also have not been traced. There was a George Osborne, son of Thomas Osborne of St Anne's, London, who was at Eton 1717-22 and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 1723-6.⁴

2. See Samuel Halkett and John Laing, *Dictionary of Anonymous and Pseudonymous English Literature*, 1926-34, iv. 96.

3. A. B. Beaven, *Aldermen of London*, 1908-13, ii. 129.

4. *Eton Coll. Reg.*; Foster, *Alumni Oxon.*; Thomas Fowler, *The History of Corpus Christi College*, Oxford, 1893, p.

430.