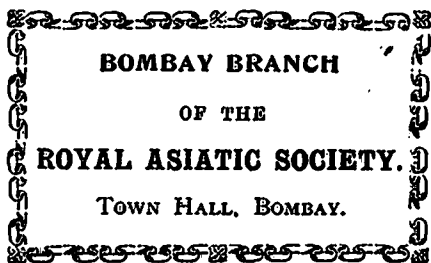


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# HEROIC IDYLS,

WITH ADDITIONAL POEMS.

52586  
*ac*

BY

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

London:

T. CAUTLEY NEWBY, PUBLISHER,  
30, WELBECK STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE.  
1863.

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**00052586**

TO EDWARD TWISLETON.

---

Dedications are often superfluous, and sometimes worse. Forgive my first fault of the kind. Vanity is almost as common to the old as to the young, and I feel it creeping on me when I remember your expression of regret that you had not known me earlier in life than last spring. All my old friends are dead, let their place continue to be supplied by Edward Twisleton.

*Florence, August 25th, 1863.*





## P R E F A C E .

---

He who is within two paces of the ninetieth year may sit down and make no excuses; he must be unpopular, he never tried to be much otherwise, he never contended with a contemporary, but walked alone on the far eastern uplands, meditating and remembering.

To the Idyls a few slight matters have been appended, as tassels are to a purse. The Greek proper names have Greek terminations, not Latin, or French, or English.



CORRECT.

Page	29	For Hippomenes, read <i>Hippomanes</i> .
"	47	Last v. ? after <i>smile</i> .
"	58	v. 9 Demeter <i>since</i> have blest.
"	62	v. 10 For Mothras, read <i>Mithras</i> .
"	65	For v. 7, substitute "Somewhat, if indirect, yet applicable."
"	66	v. 1 For and, read <i>who</i> .
"	66	v. After v. 7, <i>Aurellus</i> speaks.
"	68	v. 2 For those, read <i>have</i> .
"	68	Last v. Omit "Lucian!"
"	72	v. 11 For the, read <i>thee</i> .
"	103	v. 2 For dregs, read <i>dugs</i> .
"	115	v. 9 For freezing, read <i>fiery</i> .
"	119	v. 8 For the, read <i>their</i> .
"	129	v. 1 For Ceti, read <i>Ceti</i> .
"	131	Last v. For Looky, read <i>Zooks!</i>
"	134	Last v. For sweetest, read <i>sweeter</i> .
"	136	v. 4 For price, read <i>pulp</i> .
"	145	v. 7 For dragon, read <i>dragoon</i> .
"	146	v. 11 For place, read <i>pate</i> .
"	156	v. 4 ! after <i>peace</i> .
"	157	v. 5 For fled, read <i>fill'd</i> .
"	184	v. 18 For To, read <i>Two</i> .
"	187	v. 7 For and, read <i>tho'</i> .
"	187	v. 15 For own, read <i>join</i> .
"	192	v. 6 For those, read <i>he</i> .
"	208	v. 16 For Tibulling, read <i>Tibullus</i> .
"	210	v. 5 For valets, read <i>Variets</i> .
"	217	v. 11 For Looks, read <i>Zooks</i> .
"	236	v. 10 For Salmon, read <i>Salmi</i> ,
"	261	v. 5 For who, read <i>one</i> .
"	273	v. 8 <i>Comma</i> , after <i>love</i> .



HOMER, LAERTES, AGATHA.

---

HOMER.

Is this Laertes who embraces me  
Ere a word spoken? his the hand I grasp?

LAERTES.

Zeus help thee, and restore to thee thy sight,  
My guest of old! I am of years as many,  
And of calamities, as thou thyself,  
I, wretched man! who have outlived my son  
Odysseus, him thou knewest in this house,  
A stripling fond of quoits and archery,

Thence to be call'd for counsel mid the chiefs  
Who storm'd that city past the farther sea,  
Built by two Gods, by more than two defended.

HOMER.

Hither I came to visit thee, and sing  
His wanderings and his wisdom, tho' my voice  
Be not the voice it was ; yet thoughts come up,  
And words to thoughts, which others may recite  
When I am mute, and deaf as is my grave,  
If any grave in any land be mine.

LAERTES.

Men will contend for it in after times,  
And cities claim it as the ground whereon  
A temple stood, and worshippers yet stand.  
Long hast thou travell'd since we met, and far.

HOMER.

I have seen many cities, and the best  
And wisest of the men who dwelt therein,  
The children and *their* children now adult,

Nor childless they. Some have I chided, some  
Would soothe, who, mounted on the higher sod,  
Wept as the pebbles tinkled, dropping o'er  
A form outstretcht below; they would not hear  
Story of mine, which told them there were fields  
Fresher, and brighter skies, but slapping me,  
Cried worse, and ran away.

LAERTES.

Here sits aside thee  
A child grey-headed who will hear thee out.  
Here shalt thou arm my son again, in mail  
No enemy, no time, can strip from him,  
But first I counsel thee to try the strength  
Of my old prisoner in the cave below:  
The wine will sparkle at the sight of thee,  
If there be any virtue left in it.  
Bread there is, fitter for young teeth than ours,  
But wine can soften its obduracy.  
At hand is honey in the honeycomb,  
And melon, and those blushing pouting buds  
That fain would hide them under crisped leaves.  
Soon the blue dove and particolor'd hen  
Shall quit the stable-rafter, caught at roost,

And goat shall miss her suckling in the morn ;  
Supper will want them ere the day decline.

HOMER.

So be it : I sing best when hearty cheer  
Refreshes me, and hearty friend beside.

LAERTES.

Voyagers, who have heard thee, carried home  
Strange stories ; whether all be thy device  
I know not : surely thou hadst been afraid  
Some God or Goddess would have twitcht thine ear.

HOMER.

They often came about me while I slept,  
And brought me dreams, and never lookt morose.  
They loved thy son and for his sake loved me.

LAERTES.

Apollo, I well know, was much thy friend.

HOMER.

He never harried me as Marsyas  
Was harried by him ; lest he should, I sang  
His praise in my best hymn : the Gods love praise.



LAERTES.

I should have thought the Gods would more  
approve  
Good works than glossy words, for well they know  
All we can tell them of themselves or us.  
Have they enriched thee? for I see thy cloak  
Is ragged.

HOMER.

Ragged cloak is songster's garb.

LAERTES.

I have two better; one of them for thee.  
Penelope, who died five years ago,  
Spun it, her husband wore it only once,  
And 'twas upon the anniversary  
Of their espousal.

HOMER.

Wear it I will not,  
But I will hang it on the brightest nail

Of the first temple where Apollo sits,  
Golden hair'd, in his glory.

LAERTES.

So thou shalt  
If so it please thee : yet we first will quaff  
The gifts of Bakkos, for methinks his gifts  
Are quite as welcome to the sons of song  
And cheer them oftener.

[AGATHA *enters with a cup of wine.*]

Maiden! come thou nigh,  
And seat thee there, and thou shalt hear him sing,  
After a while, what Gods might listen to :  
But place that cup upon the board, and wait  
Until the stranger hath assuaged his thirst,  
For songmen, grasshoppers, and nightingales  
Sing cheerily but when the throat is moist.

HOMER.

I sang to maidens in my prime ; again,  
But not before the morrow, will I sing ;

Let me repose this noontide, since in sooth  
Wine, a sweet solacer of weariness,  
Helps to unload the burden.

LAERTES.

Lie then down  
Along yon mat bestrown with rosemary,  
Basil, and mint, and thyme.  
She knows them all  
And has her names for them, some strange  
enough.

Sound and refreshing then be thy repose !  
Well may weak mortal seek the balm of sleep  
When even the Gods require it, when the stars  
Droop in their courses, and the Sun himself  
Sinks on the swelling bosom of the sea.

Take heed there be no knot on any sprig ;  
After, bring store of rushes and long leaves  
Of cane sweet-smelling from the inland bank  
Of yon wide-wandering river over-sea  
Famed for its swans ; then open and take out  
From the black chest the linen, never used  
These many years, which thou (or one before)  
Spreadst for the Sun to bleach it ; and be sure,

Be sure, thou smoothen with both hands his couch  
Who has the power to make both young and old  
Live throughout ages.

AGATHA.

And look well through all ?

LAERTES.

Aye, and look better than they lookt before.

AGATHA.

I wish he could make me so, and without  
My going for it anywhere below.  
I am content to stay in Ithaca,  
Where the dogs know me, and the ferryman  
Asks nothing from me, and the rills are full  
After the rain, and flowers grow everywhere,  
And bees grudge not their honey, and the grape  
Grows within reach, and figs, blue, yellow, green,  
Without my climbing ; boys, too come at call ;  
And, if they hide the ripest, I know where  
To find it, twist and struggle as they may ;

Impudent boys ! to make me bring it out,  
Saying I shall not have it if I don't !

LAERTES.

How the child babbles ! pardon her ! behold  
Her strength and stature have outgrown her wits !  
In fourteen years thou thyself wast not wise.

HOMER.

My heart is freshen'd by a fount so pure  
At its springhead ; let it run on in light.  
Most girls are wing'd with wishes, and can ill  
Keep on their feet against the early gale  
That blows impetuous on unguarded breast ;  
But this young maiden, I can prophecy,  
Will be thy staff when other staff hath fail'd.

AGATHA.

May the Gods grant it ! but not grant it yet !  
Blessings upon thy head !

HOMER.

May they bestow  
Their choicest upon thine ! may they preserve  
Thy comeliness of virtue many years  
For him whose hand thy master joins to thine !

AGATHA.

O might I smoothen that mild wrinkled brow  
With but one kiss !

LAERTES.

Take it. Now leave us, child,  
And bid our good Metamos to prepare  
That brazen bath wherein my rampant boy  
Each morning lay full-length; struggling at first,  
Then laughing as he splasht the water up  
Against his mother's face bent over him.  
Is this the Odysseus first at quoit and bar?  
Is this the Odysseus call'd to counsel kings,  
He whose name sounds beyond our narrow sea?

AGATHA.

O how I always love to hear that name!

LAERTES.

But linger not; pursue the task at hand:  
Bethink thee 'tis for one who has the power  
To give thee many days beyond old-age.

AGATHA.

O! tell him not to do it if he can:  
He cannot make youth stay: the swallows  
    come  
And go, youth goes, but never comes again.

LAERTES.

He can make heroes greater than they were.

AGATHA.

By making them lay by the wicked sword?  
How I shall love him when he has done that!

LAERTES.

No, but he gives them strength by magic song.

AGATHA.

The strength of constancy to love but one?  
As did Odysseus while he lived on earth,  
And when he waited for her in the shades.

LAERTES.

The little jay! go, chatterer.

AGATHA *to Homer.*

Do not think,  
O stranger, he is wroth; he never is  
With Agatha, albeit he stamps and frowns  
And shakes three fingers at her, and forbears  
To do the like to any one beside.  
Hark! the brass sounds, the bath is now pre-  
pared.



LAERTES.

More than the water shall her hand assuage  
Thy weary feet, and lead thee back, now late.

---

HOMER. LAERTES. AGATHA.

---

*In the Morning.*

HOMER.

Whose is the soft and pulpy hand that lies  
Athwart the ridges of my craggy one  
Out of the bed? can it be Agatha's?

AGATHA.

I come to bring thee, while yet warm and frothy,  
A draught of milk. Rise now, rise just half-up,  
And drink it. Hark! the birds, two at a time,  
Are singing in the terebinth. Our king  
Hath taken down his staff and gone afield  
To see the men begin their daily work.

HOMER.

Go thou to thine : I will arise. How sweet  
Was that goat's milk !

AGATHA.

We have cleven below,  
All milchers. Wouldst thou now the tepid bath ?

HOMER.

Rather when thou hast laid on the left-hand  
My sandals within reach ; bring colder lymph  
To freshen more the frame-work of mine eyes,  
For eyes there are, altho their orbs be dark.

AGATHA.

'Tis here ; let me apply it.

HOMER.

Bravely done !  
Why standest thou so still and taciturn ?

## AGATHA.

The king my master hath forbidden me  
Ever to ask a question : if I might,  
And were not disobedience such a sin,  
I would ask *thee*, so gentle and so wise,  
Whether the story of that bad Calypso  
Can be all true, for it would grieve me sorely  
To think thou wouldst repeat it were it false,  
And some ill-natured God (such Gods there are)  
Would punish thee, already too afflicted.

## HOMER.

My child ! the Muses sang the tale I told,  
And they know more about that wanton Nymph  
Than they have uttered into mortal ear.  
I do rejoice to find thee fond of truth.

## AGATHA.

I was not always truthful. I have smarted  
For falsehood, under Queen Penelope,  
When I was little. I should hate to hear  
More of that wicked creature who detain'd

Her lord from her, and tried to win his love.  
I know 'twas very wrong in me to listen.

HOMER.

A pardonable fault : we wish for listeners  
Whether we speak or sing, the young and old  
Alike are weak in this, unwise and wise,  
Cheerful and sorrowful.

AGATHA.

O! look up yonder!  
Why dost thou smile? everything makes thee  
smile  
At silly Agatha, but why just now?

HOMER.

What was the sight?

AGATHA.

O inconsiderate!  
O worse than inconsiderate! cruel! cruel!

HOMER.

Tell me, what was it? I can see thro' speech.

AGATHA.

A tawny bird above ; he prowls for hours,  
Sailing on wilful wings that never flag  
Until they drop headlong to seize the prey.  
The hinds shout after him and make him soar  
Eastward : our little birds are safe from kites  
And idler boys.

'Tis said (can it be true?)

In other parts men catch the nightingale  
To make it food.

HOMER.

Nay, men eat men.

AGATHA.

Ye Gods !

But men hurt one another, nightingales  
Console the weary with unwearied song,

Until soft slumber on the couch descends.  
The king my master and Penelope  
Forbade the slaughter or captivity  
Of the poor innocents who trusted them,  
Nor robbed them even of the tiniest grain.

## HOMER.

Generous and tender is thy master's heart,  
Warm as the summer, open as the sky.

## AGATHA.

How true! how I do love thee for these words!  
Stranger, didst thou not hear him wail aloud,  
Groan after groan, broken, but ill suppressed,  
When thou recitedst in that plaintive tone  
How Anticleia met her son again  
Amid the shades below?

Thou shouldst have stopt  
Before that tale was told by thee; that one  
At least was true, if none were true before,  
In vain, O how in vain, I smote my breast

To keep more quiet what would beat within !  
 Never were words so sweet, so sad, as those.  
 I sobb'd apart, I could not check my tears :•  
 Laertes too, tho' stronger, could not his,  
 They glistened in their channels and would run,  
 Nor could he stop them with both hands; he  
     heard  
 My sobs, and call'd me little fool for them;  
 Then did he catch and hold me to his bosom,  
 And bid me never do the like again.

## HOMER.

The rains in their due season will descend,  
 And so will tears; they sink into the heart  
 To soften, not to hurt it. The best men  
 Have most to weep for, whether foren lands  
 Receive them (or stil worse!) a home estranged.

## AGATHA.

Listen. I hear the merry yelp of dogs,  
 And now the ferrel'd staff drops in the hall,  
 And now the master's short and hurried step  
 Advances : here he is : turn round, turn round.



LAERTES.

Hast thou slept well, Miconides ?

HOMER.

I slept  
Three hours ere sunrise, 'tis my wont, at night  
I lie awake for nearly twice as long.

LAERTES.

Ay ; singing birds wake early, shake their plumes,  
And carol ere they feed. Sound was thy sleep ?

HOMER.

I felt again, but felt it undisturb'd,  
The pelting of the little curly waves,  
The slow and heavy stretch of rising billows,  
And the rapidity of their descent.

LAERTES.

Marvellous things are dreams ! methinks we live

An age in one of them, we traverse lands  
A lifetime could not reach, bring from the grave  
Inhabitants who never met before,  
And vow we will not leave an absent friend  
We long have left, and who leaves *us* ere morn.  
Apollo, who deprived thee of thy light  
When youth was fresh and nature bloom'd around,  
Bestowed on thee gifts never dim with age,  
And rarely granted to impatient youth.  
The crown thou wearest reddens not the brow  
Of him who wears it worthily ; but some  
Are snatcht by violence, some purloin'd by fraud,  
Some dripping blood, not by the Gods unseen.  
To thee, O wise Mœonides, to thee  
Worthless is all that glitters and attracts  
The buzzing insects of a summer hour.  
The Gods have given thee what themselves enjoy,  
And they alone, glory through endless days.  
The Lydian king Sarpedon never swayed  
Such sceptre, nor did Glaucos his compeer,  
Nor Priam. Priam was about my age,  
He had more sorrows than I ever had ;  
I lost one son, some fifty Priam lost ;  
This is a comfort, I may rub my palms  
Thinking of this, and bless the Powers above.

## HOMER,

One wicked son brought down their vengeance on  
him,  
And his wide realms invited numerous foes.

## LAERTES.

Alas ! alas ! are there not cares enow  
In ruling nearly those five thousand heads,  
Men, women, children ; arbitrating right  
And wrong, and hearing maids and mothers  
wail ;  
For' flax blown off the cliff when almost bleacht,  
And curlew tamed in vain and fled away,  
Albeit one wing was shortened ; then approach  
To royal ear the whisper that the bird  
Might peradventure have alighted nigh,  
And hist upon the charcoal, skinn'd and split.  
Bounteous as are the Gods, where is the wealth  
To stop these lamentations with a gift  
Adcquate to such losses ? words are light,  
And words come opposite, with heavy groans.

HOMER.

The pastor of the people may keep watch,  
Yet cares as wakeful creep into the fold.

LAERTES.

Beside these city griefs, what mortal knows  
The anxieties about my scattered sheep?  
Some bleating for lost offspring, some for food,  
Scanty in winter, scantier in the drought  
Of Sirius; then again the shrubs in spring;  
Cropt close, ere barely budded, by the goats.  
Methinks these animals are over-nice  
About their food, else might they pick sea-weeds,  
But these foresooth they trample on, nor deign  
To taste even samphire, which their betters cull.  
There also are some less solitudes  
About those rocks, when plunderers from abroad  
Would pilfer eggs and nestlings; my own folk  
Are abstinent, without their king's decree.

HOMER.

To help thee in such troubles, and in worse,  
Where is thy brave Telemakos?

## LAERTES.

That youth

Is gone to rule Dulikeon, where the soil  
Tho' fitter than our Ithaca for tilth,  
Bears only turbulence and idleness.  
He with his gentle voice and his strong arm,  
Will bring into due train the restive race.

## HOMER.

Few will contend with gentleness and youth,  
Even of those who strive against the Laws,  
But some subvert them who could best defend,  
And in whose hands the Gods have placed the sword.  
On the mainland there are, unless report  
Belie them, princes who, possessing realms  
Wider than sight from mountain-head can reach,  
Would yet invade a neighbour's stony croft,  
Pretending danger to their citadels  
From fishermen ashore, and shepherd boys  
Who work for daily and but scanty bread,  
And wax the reeds to pipe at festivals,  
Where the dogs snarl at them above the bones.

LAERTES.

What! would the cloth'd in purple, as are some,  
Rip off the selvage from a ragged coat?  
Accursed be the wretch, and whosoe'er  
Upholds him, or connives at his misdeeds.  
Away with thoughts that sadden even this hour!

HOMER.

I would indeed away with 'em, but wrath  
Rings on the lyre and swells above the song.  
It shall be heard by those who stand on high,  
But shall not rouse the lowlier, long opprest,  
Who might be madden'd at his broken sleep,  
And wrenching out the timbers of his gate  
Batter the prince's down.

LAERTES.

Ye Gods forbid!  
Thou makest the skin creep upon my flesh,  
Albeit the danger lies from me afar.  
Now surely this is but a songman's tale,  
Yet songman never here discourst like thee,

Or whispered in low voice what thou hast sung,  
Striking the lyre so that the strings all trembled.  
Are people anywhere grown thus unruly?

HOMER.

More are they who would rule than would be ruled,  
Yet one must govern, else all run astray.  
The strongest are the calm and equitable,  
And kings at best are men, nor always that.

LAERTES.

I have known many who have call'd me friend,  
Yet would not warn me tho' they saw ten skiffs  
Grating the strand with three score thieves in  
each.

Curse on that chief across the narrow sea,  
Who drives whole herds and flocks innumerable,  
And whose huge presses groan with oil and wine  
Year after year, yet fain would carry off  
The crying kid, and strangle it for crying.

Now art thou not, from such long talk, athirst?  
Split this pomegranate then, and stoop the jar.  
Hold! I can stoop it: take this cup. 'tis fill'd.

## HOMER.

Zeus! God of hospitality! vouchsafe  
To hear my prayer, as thou hast often done,  
That, when thy lightnings spring athwart the sea,  
And when thy thunders shake from brow to base  
The Acrokerauneans, thy right hand protect  
This Ithaca, this people, and this king !.\*

\* It has been doubted and denied that Homer and Laertes were contemporary.



## HIPPOMENES AND ATALANTA.

---

Hippomenes and Atalanta strove  
To win a race : he lov'd her : but she shunn'd  
All lovers, and her royal sire had sworn  
That none should marry her unless the one  
Swifter of foot, believing none could match  
His girl in fleetness, and decreed that all  
Should surely die who fail'd in such attempt.  
Courageously came forth Hippomenes.  
She once beheld him, and she pitied him,  
For she had made a vow to Artemis  
That she would never violate a word  
Her father had exacted.

Now the hour  
Had come to prove her faith ; the venturous youth  
Stood now before her. Down she cast her eyes,

And cried in broken words, "Rash youth! depart,  
The Fates (thou seest them not) are close behind;  
Seven brave youths, hardly less brave than thou,  
Have fallen for contending in the race  
With wretched Atalanta. . . Go."

## HIPPOMENES.

To live  
For Atalanta is the first of glory,  
To die for her the next: this they enjoyed  
In death, the better they bequeathe to me.

## ATALANTA.

Pity I gave them, do not ask for more,  
Nor for such cause; let me not weep again,  
Let that be the last time.

## HIPPOMENES.

So may it be!  
So shall it; for the Gods have given me strength  
And confidence: one name for victory.  
Certain I am to win.

## ATALANTA.

No, thou rash boy!  
If thou must try such hazard..if thou must. . .  
Must? what impels thee? madness! There is  
time  
Yet to turn back; I do implore thee . . go.  
Artemis sees me.

## HIPPOMENES.

Aphrodite sees  
*Me*, and smiles on me, and instructs me how . .

## ATALANTA.

Cease, cease, this instant: I abhor the name;  
My Goddess hates her, should not I? I do.

## HIPPOMENES.

I love all Goddesses, the kindest most,  
And I beseech her now to make me grateful.

ATALANTA.

All I can hope for is thy swift escape ;  
Be prompt: I see white sails below the cliff ;  
My father soon shall know 'twas my command,  
He wills obedience, he shall value thine,  
And send thee gifts.

HIPPOMENES.

I want but one, which one  
The king shall give me.

ATALANTA.

What is that ?

HIPPOMENES.

This hand.

ATALANTA.

And snatchest thou my hand ? audacious crea-  
ture !

No man hath dared to touch it until now,  
Nor I converst with any half so long.

HIPPOMENES.

Not half so long have any loved as I.

ATALANTA.

Insane! it was but yesterday we met.

HIPPOMENES.

In yesterday, its day and night, lay years.

ATALANTA.

I never was dissembler. I will pass  
Unyoked thro' life.

HIPPOMENES.

O Atalanta! love  
No yoke imposes, he removes the heaviest  
The Destinies would throw around the neck

Of youth, who wearies in the dismal way  
Of lonely life.

ATALANTA.

I do not comprehend  
Those flighty words, they sound like idle song.

HIPPOMENES.

Scoff not, add not another to the seven,  
Without a race for it; my breath is failing.

ATALANTA.

O perfidy! to make me weep again!  
Others too may have loved.

HIPPOMENES.

But not like me;  
Else would the Gods have rais'd them to them-  
selves,  
Ay, and above themselves, in happiness,  
Crowning the best of them with amaranth.

ATALANTA.

Zeus holds the scales of weal and woe.

HIPPOMENES.

Zeus holds them,  
But little Eros with light finger stoops  
The balance-bowl : Zeus shakes his head and  
smiles.

ATALANTA.

What wouldst thou ?

HIPPOMENES.

Thee ; thee only ; no rich ile,  
No far dominion over land and sea.

ATALANTA.

Easier to win than what thou seekest here.  
Remember last year's fruit ; it lies beneath  
The seven hillocks of yon turf, ill-squared

And disunited yet, on the left hand.  
Shame! thus to weaken me in my resolve,  
And break my father's heart! no, thou shalt not.

## HIPPOMENES.

I blame not tears for those who bravely fell.

## ATALANTA.

I never did shed tears, and never will.  
Come, let us lose no time, if strive we must.  
The sword is level here and sound and soft;  
Throw off thy sandals, I will throw off mine.  
Start.

They both started; he, by one stride, first,  
For she half pitied him so beautiful,  
Running to meet his death, yet was resolved  
To conquer: soon she near'd him, and he felt  
The rapid and repeated gush of breath  
Behind his shoulder.

From his hand now dropt  
A golden apple: she lookt down and saw  
A glitter on the grass, yet on she ran.  
He dropt a second; now she seem'd to stoop:



He dropt a third; and now she stoopt indeed:  
Yet, swifter than a wren picks up a grain  
Of millet, rais'd her head: it was too late,  
Only one step, only one breath, too late.  
Hippomenes had toucht the maple goal  
With but two fingers, leaning pronely forth.  
She stood in mute despair; the prize was won.

Now each walkt slowly forward, both so tired,  
And both alike breathed hard, and stopt at times.  
When he turn'd round to her, she lowered her face  
Cover'd with blushes, and held out her hand,  
The golden apple in it.

“ Leave me now,”

Said she, “ I must walk homeward.”

He did take

The apple and the hand.

“ Both I detain,”

Said he, “ the other two I dedicate  
To the two Powers that soften virgin hearts,  
Eros and Aphroditè; and this one  
To her who ratifies the nuptial vow.”

She would have wept to see her father weep;  
But some God pitied her, and purple wings  
(What God's were they?) hovered and interposed.

SAPPHO, ALCÆUS, ANACREON,  
PHAON.

---

SAPPHO.

I wonder at the malice of the herd  
Against us poets. O what calumnies  
Do those invent who can invent nought else!  
'Tis said, Alcæus, thou hast run away  
From battle.

ALCÆUS.

Idlers show no idleness  
In picking up and spreading false reports.  
Nay, 'tis said also (thing incredible)  
That women carry them from house to house,  
And twirl and sniff them as they would a rose.

Nothing is lighter than an empty tale,  
 Or carried farther on with fresh relays ;  
 No ball do children leap at with more glee,  
 Catch, and look more triumphant, than do men  
 At lies : such men, day after day, come here :  
 Yet, Sappho, which among the worst can say  
 I love thee not ?

SAPPHO.

Well, well !

ALCÆUS.

To be beloved  
 By Sappho raises mortal nigh the Gods  
 In bliss and glory ; not to love her sinks  
 The proudest head below the beasts that perish.  
 They who look down from heaven into our hearts  
 See truth, how deep ! in mine.

SAPPHO.

They know the true,  
 They know the brave, and value them alike.

ANACREON.

Pick up thy shield, man ! There was no delay  
Upon that meadow, soft to run upon,  
Where even the tenderest grass seem'd strong  
          enough  
To impede thee like a barrier, every reed  
A pointed spear, and every twittering bird  
Sounded like trumpet, when two lifted hands  
Shielded two cars upright as leveret's.

SAPPHO.

I never thought Anacreon was so fierce,  
But even doves are vicious now and then,

ALCÆUS.

I burn to smite him on the mouth for this.

SAPPHO.

Sit down, Alcæus ; none are angry here.  
Do wise men rear and start at sparks of wit ?

ALCÆUS.

Sparks fly up, drop, and die ; pure incense burns  
Without them.

SAPPHO.

Incense usually begins  
In smoke, and ends in ashes.

ALCÆUS.

Not so mine.

SAPPHO.

I wish thy voice attuned to notes less grave.

ALCÆUS.

Ah ! can it ever be attuned to thine ?  
Love checks it.

ANACREON.

Love, it seems, may check thy tongue,

But not thy feet. I wish my verses ran  
 On feet as light as those which left their soles  
 Behind them at the clarion's nearer blasts;  
 The lightest lyre would have been heavy there.

SAPPHO. (PHAON *entering*.)

Be calm, Alcæus! be less petulant,  
 Anacreon! Thy persuasive voice, my Phaon,  
 May harmonize these wranglers.

PHAON.

Ah! what voice  
 Could ever harmonize like thine the chords  
 Of the most rigid breast! a ray of thine  
 Awakes to song, as the bright Morn awakes  
 Upon the desert sand her Memnon's lyre.

ANACREON.

By Zeus! he beats us both. Sing, sing away,  
 Alcæus! I will try another time.

(*To SAPPHO.*)

Already this brave warrior hath confest  
His voice defective in the praise of thee.

ALCÆUS.

I did confess it, and will prove it now.

(*Sings.*)

Glory of Lesbos ! where Apollo's hand  
Led thee among us mortals, nor withdrew  
When Aphroditè claim'd thee for her own,  
Over what distant ages shalt thou pass,  
And thro what distant regions men shall hear  
The song of Sappho, and her praise in all.

PHAÏON (*to SAPPHO.*)

I hate such sing-song from my very soul ;  
'Tis only proper for hard-fisted girls  
Who, crouching on low tressel, milk the goat.  
As for that tippler on the other side,

I often hear his verses in the street ;  
There children stagger, imitating him,  
And he runs sidelong after them, and trips.

SAPPHO.

Why lookest thou so gloomily ? say, speak.  
Surely thou art not jealous, like a poet.

PHAON.

Jealous I am not ; but can ill endure  
To see a rival wear a gift of thine.

SAPPHO.

I would not give it hadst not thou been by.

PHAON.

Songsters are ever most importunate.

SAPPHO.

We like a bird to sing to us sometimes.



PHAON.

Some birds would put their beaks on softer ones.

SAPPHO.

I have known maidens let their sparrow do it,  
Holding the wing on purpose.

Thou art cold

And peevish: be what thou hast been till now.  
Whenever Phaon came, all went away,  
As those have done.

PHAON.

But thou hast given my gift,  
If mine it was.

SAPPHO.

O cruelest of words!  
Were it not thine, and worn till it was dead,  
The kitten had been tearing it for play;  
I wore it only for thy coming, sure  
To have a fresher, so now give it me,

Or lay it on the table : if not, take  
 Some trouble with it in a fitter place,  
 Where thou hast often spent much time and tried  
 Contrivances, and tried again, to bend  
 A riotous curl obedient to thy will.

PHAON.

Forgive me, Sappho. Let me twine it round  
 Thy sadden'd brow : how hot it is ! Had love  
 And not vexation caus'd it, even then  
 I might almost have griev'd. Yes ! any pain  
 Thou feelest, I feel more.

SAPPHO.

Of love ?

PHAON.

That worst,  
 Until thy breath wafted it all away.

SAPPHO.

When thy love perishes, I shall believe

The Gods have perisht too, one only left,  
And he to laugh and taunt me.

PHAON.

Truth herself  
Shall first leave earth and heaven. Now wipe  
thine eyes.

SAPPHO.

Thou shalt then lower thy lips,

PHAON.

And crush that smile.

## THESEUS AND HIPPOLYTA.

---

HIPPOLYTA.

Eternal hatred I have sworn against  
The persecutor of my sisterhood ;  
In vain, proud son of Ægeus, hast thou snapt  
Their arrows and derided them ; in vain  
Leadest thou me a captive ; I can die,  
And die I will.

THESEUS.

Nay ; many are the years  
Of youth and beauty for Hippolyta.

HIPPOLYTA.

I scorn my youth, I hate my beauty. Go !

Monster! of all the monsters in these wilds  
Most frightful and most odious to my sight.

THESEUS.

I boast not that I saved thee from the bow  
Of Scythian.

HIPPOLYTA.

And for what? to die disgraced.  
Strong as thou art, yet thou art not so strong  
As Death is, when we call him for support.

THESEUS.

Him too will I ward off; he strikes me first,  
Hippolyta long after, when these eyes  
Are closed, and when the knee that supplicates  
Can bend no more.

HIPPOLYTA.

Is the man mad?

THESEUS.

He is.

HIPPOLYTA.

So, thou canst tell one truth, however false  
In other things.

THESEUS.

What other? Thou dost pause,  
And thine eyes wander over the smooth turf  
As if some gem (but gem thou wearest not)  
Had fallen from the remnant of thy hair.  
Hippolyta! speak plainly, answer me,  
What have I done to raise thy fear or hate?

HIPPOLYTA.

Fear I despise, perfidy I abhor.  
Unworthy man! did Heracles delude  
The maids who trusted him?

THESEUS.

Did ever I?  
Whether he did or not, they never told me :  
I would have chided him.

HIPPOLYTA.

Thou chide him ! thou !  
The Spartan mothers well remember thee.

THESEUS.

Scorn adds no beauty to the beautiful.  
Heracles was beloved by Omphalè,  
He never parted from her, but obey'd  
Her slightest wish, as Theseus will Hippolyta's.

HIPPOLYTA.

Then leave me, leave me instantly ; I know  
The way to my own country.

THESEUS.

This command,

And only this, my heart must disobey.  
My country shall be thine, and there thy state  
Regal.

HIPPOLYTA.

Am I a child? give me my own,  
And keep for weaker heads thy diadems.  
Thermodon I shall never see again,  
Brightest of rivers, into whose clear depth  
My mother plunged me from her warmer breast,  
And taught me early to divide the waves  
With arms each day more strong, and soon to chase  
And overtake the father swan, nor heed  
His hoarser voice or his uplifted wing.

Where are my sisters? Are there any left?

THESEUS.

I hope it.

HIPPOLYTA.

And I fear it: theirs may be  
A fate like mine; which, O ye Gods, forbid!



THESEUS.

I pity thee, and would assuage thy grief.

HIPPOLYTA.

Pity me not ; thy anger I could bear.

THESEUS.

There is no place for anger where thou art.  
Commiseration even men may feel  
For those who want it : even the fiercer beasts  
Lick the sore-wounded of a kindred race,  
Hearing their cry, albeit they may not help.

HIPPOLYTA.

This is no falsehood : and can he be false  
Who speaks it ?

I remember not the time  
When I have wept, it was so long ago.  
Thou forcest tears from me, because .. because ..  
I can not hate thee as I ought to do.

## THE TRIAL OF ÆSCHYLOS.

---

JUDGE.

Bring into court the culprit, him accused  
Of having, and deliberately, betray'd  
The mysteries of Eleusis.

ÆSCHYLOS.

Here I stand,  
No culprit, and no jailer brings me forth.

JUDGE.

Hast thou not, Æschylos, divulged the rites  
Taught by Demeter?

ÆSCHYLOS.

What have I divulged  
Beside the truths the Gods to men impart,

And none beside the worthy do they trust.  
The human breast they open and they close,  
And who can steal their secrets? who shall dare  
Infringe their laws, or who arraign their will?  
Ye men of Athens! before *you* I stand,  
Known to ye long ago, nor only here,  
But on the plain of Marathon: who flincht  
In that fierce fray? did I? and shall I now?  
The brave man venerates, the base man fears,  
I scorn to supplicate, or even to plead,  
For well I know there is a higher court,  
A court of last appeal.

JUDGE.

We know it not;  
Where is it situated?

ÆSCHYLOS.

In man's heart.  
In life it may be barr'd, so dark that none  
See into it, not he himself; Death comes,  
And then the Furies leave their grove and strike.

## CITIZEN.

He spake no wiser words upon the stage,  
Where all men speak their wisest and their best.

## ANOTHER CITIZEN.

I wish he had not said a word about  
Those Furies ; Death is bad enough.

## FIRST CITIZEN.

Hush ! hush !  
The Arkon rises up and waves his hand.

## JUDGE.

What say ye, men of Athens, to the charge  
Ye heard denounced this morning ? Are ye mute ?  
Sadness I see in some, in others wrath,  
Wrath ill becomes the seat I occupy ;  
And even sadness I would fain suppress.  
But who can bear irreverence to his Gods ?  
Their profanation (by your laws) is death.

## AMYNTOS

*(Rushes forward and bares his brother's scars)*

What have these' merited? These wounds he won  
From Persia, nothing else. Let others show  
The purple vestures, stript from satraps slain,  
He slew them, and left those for weaker hands  
To gather up, and to adorn their wives.

*(To Æschylos.)*

## ÆSCHYLOS.

Amyntos is my brother, so are ye,  
But why display my ragged white-faced scar?  
Why show the place where one arm *was*, if one  
Keeps yet its own? this left can wield the sword.

## AMYNTOS.

Fling not thy cloak about thee, nor turn round,  
Nay, brother, thou shalt not conceal the scars  
With that one hand yet left thee.

Citizens!

Behold the man, that impious man, who smote  
Those who defiled the altars of your Gods.  
Look up: is Pallas standing on yon hill?  
She would not have been standing there unless  
Men like the man before ye had well fought  
At Marathon, not braver than some here [limb.  
Who fought with him and bound his shattered  
If Æschylos your comrade had profaned  
Her mysteries, would Demeter have blest  
Your fields with what we call the staff of life,  
To give ye strength and courage to protect  
Your country, wives, and friends.

Ye want him not,  
But ye may miss him in the hour of need.  
If irreligious wretch hath violated  
What all hold sacred, Æschylos not least,  
To death condemn him.

Weep not thou, whoe'er  
Thou art, nor stamp thou other, no, nor shout,  
Impatient men! impatient as for battle.  
If there be any here who deem him guilty,  
To death condemn him, or to worse than death,  
Drive him from Athens, bid him raise no more  
Your hearts and souls, for he no more can fight

To save our country, nor call heroes down  
To stand before ye, not more brave than he,  
Alas ! alas ! nor more unfortunate.

CITIZEN.

Truth, by the Gods ! thou speakest.

JUDGE.

Speak ye too,  
Judges who sit beside me.

JUDGE.

Thou art absolved  
By all the people ; we confirm the voice.  
Æschylos, go in peace.

CITIZEN.

In glory go.  
Are there no clarions nigh, to waft him home  
With their strong blast ? no harp to ring before ?

## ANOTHER CITIZEN.

No olive? none there had been but for him  
In all this land.

## ANOTHER CITIZEN.

At least we can raise up  
Our voices to the hymn they have begun,  
And call our children to come forth and kiss  
The threshold that our Æschylos hath trod.

---



## MARCUS AURELIUS AND LUCIAN.

---

AURELIUS.

Lucian ! in *one* thing thou art ill advised.

LUCIAN.

And in one only ? Tell me which is that ?

AURELIUS.

In scoffing, as thou hast done openly,  
At all religions ; there is truth in all.

LUCIAN.

Ah, could we see it ! but the well is deep.  
Each mortal calls his God inscrutable,  
And this at least is true, then why not stop ?

Some subsidize him, others split him down  
 From nape to navel, others bandage him,  
 Forcing the sub-divisions to unite.  
 These should have lived in Saturn's day, his son  
 Methinks had found them easier work to do.  
 Eclectic are we Romans, yet we run  
 (Pardon me, Pontifex!) from bad to worse.  
 Those which Fear palsies and which Fraud sustains,  
 Not the erect and strenuous, I deride.  
 The worshiper of Mothras lifts his eyes  
 To hail his early rising, for he knows  
 Who ripens all the grain to nourish him :  
 Olympus and the Alps are hills alike  
 To him, and goats their best inhabitants.  
 Did Epictetus take our rotten staves  
 To walk with uprightly ? did Cicero  
 Kneel down before our urban deities ?  
 He carried in his mouth a Jupiter  
 Ready for senates when he would harang,  
 Then wiped him clean and laid him down again.

## AURELIUS.

Gratitude to the Gods, to men, good will—  
 Is the religion I would cultivate,

Leaving as many gods upon the ground  
 As, season after season, may spring up  
 And stifle one another.

LUCIAN.

Well, no harm!

AURELIUS.

Let each man weed his croft, not turn his kine  
 Into his neighbour's. What, if some prefer  
 The lofty holyhock, another bend  
 Over the bed where hang the modest bells  
 Of early cluster-lily.

When we fight

The Parthian, 'tis not that we hate his God,  
 The glorious Sun, for he is our God too.  
 When Alexander saw the Ganges roll  
 Before him, did he persecute a race  
 Devote to Budda? did that race cut throats  
 To make men run the readier at their side?  
 All things deteriorate, religions most.

LUCIAN.

I set a drunken man upon his legs  
And show him his own door, but enter not,  
Therefore he curses me, and calls me lost,  
And spits at me, and bids me go to hell.

AURELIUS.

Altho' we now are talking in our greek,  
We both know Latin.

LUCIAN.

Well, what then ?

AURELIUS.

I hate  
Quotations, and hate worse to intermix  
Two languages : this we may do in talk,  
But not in writing ; you Greeks never did.

LUCIAN.

'Twere folly ; for what legs get faster on  
By straddling round the shoulders of another ?

AURELIUS.

Little of Roman poetry I hold  
In memory, yet one sentence comes to hand  
From the most amiable and least prolix.

LUCIAN.

What then could he have said upon religion ?

AURELIUS.

Nothing indeed, but somewhat applicable.  
*All have not the same faces, yet they all  
Bear sisterly resemblance.*

LUCIAN.

*His nymphs might,*  
*Our last was born in the decrepitude*

Of her poor mother, and now leans on crutch,  
Which she can swing about her if provoked.

AURELIUS.

Lucian! I think as thou dost, but abstain  
From words that irritate where all should soothe.  
I seldom laugh, and never in men's faces.

LUCIAN.

The peace proclaimers bellow the most loud ;  
My voice by nature is too weak to curse.  
Religions, true or false, may lend support  
To man's right conduct ; some deter from evil  
By fear, and others lead by gentleness,  
Benevolence in thought, beneficence  
In action, and from these springs gratitude,  
Which often widens into patriotism  
Whereby men struggle for their native land.

LUCIAN.

So much the worse for them. Did Julius spare  
The Druid in his grove? our Divus wrencht

The golden sickle from the mistletoe,  
And burnt the wicker basket ere it held  
Upon the sacred oak the wretch within.

AURELIUS.

I doubt it : well he knew the use of priests.  
And spared the Druids, proud unruly race,  
Nor with their bloody rites would interfere.  
Ambition was his fault, but clemency  
Could over-rule ambition. . .

LUCIAN.

. . . When the world  
Lay at his feet and he too, was a God.

AURELIUS.

Ambition is at best but selfishness,  
And stoops to scramble as the needy do.

LUCIAN.

O Marcus, Marcus ! art not thou ambitious ?

Who holding in one hand the peopled globe,  
Yet wouldst thou more?

AURELIUS.

Lucian! Not I indeed.

LUCIAN.

Thou wouldst have much beyond this visible  
Diurnal sphere, wouldst catch Fame, flying Fame.

AURELIUS.

Quiet be mine! and let Fame follow me.  
Say on.

LUCIAN.

Well then thou art an innovator,  
Thou art a revolutionist.

AURELIUS.

Lucian! How so?



LUCIAN.

Ay, greatest of all revolutionists,  
The battle-field, O Marcus, thou hast turn'd  
Into the corn-field. What would Julius say,  
If Julius were not now among the Gods ?

AURELIUS.

He did some evil, he removed much more.  
He would not irritate weak intellects,  
Nurst in religion, learnt by heart and rear'd  
Upon a mother's knee, thence justly dear.

LUCIAN.

Founded on falsehood are not all religions,  
And copied more or less from older ones ?  
Some by transfusion purified, and some  
Weakened, and pour'd again upon the dregs,  
Until they first ferment and then turn sour.

AURELIUS.

The mildest and most genial is our own.

## LUCIAN.

Five carts conveying hither Gods from Veü,  
 Broke down and left their fragments in the road,  
 Yet plenty stil remain to pick and choose,  
 And all are not fastidious ; stern would look  
 Old Cato at some tasters of our fasti  
 And pelt them with what turnips were unsound,  
 Or but half rotten in his frugal farm :  
 His addled eggs he kept for favorite slaves,  
 Severe he would be where one calls a God  
 To help him in his vengeance on a neighbour,  
 Who puts his left leg where he should the right,  
 And will not draw it back, but walk strait on.  
 His God was Terminus, his fane, the field.

## AURELIUS.

Temples I seldom enter.

Not a God

Minds me above the atoms of the earth  
 Whereof we, great and little, are composed,  
 Such is the purest doctrine to uphold ;  
 But to divulge even this may be unsafe.  
 Have we not known a sage of Palestine

Derided, persecuted, crucified?  
 Have we not seen his simple followers  
 Slaughter'd in this our city, this our Rome,  
 Some thrown among wild beasts, some burnt alive?

LUCIAN.

Woefully true! and thieves and murderers  
 Have sprung up from the ground whereon they  
 bled.

AURELIUS.

Woefully true this also, but unwise  
 Because unsafe to utter. Truth is more  
 Unsafe than falsehood, and was ever so.  
 Do not exasperate by pointed wit  
 The proud and the morose, but, rather stoop  
 To raise them up from their infirmities.

LUCIAN.

Poor creatures! they will kick me in the face  
 If at such office I bend over them;  
 Better to strip the sophists of their rings

And trailing trappings femininely loose,  
With chanting boys in marshal'd troops before,  
Waving fat incense up against their beards :  
Soon at the Via Sacra they may halt  
And choose an imperator of their own.

## AURELIUS.

Friend Lucian ! thou art more jocose than ever.  
Why not imagine they may take my horse  
From under me, then round men's shoulders strap  
The curule chair and hoist a priest thereon ?  
Thy wit and wisdom, Lucian, long I've known,  
But never found the poet until now,  
Homer feign'd Polyphemus and Calyps,  
Imagination left him on the strand  
With those : he never saw even in a dream,  
So strange a rider on a seat so strange :  
Give him my purple, make the scene complete.

---

## DAMOCLES AND HIERA.

---

HIERA.

A kiss, indeed ! was ever boy so bold?  
Who taught you such bad manners ? Run away,  
Or presently I may be very angry :  
Stay ; beg my pardon first. You look ashamed,  
And shame becomes the guilty. Kiss, indeed !  
Did ever maid or mortal hear the like !  
How many summers have you seen above  
Twelve at the most ? I a whole twelvemonth more.  
Learn to revere your elders in your youth.

DAMOCLES.

Shake not my arm, it makes me feel so strange.  
I do ask pardon, lovely Hiera.

HIERA.

Gods give me power to grant it ! I am weak  
From such a sudden and severe a blow.

DAMOCLES.

I am not ; though I should be : 'twas so wrong.

HIERA.

The Gods take pity on the penitent.

DAMOCLES.

Do maidens never ? can they do amiss  
In doing what the Gods do ?

HIERA.

You perplex me ;  
To question so the deeds of those above  
Is impious.

DAMOCLES.

I would pray, but first to you,  
For you are like them in all other things,  
Why not in this?

HIERA.

You talk beyond your years :  
Only rude men talk so.

DAMOCLES.

Give but one sign  
Of pardon.

HIERA.

And what sign?

DAMOCLES.

Dare I repeat  
What I implored?

HIERA.

What was it? .I forget.

DAMOCLES.

One kiss ; I ask but one.

HIERA.

You foolish boy !

Well : take it : I don't give it, mind you that.

He gave the one ; she added twenty more  
For his obedience ; and he never sued  
After that eventide.

A swain averr'd

That he descried in the deep wood a cheek  
At first aslant, then lower, then eclipst.  
Another said it was not in the wood,  
But in the grotto near the water-fall,  
And he alone had seen it.

The dispute

Ran high ; a third declared that both were wrong.



A FRIEND TO THEOCRITOS IN  
EGYPT.

---

Dost thou not often gasp with longdrawn sighs,  
Theocritos, recalling Sicily?  
Glorious is Nile, but rather give me back  
Our little rills, which fain would run away  
And hide themselves from persecuting suns  
In summer, under oleander boughs,  
And catch its roses as they flaunt above.  
Here are no birds that sing, no sweeter flower  
Than tiny fragile weak-eyed resida,  
Which faints upon the bosom it would cool.  
Altho' the royal lotos sits aloof  
On his rich carpet, spred from wave to wave,  
I throw myself more gladly where the pine  
Protects me, loftier than the palace-roof,  
Or where the linden and acacia meet  
Across my path, in fragrance to contend.



## EUCRATES TO THE GOD SLEEP.

---

No God to mortals oftener descends  
Than thou, O sleep ! yet thee the sad alone  
Invoke, and gratefully thy gifts receive.  
Some thou invitest to explore the sands  
Left by Pactolos, some to climb up higher,  
Where points Ambition to the pomp of War ;  
Others thou watchest while they tighten robes  
Which Law throws round them loose, and they  
    meanwhile  
Wink at the judge, and he the wink returns.  
Apart sit fewer, whom thou lovest more  
And leadest where unruffled rivers flow,  
Or azure lakes neath azure skies expand.  
These have no wider wishes, and no fears,  
Unless a fear by motion to molest  
The silent, solitary, stately swan,  
Disdaining the garrulity of groves  
Nor seeking shelter there from sun or storm.

- Me also hast thou led among such scenes,  
 Gentlest of Gods! and Age appear'd far off  
 While thou wert hovering round about the couch  
 Until he stoopt and said, close over it,  
 " Sleep often plays with me, as once he used,  
 " Refreshing in his way the vernal flowers,  
 " Flowers that had droopt and but for him had  
     died.  
 " He now departs from thee, but leaves behind  
 " His own twin-brother, beauteous as himself,\*  
 " Who soon shall take my place . . men call him  
     Death.  
 " Thou heavest me, nor troublest, as most do,  
 " In sooth why shouldst thou? what man hast  
     thou wrong'd  
 " By deed or word? few dare ask this within."  
     There was a pause; then suddenly said Age  
 " He whom I warn'd approacheth: so farewell."

\* There is an ancient statue of a Genius representing *Death* in the form of a beautiful youth. Dr. Young has introduced the God; in full feather, to the *world*, leading him to a seat of eyelashes not damp under him.

P A N .

---

Pan led me to a wood the other day,  
Then, bending both hoofs under him, where moss  
Was softest and where highest was the tuft,  
Said he, "sit thou aside me; there is room  
Just for us two; the tinklers are below  
To catch the little birds and butterflies,  
Nor see us nor would heed us if they saw.  
I minded thee in Sicily with one  
I dearly love; I heard thee tell my loss  
Of Pitys; and he swore that none but thou  
Could thus contend with him, or ever should.  
Though others had loud lyres and struck them  
    well,  
Few could bring any harmony from reeds  
By me held high, and higher since thou hast  
    breath'd  
Thy gentle breath o'er Pitys and her Pan."

## NIOBE.

---

Amid nine daughters slain by Artemis  
Stood Niobe: she rais'd her head above  
Those beauteous forms which had brought down  
the scath

Whence all nine fell, rais'd it, and stood erect,  
And thus bespake the Goddess enthroned on  
high.

“Thou heardest, Artemis, my daily prayer  
That thou wouldst guide these children in the  
pass

Of virtue, through the tangling wilds of youth,  
And thou didst ever guide them : was it just  
To smite them for a beauty such as thine ?  
Deserv'd they death because thy grace appear'd  
In every modest motion ? 'twas thy gift,  
The richest gift that youth from heaven receives.  
True, I did boldly say they might compare .

Even with thyself in virgin purity :  
May not a mother in her pride repeat  
What every mortal said ?

One prayer remains  
For me to offer yet.

Thy quiver holds  
More than nine arrows : bend thy bow : aim  
here,

I see, I see it glimmering through a cloud.  
Artemis thou at length art merciful.  
My children will not hear the fatal twang."

---

THIRD DAY.

LAERTES. HOMER. AGATHA.

---

HOMER.

And now, Mæonides, the sun hath risen  
These many spans above the awaken'd earth,  
Sing me that hymn, which thou hast call'd thy best,  
In glory to the God who gives it light.

First I will call the child to hear thee sing,  
For girls remember well and soon repeat  
What they have heard of sacred more or less.  
I must forbear to join in it, although  
That blessed God hath helpt to rear my grain  
High as my knee, and made it green and strong.  
Alas! I cackle when I aim to sing,  
Which I have sometimes done at festivals,  
But, ere a word were out, methought I felt  
A beard of barley sticking in my throat.

*(Agatha enters.)*



Now, with a trail of honey down the cup  
(Agatha, drop it in), commence thy chaunt.

*(About the 500th verse Laertes falls asleep :  
awakening he finds Agatha in the same state,  
and chides her.)*

Hast thou no reverence for a song inspired ?

AGATHA (in a whisper).

Hush ! O my king and lord, or he may hear.  
You were asleep the first : I kept my eyes  
Wide open, opener than they ever were,  
While I do think I could have counted more  
Than half a thousand of those words divine,  
Had both my hands not dropt upon my lap.

LAERTES.

Another time beware of drowsiness  
When reverend men discourse about the Gods.  
Now lead him forth into the cooler porch,  
Entreating him that he will soon renew  
His praises of Apollo.

AGATHA.

I will bear  
Your words to him ; he might care less for mine,  
And, sooth to say, I would much rather hear  
Some other story, where more men than Gods  
Shine on the field.

LAERTES.

Of men thou know'st enough.

AGATHA.

Too much : then why show Gods almost as bad ?  
They can not be . . . least of all Artemis ;  
'Twas she directed and preserved Odysseus.

LAERTES.

Blessings upon thee ! While thou wast a babe  
He fondled thee, nor saw when thou couldst walk.  
Few love so early or so long : We say  
We love the Gods : we lie ; the seen alone  
We love, to those unseen we may be grateful.

AGATHA.

But when they are no more before our eyes...

LAERTES.

That never is, altho' earth come between.  
Perplex not thou thy simple little head  
With what the wise were wiser to let be.

AGATHA.

I go, and will not be again perplext.

(*Aside.*)

He has been dozing while we have convers't.

Mæonides! rise and take this arm  
To lead thee where is freshness in the porch.  
My master tells me thou another time  
Wilt finish that grand hymn about Apollo.  
Hast thou no shorter one for Artemis?

HOMER.

Such thou shalt have for her, but not to-day.

AGATHA.

O, I can wait, so (I am sure) can she.

HOMER.

Faint are the breezes here, less faint above ;  
Gladly then would I mount that central peak  
Which overlooks the whole of Ithaca,  
That peak I well remember I once clomb  
(What few could do) without the help of beast.

AGATHA.

Here are sure-footed ones, who weed our thistles,  
And give us milk, grey dappled as the dawn :  
Their large and placid eyes well know that path,  
And they will bring us safely to the top  
And back again, treading more warily  
Than up the ascent.

. I will call forth two boys  
To lead them, without switches in the fist.  
These two can lift thee up ; I at thy side  
Require no help, and can whisk off the flies.

HOMER.

I know not what impels me to retrace  
Scenes I can see no more : but so it is  
Thro' life.

                  If thou art able, lead me forth,  
And let none follow ; we are best alone.

AGATHA.

Come forward ye.

                  Now lift up carefully  
The noblest guest that ever king received  
And the Gods favor most.

                  Well done ! now rest,  
Nor sing nor whistle til we all return,  
And reach the chesnut and enjoy the shade.

HOMER (at the summit).

I think we must be near the highest point,  
For now the creatures stop, who struggled hard,  
And the boys neither cheer 'em, nor upbraid.  
'Tis somewhat to have mounted up so high,  
Profitless as it is, nor without toil.

AGATHA.

Dost thou feel weary ?

HOMER.

Short as was the way  
It shook my aged bones at every step ;  
My shoulders ache, my head whirls round and  
round.

AGATHA.

Lean on my shoulder, place thy head on mine,  
'Tis low enough.

What were those words ?..I heard  
Imperfectly...shame on me! Dost thou smile ?

HOMER.

Child ! hast thou ever seen an old man die ?

AGATHA.

The Gods defend me from so sad a sight !

HOMER.

Sad if he die in agony, but blest  
If friend be nigh him, only one true friend.

AGATHA.

Tho' most of thine be absent, one remains ;  
Is not Laertes worthy of the name ?

HOMER.

And Agatha, who tends me to the last.

AGATHA.

I will, I will indeed, when comes that hour.

HOMER.

That hour is come.

Let me lay down my head  
On the cool turf ; there I am sure to rest.

## AGATHA (after a pause).

How softly old men sigh! Sleep, gentle so  
 He turns his face to me. Ah how compose  
 Surely he sleeps already...hand and cheek  
 Are colder than such feeble breeze could make  
 Mæonides! hearest thou Agatha?  
 He hears me not...Can it...can it be...death  
 Impossible...’tis death...’tis death indeed...  
 Then, O ye Gods of heaven! who would not  
 If thus to rest eternal, he descend?

O, my dear lord! how shall I comfort the  
 How look unto thy face and tell my tale,  
 And kneeling clasp thy knee? to be repulst  
 Were hard, but harder to behold thy grief.

This poem could not come in in time for its proper  
 The following note was subjoined:—

Homer’s age is uncertain. He may have been, or may be  
 contemporary of Laertes. Chronology and poesy are not  
 Two heavy volumes might never have befallen us if their  
 had consulted Pericles and Aspasia. Among the hymns att  
 to Homer is one to Apollo, which may well have made  
 man and a young girl somnolent.



## THE GARDENER AND THE MOLE.

---

A gardener-had watcht a mole  
And caught it coming from its hole.  
“ Mischievous beast !” he cried, “ to harm  
The garden as thou dost the farm.  
Here thou hast had thy wicked will  
Upon my tulip and jonquil.  
Behold them drooping and half dead  
Upon this torn and tumbled bed.”

The mole said meekly in reply,  
“ My star is more to blame than I.  
To undermine is mole’s commission,  
Our house stil holds it from tradition.  
What lies the nearest us is ours.  
Decreed so by the higher Powers.  
We hear of conies and of hares.  
But when commit we deeds like theirs ?  
We never touch the flowers that blow,  
And only bulbs that lurk below.”

'Tis true, where we have run, the ground  
Is rais'd a trifle, nor quite sound,  
Yet, after a few days of rain,  
Level and firm it lies again ;  
Wise men, like you, will rather wait  
For these than argue against fate,  
Or quarrel with us moles because  
We simply follow Nature's laws.  
We raise the turf to keep us warm ;  
Surely in this there is no harm . .  
Ye break it up to set thereon  
A fortress or perhaps a throne,  
And pray that God cast down his eyes  
Benignly on burnt sacrifice,  
The sacrifice of flesh and bone  
Fashioned, they tell us, like His own,  
Ye in the cold lie all the night  
Under thin tents, at morn to fight.  
Neither for horn'd nor fleecy cattle  
Start we to mingle in the battle,  
Or in the pasture shed their blood  
To pamper idleness with food.  
Indeed we do eat worms ; what then ?  
Do not those very worms eat men,  
And have the impudence to say

Ye shall ere long be such as they?  
We never kill or wound a brother,  
Men kill by thousands one another,  
And, though ye swear ye wish but peace,  
Your feuds and warfares never cease."

Such homebrought truths the gardener,  
Though mild by nature, could not bear,  
And lest the mole might more have said  
He chopt its head off with the spade.

---

## MEMORY.

---

The mother of the Muses, we are taught,  
Is Memory : she has left me ; they remain,  
And shake my shoulder, urging me to sing  
About the summer days, my loves of old.

*Alas ! alas !* is all I can reply.

Memory has left with me that name alone,  
Harmonious name, which other bards may sing,  
But her bright image in my darkest hour  
Comes back, in vain comes back, call'd or uncall'd.

Forgotten are the names of visitors

Ready to press my hand but yesterday ;

Forgotten are the names of earlier friends

Whose genial converse and glad countenance

Are fresh as ever to mine ear and eye ;

To these, when I have written, and besought

Remembrance of me, the word *Dear* alone

Hangs on the upper verge, and waits in vain.

A blessing wert thou, O oblivion,

If thy stream carried only weeds away,

But vernal and autumnal flowers alike

It hurries down to wither on the strand.

## ERIN.

---

Erin! thou art indeed of ancient race,  
Erynnys bore thee, she who brought with her  
That apple which retain'd in endless strife  
Three Goddesses on Ida, she who urged  
A few years later the fierce son of Thetis  
To threaten Agamemnon : hardly could  
Pallas withhold him, and his lifted sword.  
Forgettest thou thy merriment, thy jokes,  
Thy genial hours, thy hospitable heart  
Swift to fly open with the whiskey-cork?  
Forgettest thou thy bard, who hurried home  
From distant lands and, bent by poverty,  
Reposed among the quiet scenes he loved  
In native Auburn, nor disdain'd to join  
The village dancers on the sanded floor?  
No poet since hath Nature drawn so close  
To her pure bosom as her Oliver.  
Thou hearest yet the melodies of Moore,

Who sang your blue-eyed maidens worthily,  
If any voice of song can reach so high.

Why art thou, Erin, like a froward child  
Struggling with screams to scratch its nurse's face,  
And, pincht by hunger, throwing food away?  
Thy harp sounds only discords: wilt thou never  
Awake from dreams of murder? Shall the priest  
Chaunt *pax vobiscum* and, before he leaves  
The chapel, thrust a dagger in a hand  
Working to grasp it?

But not all who chaunt  
Are alike bloody-minded: one I knew . . .  
Familiar with his flock, nor much averse  
To fare with it the seventh day, or sixth,  
Or any other in the calendar.  
By summer's heat his lips were often parcht,  
By winter's cold as often. The Right Reverend  
My lord the bishop scantily provided  
For this poor brother; was it not enough  
To own him, and to ask him how he did?  
His modesty might have been deeply hurt  
Had he seen sundry rents in certain parts  
Where rents are most unseemly, and the girls  
Might titter at 'em as they sew'd 'em up.  
Then, had not the Right Reverend given him

Quite as much food as raven gave Elijah  
 By that divine commission from above?  
 Elijah was no curate, but a prophet,  
 And men should feed according to their station.

Poor were my friend's parishioners : he met  
 The wealthiest of them : " Faith and troth ! " he  
 cried,

" My eyes are ready to leap out to see  
 Thy merry face, Mic ! Are all well at home?  
 Judy, that pattern wife, Bess, that brave girl,  
 Match for a lord, if lord were match for *her*."

" Bedad ! my eyes would have met yours halfway,"  
 Said honest Mic, and kist the proffer'd hand.

" Ours are all well ; but Bess hath two feet lame  
 With chilblains, broken or about to break ;  
 They plague her, and our Judy plagues her worse  
 Because she would put stockings on, the minx !  
 And how the divil find another pair  
 Entire and dacent for Saint Patrick's day ?  
 Judy's will fit no other leg than hers,  
 And she has only one to bless her with,  
 This one she cannot spare ; it may please God  
 To send another in His own good time,  
 And then, who knows ? we all must live in hope.

Now, father, will your Reverence step indoors ?"

“Impossible, I must be home to dinner.  
What have you? buttermilk?”

“The cow is kilt  
And barrel’d, and at Bristow by the stamer.”

“A slice of bacon?”

“Bacon? plenty, plenty,  
Come Michaelmas, my blessed saint’s own day.  
Look yonder; there he lies and winks at us,  
And rises not, even to your Reverence.  
But he shall pay for it, come Michaelmas,  
The pay-day and the saint’s day the world over.  
Grunt, grunt away, boy! thou shalt change thy  
note

For shriller, longer-winded; wait awhile.”

“Mic, we must all await the appointed hour.  
Let him be aisy, and don’t bother him  
Because thou art the luckier of the two,  
For thou canst shove thy sins upon my shoulder  
And leave wet eyes behind when thine are dry.”

“Father! that ugly baist hath made you low.”

“Well, I do think I would be better for  
A drop, or half a drop, of cool nate whiskey.”

“Was ever such bad luck since stills were  
stills!

Jue drank the last to comfort her poor child.”



## THE TWO NILES.

---

There are two Niles, the white and blue ;  
Little it interests me and you  
Whether this springs from a lagoon,  
That from the mountains of the moon.  
But whether our old Thames be ours  
To-morrow, or another Power's,  
Is now the question in dispute  
And not a Briton should be mute.

Did ever wily France lie still,  
Unsatisfied her ravenous will ?  
Satisfied one brief hour, the next  
Again she springs, and seems perplext  
What else to lay her hands upon,  
From Arctic to Antarctic zone,

And now she says aloud, "*The Rhine*  
*With all on the left hand is mine.*"  
Proving it must be hers because  
Her sword thrust down his throat her laws.

Thus if you catch a thief and tear  
From him the stolen goods, "Beware,"  
Cries he, "*Fait accompli! let go.*"  
He swears and shakes his fist.

Just so

Says France to Europe; Europe hears,  
Trembles, and staggers, and forbears.

---

## FRA DOLCINO AND MARGARITA OF TRENT.

---

*(Mariotti has related these events.)*

Dolcino was pursued with fire and sword,  
Until the bloodhounds which had suckt the dregs  
Of Rome's old wolf had trackt him, coucht among  
His native hills.

At Serravalle first

He halted briefly; there they scented him  
Amid the faithful poor whose bread he ate,  
Bread freely proffered and blest gratefully.  
Next was his flight to the castellated  
Robialto, where Biandrate held to him  
A hospitable hand, a hand unmail'd  
But rarely. Long the pious fugitive  
Would not imperil him who stood observed

In eminence of station. More obscure  
Emiliano Sola, who contrived  
How from Dalmatia he might best return  
To Italy, now brought to Campertogno  
The weary pilgrim. Emiliano Sola  
Would rather leave his home and fertile mead  
Along Valsesia than desert his friend.  
He loaded many teams with wheat and wool,  
And drove before him oxen, freed from yoke,  
Unused to mount steep crags ; the household dog  
Followed, though oft rebukt, and halting oft  
Under the shadow of the panting kine.  
Two winters then were spent above the snow,  
And food was wanting both for man and beast,  
So that the direst famine shrivel'd them,  
Leaving but hearts what they had been before.  
Escape was none ; five thousand foes around,  
After five thousand had already tinged  
With ropy gore the Sesia, like red snakes  
Twisting, convolving, clashing, numberless.  
Who has not seen Varallo, and not paused  
Amid the beauteous scene to mourn the fate  
Of men so brave, of women brave no less,  
Whose flesh was torn from them while wolves  
around

Growl'd for it as 'twas cast into the flames ;  
But there was little for them had they all.

Ranieri di Perzana was ordained  
Lord Bishop of Vercelli, proud alike  
Of crosier and of sword, and rendering each  
Its service to the other ; princely state  
Was his, with palaces and wide domains,  
While over icebergs, over precipices,  
Homeless and roofless, with eight hundred men,  
Women, and children, Fra Dolcino fled.  
“ Now,” said the bishop to his holy band,  
“ See, what avails it to have purified  
Our violated church with fire and blood  
Of thousand thousand reprobates, while one  
Defies us from his Alpine fastnesses,  
Consorted with that wicked Margarita  
Of Trent, who shares his faith and who pretends  
To live with him in virgin purity,  
Altho' she never took the cloistral vows  
Nor call'd the Church's blessing.

They presume  
To read that book which we alone may read,  
Christ's WILL AND TESTAMENT, bequeathed to us,  
Residuary legatees of all  
In his rich treasury for our use lockt up,

And Peter's heir holds in his hand the key.  
Against the abomination rise, my sons,  
And leave on yonder mount no soul alive.  
But there are some whom we may first convert.  
Tell the rude rabble, snorting now and rearing  
Against that sacred chair which Christ himself  
Placed for St. Peter and St. Peter's heirs,  
"That I prepare in my dispensary  
An application for stiff necks and wry,  
The which shall straiten them and set them up."  
Familiarly and pleasantly, as wont,  
Thus spake Ranieri, by the Grace of God  
And God's vicegerent, Bishop of Vercelli.

A patriot, bold as those whose hardy deeds  
He traces with a poet's fire, relates  
How winter after winter, destitute  
Of fuel and of food, these mountaineers  
Maintained their post, nor daunted nor deceived.  
How not the stronger sex alone sustained  
The brunt of battle : of the weaker stood  
A hundred, fighting til a hundred fell.  
Men, it is said, by famine so reduced,  
Have eaten their slain enemies ; one wretch,  
Askt if 'twere worse to eat men than to slay,  
To eat the murderer than to slay the helpless ;

Then, turning to a priest who taunted him,  
“*Madden'd by famine brought on us by you  
We ate our enemies, you eat your God.*”  
Pincers tore out the tongue that thus blasphemed.  
After long winters and hard fights against  
Successive hosts, the fortalice was won :  
Few the survivors ; one Dolcino was,  
Another was the virgin ; neither wish'd  
For life, both yearn'd for truth and truth alone.  
Dolcino was led forward : pots of pitch  
And burning charcoal were paraded round  
The cart that bore him, iron pincers glowed  
With fire, and these contending priests applied  
To every portion of his naked flesh  
Until the bones were bare ; then was he dragg'd  
Thither where Margarita stood above  
Small fagots, for her lingering death prepared.  
Few and faint words she spoke, nor heard he these.  
“*Have we not lived together, O Dolcino,  
In sisterhood and brotherhood a life  
Of chastity, God helping this desire,  
Nor leaving other in the cleansed heart.*”  
She paused ; his head hung low ; then added she  
“*Our separation is the worst of pangs*

We suffer : bear even this : pincers and barbs  
I now feel too."

  " Dolcino, art thou faint?  
Speakest thou not? then is thy spirit fled,  
Mine follows."

  There was on each eye a tear  
(For Margarita was but woman yet)  
Not one had fallen, else the flames had dried it.  
She uttered these last words, scarce audibly,  
" Blessed be God, thou seest his face, Dolcino,  
O may I see it! may he grant it soon!"



## TO VENICE.

---

Dishonor'd thou hast been, but not debased,  
O Venice! he hastes onward who will bring  
The girdle that enclosed thy virgin waist,  
And will restore to thee thy bridal ring.

Venice! on earth are reptiles who lift high  
The crested head, both venomous and strong  
Are they; and many by their fangs shall die,  
But one calm watcher crushes them ere long.

So fare who ever twists in tortuous ways,  
Strown with smooth promises and broken vows,  
Who values drunken shouts, not sober praise,  
And spurns the scanty pittance Truth allows.

## SYRACUSE.

---

In brighter days, the Dorian Musè  
Extoll'd the kings of Syracuse.  
Hieros and Gelons shook the rein  
Of coursers on the Olympic plain,  
Victors at Elis, where they won  
A crown no king can leave his son.  
There Pinder struck his harp aloud,  
And shared the applauses of the crowd.  
Then Science from deep study rais'd  
A greater man than bards have praised.  
When Syracuse met Roman foes,  
Above her proudest he arose ;  
He called from heaven the Lord of Light  
To lend him his all-piercing might.  
The patriot's pious prayer was heard,  
And vaunting navies disappeared ;

Through clouds of smoke sparks widely flew,  
And hissing rafts the shore bestrew ;  
Some on the Punic sands were cast,  
And Carthage was avenged at last.  
Alas ! how fallen art thou since,  
O Syracuse ! how many a prince  
Of Gallia's parti-color'd brood  
Have crept o'er thee to suck thy blood !  
Syracuse ! raise again thy head,  
Long hast thou slept, but art not dead.  
A late avenger now is come  
Whose voice alone can split the tomb.  
Hearest thou not the world throughout  
Cry Garibaldi ? One loud shout  
Arises, and there needs but one  
To shatter a polluted throne.

---



Even brave Bentham, whose inventive skill  
 Baffled at Chesmè and submerged the fleet  
 Of Ottoman,\* urged me to flight with him  
 Ere the infuriate enemy arrived.

I wrote to Carnot. *I am here at Tours,  
 And will remain.*

He prais'd my confidence  
 In the French honour; it was placed in *his*.  
 No house but mine was left unoccupied  
 In the whole city by the routed troops.  
 Ere winter came 'twas time to cross the Alps,  
 Como invited me; nor long ere came  
 Southey, a sorrowing guest, who lately lost  
 His only boy. We walkt aside the laké,  
 And mounted to the level downs above,  
 Where if we thought of Skiddaw, named it not.  
 I led him to Bellaggio, of earth's gems  
 The brightest.

*We in England have as bright,*  
 Said he, and turn'd his face toward the west.  
 I fancied in his eyes there was a tear,  
 I know there was in mine: we both stood still.  
 Gone is he now to join the son in bliss,

\* Potemkin had the credit and the reward. The ships were built by Bentham on his own model, and he directed the attack.

Innocent each alike, one longest spared  
To show that all men have not lived in vain.  
Gone too is Hare : afar from us he lies  
In sad Palermo, where the most accurst  
Cover his bones with bones of free men slain.  
Again I turn to thee, O. Murcheson !  
Why hast thou lookt so deep into the earth  
To find her treasures? Gold we thought had  
done

Its worst before : now fields are left untill'd,  
And cheerful songs speed not the tardy woof.

How dare I blame thee? 'twas not thy offence,  
And good from evil springs, as day from night.  
The covetous and vicious delve the mine  
And sieve the dross that industry may work  
For nobler uses : soon shall crops arise  
More plenteous from it, soon the poor shall dwell  
In their own houses, and their children throw  
Unstinted fuel on the Christmas blaze  
With shouts that shake the holly-branch above.

---

TO ARTHUR DE NOE WALKER.

---

Arthur ! whose path is in the quiet shade,  
After hot days in the wide wastes of war,  
Where India saw thy sword shine bright above  
The helms of thousand brave. Peace, wooed and  
won,

Could not detain thee from that Tauric coast  
Where lay the wounded, festering in their gore,  
And none to raise them up, thou hastenedst  
To succour : often thy strong shoulder bore  
Amid the freezing sleet and heavier hail  
The wretch whom Death lookt down on and  
past by :

Thou fearedst not, for what hadst thou to fear  
From Death ? the standard of his vanquisher  
Thou never hast deserted ; thee he call'd  
To work his will, and saw the call obey'd.

TO KOSSUTH,  
PRESIDENT OF HUNGARY.

---

Man is not what God made him : God ordain'd  
That he should walk upright and bend the brow  
To Him alone ; God gave to Man our earth  
Created by His breath few days before.  
Kossuth ! what demons burst into the midst  
Of this his Eden, this his Paradise,  
These lofty trees that bore their fruit unpruned  
Nor crawl'd upon by reptiles from below.  
Look round thee, and what seest thou ? men in  
    form,  
Gaming with minor men as they were dice  
Or cards, and sweeping them from off the board.  
What millions have succumb'd, and stil succumb,  
To light these gamblers at their deadly game !  
How many lands, once till'd, lie desolate  
To widen their wild hunting-ground, and glut



With human venison the royal feast !  
Exchanges are now made of flocks and herds  
Biped : see Nice and Venice led in chains ;  
See Poland, flay'd, dismember'd, parcel'd out  
Among the bloodhounds ; see thy Hungary  
Offer'd a note promissory instead  
Of the seal'd parchment of her tithedeeds.  
The arctic icebergs make more nigh approach  
Year after year to sunnier climes and threaten  
To bar all intercourse of free with free :  
In this condition is the world of Mind.

---

## TO ALFIERI.

---

Alfieri, thou art present in my sight  
Tho' far removed from us, for thou alone  
Hast toucht the inmost fibres of the breast,  
Since Tasso's tears made damper the damp floor  
Whereon one only light came thro' the bars ;  
Love brought it, and stood mute, with broken  
wing.

The vision of Leonora could not raise  
His heavy heart, and staid long nights in vain.

Thou scornedst thy own country, scorn thou  
wouldst

Many who dwell within it now her bonds  
Are broken : adulation at all times  
Was her besetting sin, nor leaves her yet,  
But thou couldst tell her, and couldst make her  
hear,

That Corsic honey\* which attracts the hive  
Is poison . . turn then from the mortal taste.

\* Much of the honey in Corsica is extracted from the flower of  
box and unwholesome.

## TO WILLIAM SANDFORD.

---

Sandford! the friend of all the brave,  
Whether sent forward to their grave,  
Or whether wearing life away  
With eyes that ache to see that day,  
When freedom's arm shall rend the links  
From him who groans and him who thinks.  
The winds that vex the Appennines  
And hold their children from the vines  
Will soon lie down again, and rest  
On Ocean's gentler-swelling breast.  
Then, whether Rhodes your feet detain,  
Or Scio with her merrier train,  
Or Smyrna, proud of him she bore  
And struggled for, in days of yore,  
With six great cities . . . leave them all  
At more than Friendship's distant call,  
For one has promist me to bring  
Her rosebud hither in the spring.

If you find crowds upon their knees  
And shaking off too festive fleas,  
'Tis not in reverence of a saint  
Glorious in gold, sublime in paint.  
Look forward ; not far off you'll see  
A saint as female saints should be.  
No glory yet around her head  
Is visible ; a ray of red  
There is, this Modesty has given,  
A gift she brought with her from heaven.  
Distant she will not let you stand,  
Nay, you shall even touch her hand.  
This promise to you I will keep,  
I can not promise you sound sleep.

---

## TO COLONEL EDWARD STOPFORD.

---

O for the friends, the few I had,  
The hearts my presence once made glad!  
I mourn the memory; those are gone  
And, Stopford, you remain alone.  
While you look back upon the day  
You left behind the great and gay  
Destin'd in Freedom's holy war  
To guide the course of Bolivar,  
Dozing below my Abbey's wall  
I dreamt I heard a Muse's call. .

“ Come with me to Pan's favorite tree,  
“ There is reserv'd a place for thee,  
“ And there, if thou wilt wait awhile,  
“ A Nymph may lean on thee and smile,  
“ Until Maeonides appear  
“ Bidding thee listen well, and hear  
“ What to fit audience thou shalt tell,  
“ By whom and where Pelides fell.”

TO CAREY,  
ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO A LOW OFFICE  
IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

---

Carey ! I fear the fruits are scanty  
Thou gatherest from the fields of Dante,  
But thou hast found at least a shed  
Wherin to cram thy truckle-bed ;  
The porter's lodge of the Museum  
May daily hear thee sing *Te Deum*.

Peaches and grapes are mostly found  
Richest the nearest to the ground :  
Our gardeners take especial care  
To keep down low all boughs that bear.  
Dante's long labyrinthine line  
Is straiten'd and drawn tight by thine :  
Hell, devil, dog, in force remain,  
And Paradise blooms fresh again.

## AN OLD POET TÒ SLEEP.

---

No God to mortals oftener descends  
Than thou, O Sleep ! yet thee the sad alone  
Invoke, and gratefully thy gift receive.  
Some thou invitest to explore the sands  
Left by Pactolos, some to climb up higher,  
Where points Ambition to the pomp of War ;  
Others thou watchest while they tighten robes  
Which Law throws round them loose, and they  
    meanwhile  
Wink at a judge, and he the wink returns.  
Apart sit fewer, whom thou lovest more  
And leadest where unruffled rivers flow,  
Or azure lakes neath azure skies expand.  
These have no wider wishes, and no fears,  
Unless a fear, in turning, to molest  
The silent, solitary, stately swan,  
Disdaining the garrulity of groves  
Nor seeking shelter there from sun or storm.

Me also hast thou led among such scenes,  
Gentlest of Gods ! and Age appear'd far off  
While thou wast standing close above the couch,  
And whispered'st, in whisper not unheard,  
“ I now depart from thee, but leave behind  
My own twin-brother, friendly as myself,  
Who soon shall take my place ; men call him  
Death.

Thou hearest me, nor tremblest, as most do,  
In sooth why shouldst thou ? what man hast thou  
wrong'd

By deed or word ? few dare ask this within.”

There was a pause ; then suddenly said Sleep  
“ He whom I named approacheth, so farewell.”

---



## TO THE EMPRESS.

---

Proud may be all who fairly claim  
Montijo's unpolluted name,  
Altho' I neither love nor hate  
Those whom the vulgar call the great,  
My heart is rais'd as bends my knee,  
Bright lodestar of thy sex, to thee.

She whom my Stopford boasts for his  
Thy girlish smile afar must miss.  
On high Castilia's breezy plains  
Loved by thy mother she remains,  
And makes her at some hours forget  
Her loss, and find a daughter yet.

These homely words each courtier bard .  
Around thee would with scoffs discard.  
Wishes are left : of what ? Of wealth ?  
There is enough where there is health ; .  
Of glory ? there where God approves  
The woman whom a nation loves.  
Unvaried be henceforth thy life,  
Be blest as mother, blest as wife ;  
With friends in every state sit down,  
Nor feel the burden of a crown.

## MARGUERITE.

---

Ah Marguerite ! with you are gone  
The light and life of Kensington.  
Alone in Florence, griev'd I view  
Those scenes to which you bade adieu.  
Oft, gazing from the river-wall  
Up to the terrace, I recall  
The happy evenings there we past,  
Nor thought how briefly they would last.  
Can Paris ever make amends  
To *you* for Italy and friends ?  
Can all the world to *me* atone  
For losing you, and you alone,  
Or for that yearly summons . . . *Come*  
*While your two lilacs are in bloom ?*

## THE POETS OF SCOTLAND.

---

Thompson, there born where mist and snow  
Are the sole change the Seasons know,  
Saw them alternate in his dreams,  
And woke to charm the Nymphs of Thames.  
The generous Scott and stalwart Burns  
Blew Caledonia's pipe by turns ;  
And Campbell with no fainter voice  
Bade her in one more bard rejoice,  
When Hohenlinden made reply  
To "*Glorious death or victory!*"

---

Jonson to Shakespeare was prefer'd  
By the bell-jingling low-brow'd herd,  
Cowley to Milton, Who would mind  
The stumbles of the lame and blind ?

We may regret their sad estate,  
But can not make them amble strait

---

In youth I heard a story told,  
Written, it seems, in days of old,  
About a lawyer and a dog,  
And it was styled an *Apologue*.  
Perhaps it may be truth ; if so,  
It must have happened long ago,  
For now the name of Slick is known  
Among the Americans alone.

---

CHARLES II. OF SPAIN,  
TO HIS PRIME MINISTER,

---

Medina Ceti, you well know  
Our treasury is sadly low,  
And I have scarcely in my pocket  
Enough to buy the queen a locket.  
Now surely out of twenty-one  
Burnt heretics, 'twere better done  
To have put under every man  
And woman a wide dripping-pan ;  
We might have lighted, had we done so,  
The Virgin and Saint Ildefonso.

## THE SPITEFUL.

---

There are who, when they read a book  
 And find not that for which they look,  
 Spit venom over every page  
 With viperine and deadly rage.  
 What hurts them so? if hurt is done,  
 'Tis by their home-fed scorpion.  
 Imprudently they lick their sore,  
 A rabid tongue inflames it more.

## PROPHECY.

---

The Mexicans will flay the Spaniards  
 And throw their skins into the tanyards;  
 The tawny tribes around will wrench  
 Their beards and whiskers off the French,  
 And, after a good hearty scourging,  
 Devote them to the Blessed Virgin.

## ON A STONE IN 'A FIELD,

GIVEN TO THE POOR BY LUCY LADY NUGENT.

---

Thou liest within the church's door,  
 Lucy, thou mother of the poor!  
 Nugent, my friend from early years,  
 Freshens this turf with daily tears,  
 Where many wretches bend the knee  
 Who were less wretched once thro' thee.

## I R O N Y.

---

Irony is the imp of wit,  
 The truly witty banish it.  
 Where are the mountebank and clown  
 Who can not turn things upside down?  
 When one has fail'd in his endeavour  
 The other cries, Looky! thou art clever.

## ALARM AT ROME.

We fear that Christ must come once more  
 To land Saint Peter on our shore,  
 For never were the Fisher's sails  
 So torn and tattered by the gales.  
 What if his Lord he did deny,  
 And added many another lie,  
 Was he not long ago forgiven  
 And made the viceroy king of heaven?  
 Must he then stoop his crown from thence  
 To catch in it a pauper's pence?  
 O shame of shames! his eldest son  
 Quizzes, and cries *By Jove! what fun!*



ON SOUTHEY'S TOMB.

---

Few tears, nor those too warm, are shed  
 By poet over poet dead.  
 Without premeditated lay  
 To catch the crowd, I only say,  
 As over Southey's slab I bend,  
 The best of mortals was my friend.

---

Cursing Milton, Hampden, Sidney,  
 And all others of their kidney,  
 Satan's sons, who drew the sword  
 'Gainst the anointed of our Lord,  
 Whence this day hath been appointed,  
 Sacred to our Lord's anointed,  
 We will close it with a prayer  
 Such as He may deign to hear.

*Short prayer after long banning.*

“ Ever be there worshipt by us  
 Kings as merciful and pious !

Live, Sweetbriar, and protect the bones  
Of him who lies beneath these stones.  
Tho' perriwinkles cover o'er  
His relics, they can do no more.  
Bid idle girls, who come to gather  
Thy blossoms, look for others rather,  
Showing them, if they will not mind,  
Avenger Nemesis is behind,  
Who threatens they shall search in vain  
That finger with the guilty stain.

---

They smile on us by Time cut down  
Who always while we lived lookt sour,  
So grass smells sweetest when it's mown  
Than fresh and waving in full flower.

---

## TO MEMORY.

---

Thy daughters often visit me  
 And call thee mother, Memory !  
 Doubtful if thou art quite divine,  
 I never askt them who was thine  
 Altho' these children are so good,  
 There's somewhat acrid in thy blood,  
 For here and there I think I trace  
 A more than freckle in thy face.  
 Why tell me how serenely bright  
 Shone over me the morning light?  
 Why lead me backward far away  
 And make me wish for close of day ?

---

To see the cities and to know the men  
 Of many lands, in youth was Homer's lot;  
 In age to visit his far home agen  
 The Gods, who never feel it, granted not.

How many lives we live in threescore years !  
 If any Power could bring *one* back again  
 Would we accept it, offer'd us entire,  
 Forbidden to scoop out the price alone ?  
 We think we would ; but never did deceit  
 Illude us more : a little while we look,  
 And but a little, on the proffer'd gift,  
 Then we start off from it, and feebly cry  
 " Go restless youth ! insatiate manhood ! go...  
 Age ! art thou here too ? "

Let us bend an arm •

Under the weary head and doze awhile ;  
 Before another noon we may have found  
 A softer turf for sleeper, 'tis the grave's.

---

## THE DAUGHTER OF DANTE.

---

Thou, Beatrice, hast found an earlier rest  
 Than did thy father (holy as thyself)  
 In this Ravenna. May we hope that he  
 Shall view from heaven his countrymen at last  
 Loose from Teutonic and from Gallic chains,  
 And other more disgraceful forged at Rome.

## TO ROSE.

---

Another may despise my verse  
 And cry, *What poet could write worse,*  
*With Loves in legions at his beck*  
*And looking at them from her neck.*

I see them quite as well as they,  
 And haply what I see might say,  
 But I have always known that you  
 Far beyond all things prize the true,  
 And that you raise your eyes above  
 And list to Virtue more than Love,  
 Tho' amicably both contend.  
 To take precedence as your friend.

\* In the Convent of St Stefano dell' Uliva.

## ON THE DEATH OF ADMIRAL SIR SIDNEY SMITH.

---

I am invited (why ?) in latin phrase  
To write thy epitaph.

Two glorious men,  
Sydney, have borne thy name through distant lands,  
But here no sailor, here no orphan, lifts  
His mournful head to read what Rome would write  
And place among the noblest, wert thou hers.

Children, in earlier or in later life,  
May play grave follies in the sculptured aisle,  
And lengthen out in it the stiffer tongue ;  
It suits not me to make the rustic stare  
And ask what booby never learnt to spell  
A name that every cabin-boy has chalkt,  
And every sunday-school-girl has prickt out  
Upon her sampler for the brighter silk,  
The name of Sidney ; of that Admiral  
Who left his ship and stood on Acre's tower  
Tottering beneath him, and drove back dismayed  
The renegade of honor and of God.

More than one realm by that one blow he saved ;  
Some by their weakness are about to fall,  
Some by their violence...may these fall the first !

TO THE COUNTESS OF ARRAN,  
ON THE DECEASE OF GEN. SIR W. NAPIER.

---

You, who can trace with golden pen  
The features of departed men,  
Leave darling Poesy awhile  
On weaker, giddier, heads to smile.  
Now two less happy years are gone  
And Sorrow further off has flown,  
Show how your father knew to blend  
The sage, the soldier, and the friend,  
To make even History love Truth,  
At variance from their early youth.

## TO THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

Pleas'd was I when you told me how  
 In hat that buffeted the brow  
 And mason's loose habiliment  
 With masons thro' Ham's gate you went.  
 Heartily glad was I to see  
 A prisoner, though a prince, set free.

“ Prince !” said I, “ you've escaped two worst  
 Of evils.”

“ I have known a first,”  
 Said you, “ but that is only one,  
 Tell me the other.”

“ 'Tis a throne.”

I could not add what now I might,  
 It keeps the worthy out of sight,  
 Nor lets the sinner sit upright.

Can there be pleasure to keep down  
 In rusty chains a struggling town ?  
 Can there be any to hear boom  
 Your cannon o'er the walls of Rome ?  
 Or shows it strength to break a word  
 As easily as girls a cord



Of flimsy cotton, when the bell  
Calls them to dinner?...To rebel  
Against rebellion in your eyes  
Is criminal, to crouch is wise.  
Louis! your father thought not so;  
His scepter he disdain'd to owe  
To falsehood; all his cares he bent  
To make the realm he ruled content.  
He proved, what many people doubt  
As often as they look about,  
A wonderful unheard of thing...  
An honest man may be a king.

---

Lyndhurst came up to me among  
A titled and untitled throng,  
And after a few words were said  
About the living and the dead,  
Whom we had known together more  
Than half a century before,  
He added: "Faith! your choice was best  
Amid the woods to build a nest.  
But why so seldom wing it down,  
To look at us who toil in town?"  
"Would you change place with me?" said I.  
To this a laugh was a reply.

TO CHAUCER,  

---

Chaucer, O how I wish thou wert  
Alive and, as of yore, alert!  
Then, after bandied tales, what fun  
Would we two have with monk and nun.  
Ah, surely verse was never meant  
To render mortals somnolent.  
In Spenser's labyrinthine rhymes  
I throw my arms o'erhead at times,  
Opening sonorous mouth as wide  
As oystershells at ebb of tide.  
Mistake me not: I honour him  
Whose magic made the Muses dream  
Of things they never knew before,  
And scenes they never wandered o'er.  
I dare not follow, nor again  
Be wafted with the wizard train.

No bodyless and soulless elves  
I seek, but creatures like ourselves.  
If any poet now runs after  
The Faeries, they will split with laughter,  
Leaving him in the desert, where  
Dry grass is emblematic fare.  
Thou wast content to act the squire  
Becomingly, and mount no higher,  
Nay, at fit season to descend  
Into the poet with a friend,  
Then ride with him about thy land  
In lithesome nutbrown boots well-tann'd,  
With lordly greyhound, who would dare  
Course against law the summer hare,  
Nor takes to heart the frequent crack  
Of whip, with curse that calls him back.

The lesser Angels now have smiled  
To see thee frolic like a child,  
And hear thee, innocent as they,  
Provoke them to come down and play.

---

Lyons! thou art a grateful city,  
To feel for Pius so much pity,

His velvet slippers now look neater,  
With so much bullion clubbed for Peter.  
But thou could'st offer nothing less,  
For wearing thy embroider'd dress,  
Well suiting that three-storied steeple,  
Ringing its bells above the people,  
Instead of harbouring those poor  
Who now infest thy weaver's door.

---

## TO SIR SAMUEL MEYRICK.

---

Meyrick, when I had gazed on all  
The treasures round each trophied wall,  
Where armour of past ages shows  
How brave were some whom no one knows,  
You did not point out, just beneath,  
The house of him\* who conquer'd Death,  
Swift that dragon who fought with pen,  
Against the chief of black-mail'd men  
Who kickt, headforemost, Truth downstairs  
On grudging him his pence for prayers.

\* Swift's family was from Goodrick.

## TO GENERAL CLARGES.

---

Threescore and ten the years since Rugby saw  
 My bloody battles on the cricket-ground,  
 And, Clarges, you remember that I fought  
 Never with any but an older lad,  
 And never lost but two fights in thirteen.  
 Why wonder then if I so little heed  
 The petulance of weaker than myself,  
 Who play the judge and take the seat above?  
 See you not what they want? they scarce hope  
     wrath,  
 It would be something would I but reply.  
 I let them light on any balder place,  
 As flies do, and forbear to whisk them off;  
 To buffet them is but an invitation  
 To come again and blacken the repast.

REMONSTRANCE TO MACAULAY,  
ON ATTACKING THE MEMORY OF W. PENN.

---

Macaulay ! Envy's self must praise  
The spirit of thy Roman "*Lays.*"  
None cheer'd more heartily than I  
When the triumphal car roll'd by,  
Follow'd by songs which well become  
The chaste and stately Muse of Rome.

Why drawest thou a gall-black pen  
Across the face of quiet men ?  
Deserves he this who mildly taught  
That some are brave yet never fought,  
Who dared mid fiercest hordes to stand  
With open breast and open hand.  
He show'd them what their soil could bear  
Better than tomahawk and spear ;  
That the Great Spirit, lord of all  
More gladly hears the widow's call  
Than cruelly exultant yell  
Shaking the very gate of Hell.

Macaulay ! let one hero rest  
By millions after millions blest.

## REMONSTRANCE AND ADVICE TO BYRON.

---

Say, Byron, why is thy attar  
 Profusely dasht with vinegar?  
 Each of them in its place is good,  
 But neither fit for daily food.  
 Open thy latticed window wide  
 For breezes from the Ægæan tide;  
 'And from Hymettus may its bee  
 Bear honey on each wing to thee:  
 But keep apart these two perfumes  
 For hospitals and drawing-rooms.  
 • Now one more counsel: let alone  
 The fatty that outflanks the throne,  
 Nor fancy you can cure a leper  
 With poultices of cayenne-pepper.



THORWALDSEN LEAVING ROME  
FOR COPENHAGEN.

---

Thorwaldsen, thou art going forth  
 To brave the breezes of the north.  
 Its star attracts thee, and (above  
 That stedfast star) the star of Love ;  
 Not Love the God whom poets feign  
 To lead us idlers in his train,  
 But such as patriots see him stand  
 Pointing toward their native land.  
 Revisit her, but leave behind  
 The brood of thy creative mind.  
 Partial is Italy to those  
 Hearing whose voice the Arts arose,  
 Amid them Buonarotti sate,  
 Proud monarch of a triple state,  
 Until he bow'd his aged head  
 And bade thee reign o'er one instead.

## THE CONTRITE PRIEST.

---

Incline, O Mary, from thy throne  
 To hear a contrite sinner own  
 His manifold and' grievous sins,  
 Thick as the serried ranks of pins,  
 But first (for time is precious) hear  
 What the black score in part may clear.

I always ate (for 'twas thy wish,  
 On Fridays we should dine on fish)  
 Turbot or lamprey or whate'er  
 The cook thought proper to prepare ;  
 Ay, I have been constrain'd to stoop  
 To creeping things, and sigh o'er soup  
 Founded on oysters, taught to swim  
 For the first time in beardless trim.

Ah, lady! couldst thou only know  
 The anguish of my heart and toe!  
 Help! tis impossible without  
 Thy help to keep at bay the gout.

## SCENE.

JAMES II. OF SCOTS, EARL OF ATHOL, SIR ROBERT STEWART,  
HIS GRANDSON, AND GRAHAM.

*Scene:—A bed-chamber in the Dominican Convent,  
Perth.*

---

KING.

Uncle! and thou too with these murderers!  
Nay, hide not thy grey head behind that door  
Half broken down. See I thee, cousin Robert?  
Thee, with a dagger in thy grasp! the intent  
Is plain. I ask no grace of thee, for thou  
Who never hast known love canst not know pity

EARL.

If thou hadst not, this realm had never stoopt  
Before a scepter in a stranger's hand.

GRAHAM.

We come to vindicate our country's rights  
And have no time to parley.

EARL.

Thou, my liege,  
Hast injured all of us. What lord is safe  
In his own castle from thy vengeful laws?

GRAHAM.

Answer us that.

KING.

What honest traveler  
Is safe from rapine where your wide domains  
And power usurpt from sovereignty extend.

GRAHAM.

Are there no ladies in this land of ours  
Worthy to mate with any king?

KING.

Yea, many.

GRAHAM.

Why then should England force upon the throne  
An alien brood.

KING.

Cease, villain ! I was free.  
So are ye all in this ; rich, poor, alike ;  
Are kings alone debarr'd ? I chose a mate  
Of royal blood, not for her royalty,  
Unless such royalty as God imparts  
When he gives grace and virtue ; these are Jane's.  
Would ye slay her too ?

EARL.

We war not with women.

KING.

Ye war against them when ye strike the breast  
They cling to.

EARL.

Thou shouldst have been stil her minstrel.  
Is it becoming in a king to ride  
About the country with a single groom,  
And crouch thro' half-rooft cottages, and ask  
The creatures to complain of aught amiss?  
As if they had not plenty to blab out  
Against their lords; are they not our born serfs?  
Answer us that.

KING.

I am God's bailiff, sir,  
Not yours, to Him alone I give account.

GRAHAM.

That shalt thou speedily; the book is closed;  
Take it him.

EARL.

Well done, Graham, strike again.

GRAHAM.

He folds his cloak around him so, and lifts  
So high both upright arms, there is no place.

EARL

Well, well, methinks we have done enough to-  
day.  
He speaks tho'.

KING.

Robert! art *thou* here?

ROBERT.

My liege!  
Here am I. What may be our lord's commands?

KING.

Thou at least art no robber...take my ring...  
Give it to *her*. :but first wipe off the blood  
If there be any on it.

GRAHAM.

She has one,  
And can not want another : ruby rings  
Suit ill for marriages, and worse for deaths.

ROBERT.

Peace, Graham, peace.  
Sire, thy behest is sacred.

KING.

Robert! thou art again for this half-hour  
What thou wast when we both were only boys.

ROBERT.

Sire, your breath fails you.  
(*Aside*) Faith! and mine fails too.

KING.

Give it her...call some holy man ..haste...go.



## A B E R T A W Y .

It was no dull tho' lonely strand  
 Where thyme ran o'er the solid sand,  
 Where snap-dragons with yellow eyes  
 Lookt down on crowds that could not rise,  
 Where Spring had fled with dew the moss  
 In winding dells two strides across.  
 There tiniest thorniest roses grew  
 To their full size, nor shared the dew :  
 Acute and jealous, they took care  
 That none their softer seat should share ;  
 A weary maid was not to stay  
 Without one for such churls as they.  
 I tugg'd and lugg'd with all my might  
 To tear them from their roots outright ;  
 At last I did it. .eight or ten...  
 We both were snugly seated then ;  
 But then she saw a half-round bead,  
 And cried, *Good gracious ! how you bleed !*

Gently she wiped it off, and bound  
With timorous touch that dreadful wound.  
To lift it from its nurse's knee  
I fear'd, and quite as much fear'd she,  
For might it not increase the pain  
And make the wound burst out again ?  
She coaxt it to lie quiet there  
With a low tune I bent to hear ;  
How close I bent I quite forget,  
I only know I hear it yet.  
Where is she now ? Call'd far away,  
By one she dared not disobey,  
To those proud halls, for youth unfit,  
Where princes stand and judges sit.

Where Ganges rolls his widest wave  
She dropt her blossom in the grave ;  
Her noble name she never changed,  
Nor was her nobler heart estranged.

---

PRAYER OF WALTER MAPES TO  
HIS HOLINESS THE POPE.

---

Beatitude ! we humbly ask  
For each poor priest his second flask.  
Hourly we pray for daily bread.  
Take half, and give us wine instead.  
Thou keepest, as we know, the keys  
Of heaven and earth ; now, one of these  
Can ope the cellar as thou wilt ;  
Trust us, no drop shall there be spilt.  
If ever should a vintage fail  
(God help us !) we must come to ale.  
In sooth our sins deserve it all,  
Yet never may such evil fall  
Upon the priesthood and the grapes  
Most fervently prays Walter Mapes.

## VICTOR HUGO.

---

Whether a poet yet is left  
In France I know not, and who knows?  
But Hugo, of his home bereft,  
In quiet Jersey finds repose.

Honour to him who dares to utter  
A word of truth in writ or speech  
In Hugo's land the brave but mutter  
Half one, in dread whose ear it reach.

## CROMWELL.

God's servant, Milton's friend ! what higher praise  
 Can man attain who labors all his days ?  
 Protector of three realms ! a power was thine  
 Dangerous to hold, more dangerous to resign.  
 England proclaimed thee with her trumpet voice,  
 And England's will was ever Cromwell's choice.  
 Let weaker men, and weaker all men are,  
 How they would mount such eminence beware.  
 Outcast of his own slaves, one dared to mock  
 The voice of Truth...he rots upon a rock :  
 The vultures and the cormorants fly round  
 To feast upon a heart so long unsound.  
 Each says, "*I am his kindred ; and the least  
 He should bequeath me is a final feast.*"

Cunning the wretch may be, but never wise,  
 Who thinks a head is safe that rests on lies.

THE PRIEST AND THE SINNER.  

---

Once an old sinner call'd a priest  
And told him he would be confest.  
The priest in horror heard him tell  
Sin after sin, and threaten'd hell  
With all its torments after death,  
Its fires, its gnashings of the teeth  
Eternally : to all the rest  
Denounced as certain by the priest  
The wretch grew more and more afraid,  
But what about the teeth was said  
Seem'd more like comfort : the good father  
No reasons for such change could gather.  
He cried, "Thou shudderest not, my son,  
At what so soon is coming on."  
"Alas !" the penitent exclaimed,  
"I shuddered when that fire was named.  
Now, father, if they would but spare  
That cursed fire, I should not care  
About the teeth ; but two remain,  
And they can never gnash again."

## ON THE POISONING OF SPARROWS.

---

My fondled ones ! whom every day  
 In childhood I call'd forth to play,  
 A call ye minded not until  
 The crumbs were on the window-sill ;  
 Then down ye fluttered ; then ye fought  
 More fiercely than good sparrows ought,  
 For there was not a speckled breast  
 To cause a jealous one unrest,  
 And not a Lesbia at whose beck  
 There came a pouting lip to peck.

Ah me ! what rumour do I hear ?  
 It makes me shrivel up with fear.  
 Can it...it never can...be true,  
 That poison is prepared for *you*,  
 Who clear the blossoms as they shoot  
 And watch the bud and save the fruit ?  
 Turn, turn again your sideling eyes  
 On one more grateful and more wise.

## DICKENS.

---

You ask me what I see in Dickens..  
A game-cock among bantam chickens.

## THE COLONELS' CRY.

---

Sire! sire! cast off the worn-out garb  
Of that old Brutus ; mount thy barb,  
Leap o'er the Channel, spurn and spit on  
The turbulent and faithless Briton.  
Blood we must have, for without blood  
Who can digest his daily food?  
Give us it; rather than have none,  
We would a brother's or our own,  
Already are our brave made frantic  
By their confinement to the Atlantic,  
When Glory, true French Glory, calls  
To batter Montezuma's walls.  
Remember, 'tis your mission, sire,  
To set two hemispheres a fire.



## A MOTHER TO A BOY.

---

“ God writes down every idle word  
He and His Angels round have heard.”  
So spake a mother : in reply  
The little fellow cried, “ *O my !*  
His writing I should like to see ;  
How big the copybook must be !  
Can you not let me get a peep,  
Mamma, before I go to sleep ?”

## THE VIRGIN OF IMPRUNETA.

---

In Impruneta may be seen  
 An image of our heavenly queen,  
 Who once appear'd in full court-dress  
 Us, who adore her there, to bless ;  
 Hence amethysts and sapphires shine  
 For ever round that head divine.  
 But lest the other self awake  
 Our piety, and we mistake,  
 She makes her face as black as ink,  
     And seldom has been known to wink.  
 We pray the black for timely rain,  
 The white to send the sun again.

## GIRL AND DIOGENES.

" Men call you *dog* : now tell me why,"  
 A little girl said : in reply  
 Diogenes said, smiling at her,  
 " My child ! how wickedly men flatter !"

My verses, all I wrote of late,  
 To Vulcan I would dedicate,  
 But it is right that you precede  
 With larger offering, gentle Reade !

## TO ROSE.

I see a man whom age should make more wise  
 Unable to repress his swelling sighs  
 At sight of you. Ah ! let him be forgiven...  
 Thus swells old Ocean when the queen of heaven  
 In fullest, brightest, majesty appears,  
 Ascending calmly mid attendant stars.

## TO A LITERARY CONFRATERNITY.

---

Keep honest, sobersided men,  
 Across your mouths the impatient pen,  
 I will supply you with a dozen  
 When your ink ceases to be frozen.

---

“Come, let us fight, my boy!” said one,  
 Boldly enough, to Philip’s son :  
 And coolly Philip’s son replied  
 “I fight with kings, and none beside.”

---

*Pardon our enemies, we pray*  
 Devoutly every sabbath-day ;  
 Ere the next morn we change our notes,  
 And blow them up or cut their throats.  
 Above us and below meanwhile  
 The Angels weep, the Devils smile.

---

Unhappy he whom Love beguiles  
 With wavering and insidious smiles ;  
 Unhappier, who has lived to prove  
 That Friendship is as frail as Love.

---

Snap at me, Malice ! snap ; thy teeth are rotten  
 And hurt me not : all know thee misbegotten !  
 The cureless evil runs throughout thy race,  
 And from Cain downward thy descent we trace.

---

There are a hundred now alive  
 Who buz about the summer hive,  
 Alas ! how very few of these  
 Poor little busy poet bees  
 Can we expect again to hum  
 When the next summer shall have come.

---

A scholar was about to marry,  
 His friend said, " Ere thou dost, be wary.  
 So wise art thou that I forsee  
 A wife will make a fool of thee.

Foolishest of all fools are those  
 Wise men led daily by the nose.  
 It hardly seems a woman's while  
 The fond half-witted to beguile :  
 And yet I must confess, my friend,  
 Sometimes they do so condescend.

---

They tell us, the persuasive Greek,  
 When from the bema he would speak,  
 To make more clear some weighty truth  
 Roll'd a round pebble in his mouth.  
 Napoleon, try this help again,  
 Or any other, to speak plain,  
 For now, your words so strangely jar,  
 War sounds like peace and peace like war.

### TO A GERMAN.

---

You think all liquor must be weak if clear,  
 Find wit in Goethe, miss it in Voltaire.  
 Your beer has plenty both of malt and hop,  
 But of the bright and sparkling not a drop.

A ROYAL PRESENT TO A LEARNED  
PROFESSOR.

---

George\* sent the skull of Robert Bruce  
To Blumenbach. "Sire! of what use,"  
Said Blumenbach, "is Bruce's skull?  
And who was Bruce? now, were it full  
Of hock or (better) old tokay,  
I'd drink your health some jolly day  
And never mind whose scalp it was,  
But toss it off and let it pass."

\* George IV., who knew little of Blumenbach and cared less  
for Bruce, whom the learned Blumenbach had never heard of.—  
See HAYWARDS' FAUST, p. 329.

THE SQUIRE.  

---

A village church one Sabbath-day,  
Many had entered there to pray.  
Some knelt along the flagstone floor,  
Old men, old women, halt and poor.  
Piously in response they said  
“ *Give us this day our daily bread.*”  
Whether they got it, I don't know,  
But twice or thrice they pleaded so.  
Those words the squire repeated too  
Above his cushion'd gilt nail'd-pew.  
Sudden a distant shot he heard,  
And up his portly girth was reared.  
“ Jim !” cried he, “ *drowsy devil ! run,  
Tell keeper...by the Lord!...a gun!  
Zounds ! I am always in bad luck...  
Perhaps there goes my fattest buck !*”



## A FUNERAL.

---

A hearse is passing by in solemn state,  
 Within lies one whom people call the great.  
 Its plumes seem nodding to the girls below '   
 As they gaze upward at the rareeshow, [run  
 Boys from the pavement snatch their tops, and  
 To know what in the world can be the fun.

## FRIENDS.

---

The heaviest curse that can on mortal fall  
 Is "who has friends may he outlive them all!"  
 This malediction has awaited me  
 Who had so many...I could once count three.

## FAVOUR.

---

On holy Westminster's recording-stone  
 Hallam has epitaph, and Napier none!

---

We have old women and to spare  
 None fit to judge like thine, Moliere ;  
 Youngsters and dotards shove to teach,  
 And carp at what they can not reach.

---

Belzebub, never be afraid  
 To lose thy chaplain doctor Wade,  
 No sleeping partner, tired of trade.

In church he neither prays nor preaches,  
 Mobs, all that mobs require, he teaches,  
 Well leaven'd at thy fire his speeches.

Without a fee he will not have

His mother's touch his father's grave ;

Thy imps hear this and cry *O brave!*

He says, " In Paradise the trees  
 " Grew well apart, for sun and breeze,  
 " Why closer then my plants than these?  
 " Tombs are but monuments to pride  
 " In chancels : I can ill abide  
 " Such practise."

Then he adds, aside,

" Yet our poor brethren must be fed  
 " On bodies that are cased in lead,  
 " So...give ten pounds...and bless the dead."

---

The slender birds enjoy their cages,  
 Captivity the strong enrages.  
 While piping finches wag their tails  
 Before the catcher at Versailles,  
 Against the Czar the brave rebell  
 And hate the Kaisar worse than hell.

---

With frowning brow o'er pontif-kings elate.  
 Stood Dante, great the man, the poet great.  
 Milton in might and majesty surpast  
 The triple world, and far his shade was cast.  
 On earth he sang amid the Angelic host,  
 And Paradise to him was never lost.  
 But there was one who came these two between  
 With larger light than yet our globe had seen.  
 Various were his creations, various speech  
 Without a Babel he bestow'd on each.  
 Raleigh and Bacon towered above that earth  
 Which in their day had given our Shakespeare birth,  
 And neither knew his presence ! they half-blind  
 Saw not in him the grandest of mankind.

---

Flies have alighted on the shanks of Pan,  
 And some have settled upon Homer's head;  
 We whisk them off with jewel-studded fan  
 Till few escape and many more lie dead.

---

Ye who have toil'd uphill to reach the haunt  
 Of other men who lived in other days,  
 Whether the ruins of a citadel  
 Rais'd on the summit by Pelasgic hands,  
 Or chamber of the distaff and the song...  
 Ye will not tell what treasure there ye found,  
 But I will.

Ye found there the viper laid  
 Full-length, flat-headed, on a sunny slab,  
 Nor loth to hiss at ye while crawling down:  
 Ye saw the owl flap the loose ivy-leaves  
 And, hooting, shake the berries on your heads.

Now, was it worth your while to mount so high  
 Merely to say ye did it, and to ask  
 If those about ye ever did the like?  
 Believe me; O my friends, 'twere better far  
 To stretch your limbs along the level sand  
 As they do, where small children scoop the drift,  
 Thinking it must be gold, where curlews soar  
 And scales drop glistening from the prey above.

---

Why wouldst thou hang thyself, O Kett?  
 If all God's laws thou didst forget,  
 One English law was worth recalling  
 To memory...that against forestalling.

---

Where, Cross of Savoy ! shall be found  
 To fix thee on, a palm of ground?  
 The Church's son by right divine  
 Seizes on every span of thine.  
 But do not so lament thy loss  
 While yet remains another Cross :  
 A sister Cross of prouder stem  
 Invites thee to Jerusalem.  
 Jerusalem thou stil mayst get to,  
 Mounting an Angel at Loreto.

---

From Youth's bright wing the soonest fall  
 The brightest feathers of them all :  
 Few of the others that remain  
 Are there without some darker stain ;  
 Youth, when at these old Age looks grim,  
 Cries, "*Who the devil cares for him ?*"

---

## WRITTEN IN A CATULLUS.

---

Among these treasures there are some  
 That floated past the wreck of Rome ;  
 But others, for their place unfit,  
 Are sullied by uncleanly wit.  
 So in its shell the pearl is found  
 With rank putridity around.

---

Upon his death-bed lay a pagan priest ;  
 A pious brother when the worst had ceast  
 Consoled him thus.

“ Think now what pleasure yields  
 The nearer prospect of Elysian fields,”  
 “ Ah ! said he, “ all about those fields we know  
 But mushrooms, are good mushrooms there below ?”

---

Toward Maiano let me look again  
 Across my narrow plain.  
 What there to see? an image, nothing more.  
 Nina, in days of yore,  
 There listened to the warbling of that bird  
 Whose voice last night I heard  
 Just opposite my terrace; it had kept  
 My heart awake, nor slept  
 All night itself. . . Maiano, she may claim  
 The grandest Tuscan name.  
 Nina of Dante; she it was whose song  
 Was felt our woods among  
 Before the mightier Alighieri rose  
 To blast his country's foes.  
 Above these olives I shall often see,  
 Nina! the Shade of thee.

---

The sea has depths no plummet-line  
 Can reach, no science can divine;  
 And earth has poems so profound  
 No line can ever reach the ground;  
 They fly about in empty air  
 And boys catch at 'em here and there.

---

A poor artificer had sold  
 Some sweepings of his master's gold,  
 And when he was brought into court  
 The jury had condemned him for't,  
 But the wise judge, more angry with  
 The plaintiff than the needy smith,  
 Said, "Is it not too shabby, sir,  
 To make for sweepings such a stir?"  
 "My lord," said he, "you little know  
 The worth of gold who reckon so.  
 These sweepings in a year or two  
 Weigh more than what the king pays you."

---

"Call me not forth," said one who sate retired,  
 Whom Love had once, but Envy never, fired.  
 "I scorn the crowd: no clap of hands he seeks  
 Who walks among the stateliest of the Greeks."

---

Sometimes a Jesuit's\* words are true,  
 For proof one specimen may do.  
 "To malice all an ear incline,  
 "Even the few who don't malign."

---

\* Vavassor.



Blest are the bad alone while here;  
 Alone they never shed a tear,  
 The wise and virtuous grieve the most . .  
 Southey, until all sense was lost,  
 Bewail'd a son's untimely end,  
 And Tennyson embalm'd a friend.  
 I dare not place my name with those,  
 But have not I, too, wept for Rose?

---

My fragrant *Lime*, I loved thee long before,  
 Rose calls thee *Linden*, now I love thee more.  
 Her breath can make the unripe blossom blow,  
 And Spring revive afresh, entombed in snow.

---

Squibs, crackers, serpents, rockets, Bengal lights,  
 Lead thousands running to the Dardanelles,  
 Where girls by sackfuls bubble thro' the wave;  
 I, leaving good old Homer, not o'erlong,  
 Enjoy the merriment of Chaucer's tales  
 Or louder glee of the large-hearted Burns,  
 And then partaking Southey's wholesome fare,  
 Plenteous, and savoury, without spice, I turn,  
 To my own sofa, where incontinent  
 Wordsworth's low coo brings over me sound sleep.

---

Rancour is often the most bitter  
 Between two mongrels of one litter.  
 The old bitch Themis grins to teach  
 Her whelps where lies the prey for each.  
 They crack the hard, they tear the tough,  
 And never think they gorge enough.  
 From Death alone would they crouch back,  
 For Death shows bones they can not crack.

---

Fiesole's bishop overlookt  
 A flock of lambkins, these he crookt  
 With crook that slightly hurt the skin  
 Of those he tenderly drew in.  
 I would have seen the little flock,  
 But found the fold was under lock.  
 I heard some sighs and . . . *Oh my lord!*  
 Then followed not another word.

---

Why should the scribblers discompose  
 Our temper? would we look like those?  
 There are some curs in every street  
 Who snarl and snap at all they meet:  
 The taller mastif deems it aptest  
 To lift a leg and play the baptist.

WRITTEN IN SPAIN.  

---

Citius ! wherefor here exude  
Til drowsy flocks forget their food ?  
Thy soporific incense keep  
For church, where all are bound to sleep.

ADVICE TO AN OLD POET.  

---

After edition comes edition,  
And scarce a dozen copies gone ;  
Suppose you take another " mission "   
And let the weary press alone.

## RECALL OF SIR EDMUND HEAD.

---

Our ministers, we hear, recall  
 The Governor from Montreal.  
 I wonder whom they send instead,  
 I only know they want a Head.

---

Two rival lawyers, Gabb and Gabell,  
 Make Abergany comfortable.  
 To Welshmen stiff and heady quarrels  
 Are needful as their *cwrw*-barrels ;  
 Of both they quaff, sup after sup,  
 Until they fairly are laid up.

---

Thou hast not lost all glory, Rome !  
 With thee have found their quiet home  
 To whom we followers most admire  
 Of those that swell our sacred quire ;  
 And many a lowered voice repeats  
 Hush ! here lies Shelley ! here lies Keats !

## A FOREN RULER.

---

He says, *My reign is peace*, so slays  
 A thousand in the dead of night.  
*Are you all happy now?* he says;  
 And those he leaves behind cry *quite*.  
 He swears he will have no contention,  
 And sets all nations by the ears;  
 He shouts aloud, *No intervention!*  
 Invades, and drowns them all in tears.

## A DOMESTIC RULER.

---

Outrageous hourly with his wife is Peter,  
 Some do aver he has been known to beat her.  
 "*She seems unhappy,*" said a friend one day,  
 Peter turn'd sharply . . . "What is that you say?  
 Her temper you have there misunderstood,  
 She dares not be unhappy, if she wou'd."

---

Of those who speak about Voltaire  
 The least malicious are unfair.  
 The groundlings neither heed nor know  
 The victories of Apollo's bow ;  
 What powers of darkness he withstood  
 And stampt upon the Python's blood.  
 Observing stil his easy pace,  
 They call it levity, not grace.

---

A dying man was sore perplext  
 About what people would do next.  
 " Now was it not too bad that lead  
 Should fasten down the helpless dead ?  
 And iron coffins must be made  
 To suit the tricksters of the trade !  
 I will not have one, for I doubt  
 How in the world I should get out.  
 A strip of deal is not so tough,  
 Yet may be troublesome enough.

---

" *Song of the Shirt.*" Strange ! very strange,  
 This shirt will never want a change,  
 Nor ever will wear out so long  
 As Britain has a heart or tongue.

## REPLY TO AN INVITATION.

*Will you come to the bower I have shaded for you?  
 Our couch shall be roses all spangled with dew.*  
 Tommy Moore, Tommy Moore, I'll be hang'd if I  
 do,

It would give me a cough, and a rheumatise too.  
 The girl who is prudent, I take it would rather  
 Repose (and alone) upon horsehair or feather.  
 Poor Peggy O'Corcoran listened to some  
 Who sang in her ear, *Will you come? Will you  
 come?* [pose is  
 She swells and she squaddles . . so what I sup-  
 She must have been lying one day upon roses.

Come lads, the day is all before ye,  
 Jerrold will tell a merry story,  
 And ere ye go to bed ye may  
 Regale on Wordsworth's curds and whey.  
 I can not own you, for I question  
 If such things suit with my digestion.

I well remember one departed now,  
 Who rais'd in wonder an unbraided brow,  
 When I said, "Come to me, my pretty child!" .  
 She hesitated, ran to me, and smiled.

"Now mind!" cried she, "don't tumble my lace-  
 frill !

Nothing like that would dear mamma take ill."  
 She grew in beauty to her twentieth year,  
 Then knew, nor fear'd to know, that death was  
 near.

Like ripen'd corn was laid her patient head,  
 Yet say not, impious Man ! that she is dead.

---

Oft, when the Muses would be festive,  
 Unruly Pegasus runs restive,  
 And, over the Pierian fount  
 Flies upward to their sacred mount ;  
 Aware that marshes rot the hoof  
 He proudly wings his way aloof.  
 He loves the highest ground the best,  
 And takes where eagles soar his rest.



## DECLARATION OF WAR BY SPAIN.

Is haughty Spain again in arms?  
 What honest flame her bosom warms?  
 Rise thou who tookest once thy stand  
 On gloomy Calpé's subject strand,  
 And while the lightning of the brave  
 Cast a dire splendour o'er the wave,  
 Didst see destruction at their side  
 From billow upon billow stride.  
 In clouds the thundering demon came,  
 Clouds were without, within was flame;  
 Dismay cried, "where is Gades' shore?"  
 And scream'd and hurried swift before,  
 While Britons rais'd their prostrate foes  
 From shatter'd wrecks of blasted prows.  
 Leaving for thee her Paphian domes,  
 The Goddess of Lucretius comes!  
 Pours upon thee her heavenly light,  
 Arms thee with all her Marsis might,  
 And tempers with eternal fire  
 For thee\* Ausonia's golden lyre.

\* Rob Smith, author of *Mare Liberum*.

## ANSWER TO A DOG'S INVITATION.

---

Faithfullest of a a faithful race,  
 Plainly I read it in thy face  
 Thou wishest me to mount the stairs  
 And leave behind me all my cares.  
 No ; I shall never see again  
 Her who now sails across the main ;  
 Nor wilt thou ever, as before,  
 Rear two white feet against her door.  
 Therefor do thou nor whine nor roam,  
 But rest thee and curl round at home.

---

How calm, how bland, appears the moon above  
 us !  
 Surely there dwell the Spirits who most love us.  
 So think we, and gaze on : the well-pois'd glass  
 Suddenly bids the sweet illusion pass,  
 And tells us, bright as may be this outside,  
 Within are gulphs and desolation wide,  
 Craters extinct and barren rocks around,  
 And darkest depths no plummet-line could sound ;  
 Then on the heart these jarring words descend . .  
 Man ! hast thou never found such in a friend ?

## EXCOMMUNICATION

DENOUNCED ON JANUARY, 30, 1850.

---

Cursed be the wretch who snarls.  
 At the blessed martyr Charles,  
 And who traitorously opposes  
 Slitting ears and shortening noses.  
 Fifty thousand Devils scourge  
 The blasphemers of Saint George.  
 Let our Church with annual rites  
 Celebrate the first of knights,  
 While the choir more loudly sings  
 Glory to the best of kings !

---

Here are two millstones, and thou must  
 O Italy ! be ground to dust.  
 Who can say which most grinds thee, whether  
 It be the upper or the nether ?

## TO TACÆA.

To-morrow, brightest-eyed of Avon's train,  
 To-morrow thou art slavelike bound and sold,  
 Another's and another's ; haste away,  
 Winde thro' the willows, dart along the path,  
 It nought avails thee, nought our plaint avails.  
 O happy those before me, who could say  
 " Short tho' thy period, sweet Tacæa, short  
 Ere thou art destined to the depths below,  
 Thou passest half thy sunny hours with me."

I mourn not, envy not, what others gain,  
 Thee, and thy venerable elms I mourn,  
 Thy old protectors, ruthless was the pride,  
 And gaunt the need that bade their heads lie low.  
 I see the meadow's tender grass start back,  
 See from their prostrate trunks the gory glare.  
 Ah ! pleasant was it once to watch thy waves  
 Swelling o'er pliant beds of glossy weed ;

Pleasant to watch them dip amid the stones,  
Chirp, and spring over, glance and gleam along,  
And tripping light their wanton way pursue.  
Methinks they now with mellow mournfulness  
Bid their faint breezes chide my fond delay,  
Nor suffer on the bridge nor on the knee  
My poor irregularly pencil'd page.  
Alas, Tacæa, thou art sore deceived!  
Here are no foren words, no fatal seal,  
But thou and all who hear me shall avow  
The simple notes of sorrow's song are here.

---

TO ROSINA,  
ON HER TENTH BIRTHDAY.

---

While you are chirping as the lark  
We heard above in Prior-park,  
Perhaps below it your old bard  
May be asleep in that churchyard,  
Our races to the bridge all past  
And dust upon his dust be cast ; .  
Not such as once your nimbler feet  
Threw back on his.

Soon friends will meet  
Your beauty and your growth to praise.  
And wish you many natal days.  
To make her happier some may dare  
To tell mama how like you are ;  
And some will press to kiss her brow,  
As in fond fancy I do now.

## ON THE DEATH OF IANTHE.

---

I dare not trust my pen it trembles so ;  
 It seems to feel a portion of my woe,  
 And makes me credulous that trees and stones  
 At mournful fates have uttered mournful tones.  
 While I look back again on days long past  
 How gladly would I yours might be my last.  
 Sad our first severance was, but sadder this,  
 When death forbids one hour of mutual bliss.

---

Ricasoli, thou wantest power  
 At present, and must wait thy hour  
 When thou shalt smoke away the drones  
 That mount from hassocks over thrones.  
 That hour assuredly will come  
 When they shall cease to sting and hum,  
 Now thou hast only to stand wide  
 Of plunderers upon every side.  
 Thou hast high-pressure friends, and those  
 Are the most dangerous of thy foes.

## WRITTEN ON MILTON'S DEFENCE,

PRO POPULO ANGLICANO.

---

Iberians ! Belgians ! Gauls ! ye rage in vain,  
Cromwell shall rule the land, and Blake the  
main.

A greater man, if greater man there be,  
Milton, hath undersign'd the Lord's decree.

---

Who in this later day shall there arise  
To pierce the cloud that overspreads thy skies,  
Fair, trustful, Italy ! too long beguiled  
By one who treats thee like a pouting child.  
Break off the painted handle of his whip,  
And spring no more to kiss that frothy lip.  
Alone in Garibaldi place thy trust,  
There shalt thou find a guardian brave and just.

---



We hear no more an attic song,  
 Teuton cuts out the Athenian's tongue,  
 And witches, ghosts, and goblins fill  
 Each crevice of the Aonian hill.

---

Sit on the sofa, gallant Erskine,  
 And rest your feet upon the bearskin.  
 Rose, I forsee, will turn away  
 Nor seem to hear a word we say :  
 Altho' I spangle her with wit  
 She will not care a straw for it.  
 Our friends may think she looks at me,  
 Impossible as that must be.  
 Of all odd truths this truth is oddest,  
 The best dissemblers are the modest.  
 I never ask her what can ail her  
 Observing her each day grow paler.  
 Cruize, conqueror, and when home you come,  
 Bring back the richest prize, her bloom.  
 Soon as the sails are down the mast  
 Let a sheet-anchor hold you fast.

---

An Irishwoman sat to rest  
 Upon the bridge of Haffordwest  
 Until her husband could bring up  
 Their baggage from a stranded sloop.  
 A Welshman saw with wanton eyes  
 The whiff from her short pipe arise,  
 And thought it would not be amiss  
 Just to replace it with a kiss.

We mortals to our fate are blind . . .  
 Her Paddy, who was close behind,  
 Sprang forth and caught him by the nape,  
 Struggling, but vainly, to escape.  
 "Baste!" cried he, "is it not a shame  
 To make an honest woman scrame?  
 What in the world wou'd yer be a'ter?  
 Och! our last pipe is in the whater.  
 No shame is in thee, but thou shalt  
 Pick up a little ere we halt,  
 Thou bloody tyrant!"

Then as thick  
 As hail kick follow'd upon kick.  
 Into his homestead Taffy ran  
 A conjugally contrite man,

\* Haverfordwest so pronounced.

Told how he fell upon the stones,  
 And showed he had no broken bones.  
 He never turn'd in bed all night,  
 Dreaming of enemy in sight ;  
 Heavenward lookt up his brawny chine  
 As deprecating wrath divine.

## FASHIONABLE PHRASEOLOGY.

---

The day is *pluviosus* ; they will rue it  
 Who have great coat and wont *indue* it.

## JULIAN NO APOSTATE.

---

Julian ! thou virtuous, brave, and wise,  
 Thou never didst apostatize,  
 Like those who one true God disown,  
 O'erturn his seat and seize his crown.

## EUTOPIA.

Forgers of wills were hanged in other lands ;  
 Here the black cap is threadbare, and instead  
 A triple crown is mounted, and amends  
 Made for the loss of patrimonial wealth,  
 Farms in all countries, houses, slaves, in all.

Such are the men who make some doubt of  
 virtue.

All-seeing Providence, all-judging Judge,  
 Save them from scourges, carry back the ladder,  
 Restore their own to them, restore that house  
 Two Angels brought from Bethlehem, and refit  
 Its kitchen, frying every fish therein  
 Fresh from the sea of Galilee...be quick,  
 Or ye must pickle it to make it keep.

## TRASH.

---

I have thrown more behind the grate  
 Than would have bought a fair estate.  
 And I might readily have sold  
 My drops of ink for grains of gold.  
 A bladder sounds with peas within,  
 Boys shake it and enjoy the din :  
 There is some poetry that bears  
 Its likeness, made for boyish ears.

---

“ What is the matter with your spouse?  
 Lately we hear she keeps the house.”

To this enquiry the reply  
 Was, “ You know quite as much as I.  
 It is not a *locket jaw*, be sure ;  
 For other ailments there’s a cure,  
 But hers is chronic, and began  
 When first I was a married man,  
 And sadly do I doubt if ever  
 She gets the better of this fever.”

---

Two youths were standing somewhere near the  
Louvre,

When thus the younger said :

“ Can you discover  
Yon words half-chisel'd out and hard to trace ? ”

ELDER.

Res publica.

YOUNGER.

What do they mean ?

ELDER.

Disgrace !

To France, of liberty's brief life bereft,  
What else than shame and sorrow is there left,  
And where assemble unforsworn old men,  
The visit of a hangman now and then,  
A court where gleams the fratricidal sword,  
And judges kneel, and prelates praise their Lord.  
Where are true friends ? a thousand hearts com-  
plain

That heaven has these, and that the false remain.

## B Y R O N .

---

Like mad-dog in the hottest day  
 Byron runs snapping strait away,  
 And those unlucky fellows judge ill  
 Who go without a whip or cudgel.

The boots I wear are high and strong,  
 Wherefore I take no whip or thong ;  
 Yet, I confess it, I am loth,  
 People should see them daub'd with froth,  
 Tho' dogs that rave with this disease  
 Lift not their heads above my knees,  
 It's prudent not to carry home  
 The worst of poison in their foam.

---

Two nations may contend which stands the highest  
 In sight of Europe for one warlike deed.\*  
 Struck down, O Venice, in thy blood thou liest,  
 France, O Helvetia, swears thou too shalt bleed.

\* The Switzers at Morat, the Venetians at Agnadello.

---

The pathway to the gate of Death  
 Grows darker at each step we take,  
 And when we reach it, out of breath,  
 Our bones, before we rest them, ache :  
 But suddenly, as if a spell  
 Came over us, we fall asleep.  
 In Earth's warm bosom cuddled well  
 Her children never toss and weep.

---

It was late in the winter, and late in the day  
 When there stealthily crept to the house of Bett  
 Gray  
 A Trinity tutor, a rigid divine,  
 Of a visage, and more than a visage, equine.  
 Well, where is the hurt ?...I don't know where  
 the hurt is,  
 I shrewdly suspect that's a question for Curtis.\*

---

\* A surgeon in Oxford, 1793.



An aged man who loved to doze away  
 An hour by daylight, for his eyes were dim,  
 And he had seen too many suns go down  
 And rise again, dreamt that he saw two forms  
 Of radiant beauty : he would clasp them both,  
 But both flew stealthily away.

He cried

In his wild dream,

“ I never thought, O Youth,  
 That thou, altho' so cherisht, wouldst return,  
 But I did think that he who came with thee,  
 Love, who could swear more sweetly than birds  
 sing,  
 Would never leave me comfortless and lone.”  
 A sigh broke thro' his slumber, not the last.

---

When a loose tooth and a loose friend are lost,  
 Pray can you tell me which should vex us most.

---

There are who say we are but dust,  
 We may be soon, but are not yet,  
 Nor should be while in Love we trust  
 And never what he taught forget.

---

## REPLY TO SOME HUDIBRASTICS.

---

O could I cull such rhymes as thou  
 Cullest from under cloudless brow ;  
 Such as were erst the Faeries gift  
 To Butler and his godson Swift.  
 But here 'tis plainly seen that I'm  
 A very bad one at a rhyme.

---

The Graces now are past their dancing days,  
 The Muses have forgot their earlier lays,  
 And of the latter you would give a score  
 For one fresh ballad of light-hearted Moore.  
 Of the nine sisters eight are grown uncouth,  
 And even the ninth has lost the bloom of youth.

Some jealous poet may have written so ;  
 Is there truth in it? Tell me, yes or no.

---

A sage of old hath gravely said  
 Man's life is hung upon a thread  
 \* \* \* ! the cheated tradesmen hope  
 That thine may hang upon a rope.

---

Love-making is like haymaking, soon over,  
 And both are mutable throughout their season.  
 Haymaker ! hear me ; thou too hear me, lover,  
 Nor scorn experience nor be deaf to reason.  
 Be quick at work ; the sunny hours won't last,  
 And storms may come before they half are past.

---

The Devils in the herd of swine  
 May madly run down hill,  
 Halloed by never shout of mine,  
 Shall they be, shout who will.  
 Let them with grunts each other shove,  
 Their grunts molest not me above.

---

Upon the Pindan turf our horse  
 Beats other breeds in wind and force :  
 He shows activity, and yet  
 No groom can teach him to curvet :  
 Young riders twitch him, but in vain,  
 He plunges, and trots home again.

---

They whom blind love hath led to take a wife  
 Often have changed soft flute for shriller fife,  
 And felt how different from the pliant maid  
 She who now trims the brow with horn cockade.  
 Cæsar and Marlboro' bore it in times past,  
 And Garibaldi will not be the last.  
 Against the wedded harlot weak men cry,  
 The braver scorn her and the wiser fly.  
 Dante soon lost his Beatrice, and fell  
 From Paradise to Gemma and to Hell.  
 Of ribald lords 'twas hard to mount the stairs,  
 To climb his own was worse than climbing theirs.  
 Bitter it seem'd by strangers to be fed,  
 Bitterest of all he found the household bread.  
 When Delia was another's more than his,  
 Tibulling wooed avenging Nemesis.  
 Her hand dispell'd from life its early gloom  
 And waved away the faithless from his tomb.  
 In his own land the bones of Albius rest,  
 Why was the wandering Dante not so blest?

---

Let a man once be down, and then  
 He will be fallen on by ten.

---

## THE SICK NURSE.

---

My sister went to see her nurse,  
Aged, but suffering little worse,  
And askt her that which people ask  
On meeting : it appeared a task  
To answer : with a groan she said,  
“ Ah, Miss ! you find me welly dead.  
My heart tells my last hour is come,  
I hear it beat across the room :  
What ails it ? sure the deuce is in it,  
It won't lie still a single minute ;  
Tormenting me so, night and day,  
It makes me swear when I might pray ;  
Yet (Lord o' mercy !) much I fear,  
This heart so bangs, he could not hear.”

---

Grief is unquiet, and no less  
Unquiet is man's happiness.  
Change is for ever what he wants ;  
Dead is the heart that never pants.

## BELL-RINGING IN ITALY.

---

Ye poor Italians who are plunged in hell  
 Have yet one comfort left, ye never hear  
 At morn and noon and night the eternal bell ;  
 All other torments be resigned to bear.

---

I struggle not when valets poke  
 Me back on stouter outside folk.  
 These catch and hug me, for they know  
 One who lived with 'em long ago,  
 And say, " Too hearty to complain,  
 Thou shalt live with us few again."

---

By our last ledger-page we ascertain  
 What friends have fail'd and fled, and what re-  
 main.

Content, in summing up, to find how few  
 Are scored for false, how many starr'd for true.

TO YOUNG POETS, FROM  
AN OLDER.

---

Children ! why pull ye one another's hair ?  
May not Callimachus or Bion wear  
A sprig of bay or myrtle they have found  
Lying since nightfall on neglected ground ?

THE WOUNDED NIGHTINGALE.

---

*Altho' thou lovest much to sit alone,*  
*Why stayest thou when all the rest are gone ?*  
Thus spoke I to a nightingale ; then she  
Stepping a little farther on the tree.  
" One night a cruel archer heard me sing,  
" And came at early morn and broke my wing.  
" The leaves were denser then ; he could not find  
" The prey he sought, and left me thus behind."  
She fluttered, but alas ! no more she flew,  
And softly I, with backward step, withdrew.

## TO IANTHE.

---

We once were happier ; true ; but were  
 Our happiest hours devoid of care ?  
 Remains there nothing like the past,  
 But calmer and less overcast  
 By clouds no effort could dispell,  
 And hopes we neither dared to tell ?  
 I wish that hand were earlier free  
 Which Love should have preserv'd for me.  
 Content, if sad, I must be now  
 With what the sparing Fates allow,  
 And feel, tho' once the hope seem'd vain,  
 There may be love that feels no pain.

---

To my ninth decad I have tottered on,  
 And no soft arm bends now my steps to steady ;  
 She, who once led me where she would, is gone,  
 So when he calls me, Death shall find me ready.



## ON THE DEATH OF G. P. R. JAMES.

---

James ! thou art gone, art gone afar,  
 To sleep beneath an eastern star,  
 Beneath which star Venetia lies,  
 Ambition's bleeding sacrifice.

## ON MAN.

---

In his own image the Creator made  
 His own pure sunbeam quicken'd thee, O man!  
 Thou breathing dial ! since thy day began  
 The present hour was ever markt with shade !

---

A voice I heard and hear it yet,  
*We meet not so again ;*  
*My silly tears you must forget,*  
*Or they may give you pain.*

## CALVERTON DOWNS.

---

He whom the Fates forbid to dwell  
 Beside the Loire or the Moselle,  
 And who abhors the din of towns,  
 Should nestle here beneath these downs.

## ON SOME OBSCURE POETRY.

---

In vain he beats his brow who thinks  
 To get the better of a Sphynx.

---

The tears that on two faces meet  
 My Muse forbids to dry,  
 She keeps them ever fresh and sweet  
 When hours and years run by.

---

Both men and poets of the Saxon race  
 Excell in vigour, none excell in grace.

## TO A LIZARD.

---

Why run away, poor lizard? why  
 Art thou so diffident and shy?  
 Trust to my word; I only want  
 To look awhile and see thee pant.  
 For well I know thy pantings are  
 No signs of sorrow or of care,  
 Altho' they swell thy jewel'd breast  
 And never let it lie at rest:  
 Even when thou sinkest to repose  
 None ever saw thy eyelids close.  
 Turn, I beseech thee, turn again,  
 So mayst thou watch no fly in vain.

---

Let fools place Fortune with the Gods on high,  
 Prudence, be thou my guardian deity,  
 I have neglected thee, alas, too long!  
 But listen now and hear life's evensong.

## THE LATER DAY.

---

Who in this later day shall there arise  
 To pierce the cloud that overspreads thy skies,  
 Fair trustful Italy, too long beguiled  
 By one who treats thee like a pouting child.  
 Break off the painted handle of his whip,  
 And spring no more to kiss his frothy lip :  
 Alone, in Garibaldi place thy trust,  
 There shalt thou find a guardian brave and just.

## THE FORMER DAY.

---

Iberians, Belgians, Gauls ! ye rage in vain,  
 Cromwell shall rule the land and Blake the main,  
 A greater man, if greater man there be,  
 Milton, hath undersign'd the Lord's decree.

## TO A PRUDE.

---

Prude! shall I whisper what you are?  
A catskin that would fain be vair.

---

A little boy had done amiss,  
His mother call'd him up for this.  
*Child!* said she, with a shake and frown,  
*God writes all evil doings down:*  
*His righteous rod is always ready*  
*To smite the wicked and unsteady.*  
The child, affrighten'd and amazed,  
Exclaimed, while two wide eyes he rais'd.  
Looks! what a copybook is God's;  
My eyes! and what a sight of rods!  
O mamma! there must surely grow  
More birch in heaven than below.  
On all the common all the geese,  
Tho' they might club ten quills apiece,  
Could not afford enow of pens  
For all bad doings, boys' and men's.

## CONFESSION OF JEALOUSY.

---

Jealous, I own it, I was once,  
 That wickedness I here renounce.  
 I tried at wit...it would not do...  
 At tenderness...that fail'd me too,  
 Before me on each path there stood  
 The witty and the tender Hood.

---

I lie upon my last made bed,  
 About to share it with the dead.  
 Death's cold hand makes me think the more  
 Of other hands less cold before.  
 I will not press too close ; no fear  
 Of finding any rival near ;  
 Nor will ye turn your heads away  
 From the fond things I used to say,  
 Nor shall I hear. *Now, I declare,*  
*You jealous man ! how changed you are.*  
 Too true indeed is that remark,  
 And ye may see it in the dark.

TO A MOTHER,  
ON A CHILD'S DEATH.

---

The scythe of time, alas ! alas !  
Always cuts down the freshest grass,  
Nor spares the flowers that would adorn  
The tranquil brow of blooming morn :  
He lets the corn grow ripe, then why  
Bids he the germ be knipt and die ?

---

Ianthe took me by both ears and said  
You are so rash, I own I am afraid.  
Prop, or keep hidden in your breast, my name,  
But be your love as lasting as your fame.  
All men are liars, said a sage of old,  
He was not, he who this sad tale hath told.

---

Preachers of peace, with paunches pury,  
(Not empty tho') on controversy,  
Roar worse than children with the gripes,  
While Moslems smile and smoke their pipes.

## TO PORSON.

---

Let alone, my old friend, our best poet; ask Parr  
 If I keep not stout harness well buckled for war.  
 Of the birch in my field I have wasted no twig  
 On a petulant Jeffrey or any such prig;  
 But run not *you* foul on the wise and the kind,  
 Or you'll soon have to clap your ten fingers be-  
 hind.

---

A Muse would visit an old man,  
 And fluently her flattery ran.  
 "Ay, ay!" replied he, "well I know  
 You only come to mock and mowe.  
 Too often have I seen my betters  
 Entangled in your flowery fetters:  
 Too long they held me, and too fast,  
 But I am fairly free at last.  
 Tho' young and old 'alike are vain,  
 I will not dance in them again."

---



## CONSOLATION

ON A BABE'S DEATH.

---

That mortal has imperfect trust  
 In God who thinks him only just.  
 God writes among his chosen few  
 Those who have loved and wept like you.  
 He numbers every tear they shed  
 Upon his last-born children dead.

---

A generous action may atone  
 For many a less worthy one,  
 Yet take thou heed the generous be  
 In number as threescore to three.

---

A friend by accident met Socrates,  
 And hail'd, accosting him in words like these.  
 There are two miseries in human life,  
 To live without a dog and with a wife !  
 My Xanthos in his early doghood died  
 Xantippa sticks like pitch against *thy* side ;  
 Men, were such wives unfaithful, might forgive,  
 But ah ! they are *so* faithful, and they live.

---

Dare ye, malicious rogues, deny  
 My reverend friend's rare piety?  
 He on his knees implored his Maker  
 To grant success against the baker,  
 And force him, should he be unwilling,  
 To change (as given him) a bad shilling.  
 Wrath makes the wisest indiscreet.  
 The baker threw it in the street,  
 And, what his neighbours thought was mad,  
 Gave a good shilling for a bad.  
 When throughout Bath this tale was told,  
 Many more spectacles were sold,  
 And touchstones were in such request,  
 Tradespeople fought to get the best.  
 That shilling (for pure brass sounds clear)  
 Sounds hourly in the Reverend's ear,  
 And people, as they pass, remark  
 The scene of action at Green-park.

---

If to the public eye we show  
 In Tribsa half the crimes we know,  
 Her lawyer by the purse will seize us  
 And make his client rich as Croesus.

---

ON THE DEATH OF  
G. P. R. JAMES, AT VENICE.

---

Where upon earth shall now be found  
Fancy so bright, and thought so sound,  
As thine; O James! to England lost  
When England wants thy genius most.  
What various scenes thy pencil drew!  
What vast creations start to view!  
The brave and beauteous, proud and grand,  
Come readily at thy command.  
Again their destinies I read,  
Forwarn'd in vain my breast must bleed.  
Alighting on some sunnier part,  
I think how far from home thou art,  
How far from all who loved thee most,  
Save one, upon Venetia's coast,  
Where even Manin could not save  
A people, nor secure a grave.

---

Wrongs I have suffer'd, great and many,  
 Insufferable never any  
 Like that prepensely murderous one  
 An Oxford hang-dog rogue has done,  
 Who shov'd me on a bench with men  
 Biting the point of Chaucer's pen.  
 Chaucer I always loved, for he  
 Led me to woo fair Poesie.  
 He, of our craft the worthy foreman,  
 Stood gallantly against the Norman,  
 And in good humour tried to teach  
 Reluctant churls our native speech.  
 Now I must mount my cob and hurry  
 To join his friends at Canterbury,  
 A truly English merry party,  
 Tho' none so jocular and hearty.

---

We may repair and fix again  
 A shatter'd or a broken pane,  
 Not friendship so : it lies beyond  
 Man's wit to piece a diamond.

## TO ARCHDEACON HARE,

WITH THE IDYL OF PAN AND PITYS.

---

Julius, the playful sylvan Muse,  
 Leaving her grot by Syracuse,  
 Whisper'd me that no other man  
 Should sing of Pitys and of Pan.  
 She sigh'd in saying he was gone  
 And left his reed to me alone.  
 Ah, could I half her words believe!  
 But the nine sisters all deceive.

---

O immortality of fame!  
 What art thou? even Shakespeare's name  
 Reaches not Shakespeare in his grave.  
 The wise, the virtuous, and the brave,  
 Resume ere long their common clay,  
 And worms are longer lived than they.  
 At last some gilded letters show  
 What those were call'd who lie below.

## THE GROWTH OF LIES.

---

A burdock's dryest slenderest thread  
 Thro' a whole garden soon is spread,  
 And every shoot you tear away  
 Sends up a hundred day by day.  
 Such is a lie ; but lies are sown  
 With diligence, and, fully grown,  
 Each busy neighbour multiplies  
 By culture its varieties.

---

Guilford ! it was not I who broke  
 The promise made when last we met,  
 It was that sharp and sudden stroke  
 You feel no more, but I feel yet.  
 What drove you from your cherished ile ?  
 Said I... " *A Savage,*" you replied  
 With playful wit and genial smile,  
 " Few could perform that feat beside."  
 Cold is the heart so warm that day,  
 The spirit to its home is fled.  
 Alas ! alas ! the votive bay  
 Encircles but a sculptured head.

## AN UNCLE'S SURMISE.

*“Landor, now hang me but I think  
You are in love with Rose. Don't blink  
The question.”*

My good Admiral,  
Would you that I alone of all  
Who see and hear her should not prove  
(As suits their age and station) love?  
But who can leap the gulph between  
Dark fifty-nine and bright sixteen?  
Let us both try which loves her most,  
I shall be happy to have lost.

I wonder what the wise would say  
If they could only see me play  
With little children half the day.

The tiniest hand can soonest heal  
With its soft pulp the wounds we feel  
From sharper strokes than struck with steel,  
And is best able to repair  
The crevice on the brow of Care.

The dead are soon forgotten, and not all  
 Who walk aside and bear the sable pall  
 Sleep the less soundly at that evening's close.  
 I in my vigil think I heard a toll  
 Such as it boom'd when Teresita's soul  
 In heaven's own purity to heaven arose.

---

I own I like plain dishes best,  
 And those the easiest to digest.  
 Take in the fresher, tougher, harder,  
 But hook them longer in the larder.  
 Show me that humble village inn  
 Where Goldsmith tuned his violin,  
 Then leave me, at the close of day,  
 To muse in the churchyard with Gray.

---

There are sweet flowers that only blow by night,  
 And sweet tears are there that avoid the light;  
 No mortal sees them after day is born,  
 They, like the dew, drop trembling from their  
 thorn.

---



On days gone by us we look back  
 As on a last year's almanack.  
 We never think 'tis worth our while  
 To crowd with it the dusty file,  
 Yet might the cast-off sheet supply,  
 If studied, some true prophecy.

---

Rejoice all ye  
 Who once were free,  
 And what ye were again shall be ;  
 Freedom hastes home  
 To ruin'd Rome  
 And Venice rises from the sea.

---

A sparrow was thy emblem, O Catullus !  
 A dove was thine, tender and true Tibullus !  
 No truer and no tenderer was the dove  
 Whom Noe chose all other birds above  
 To be the parent inmate of his ark,  
 When earth was water and the sun was dark.

---

Ye poor Italians who are plunged in hell  
 Have yet one comfort left, ye never hear  
 At morn and noon and night the eternal bell...  
 All other torments be resign'd to bear.

---

The sorrowing heart will seek no pleasant place  
 To rest in, but drops down on each sharp thorn.  
 Poor self-tormentor ! were not pangs enow  
 Thine heretofore ? must wrongs afflict thee stil ?  
 Must Pleasure bring thee fresh, with Memory  
 Recalling them, then leaving her behind ?  
 So 'tis decreed : drop on thy thorn, and die.

---

Well I remember how you smiled  
 To see me write your name upon  
 The soft sea-sand... "*O ! what a child !  
 You think you're writing upon stone !*"  
 I have since written what no tide  
 Shall ever wash away, what men  
 Unborn shall read o'er ocean wide  
 And find Ianthe's name agen.

---

Ah, Reade! a bear is not a kitten  
 Else were thy hand less fiercely bitten.  
 Sometimes a pen, sometimes a bear  
 Objects to handling; so beware.

---

The scriptures teach us that our Lord  
 Writes in his book man's idlest word.  
 Now surely he must find it worse  
 Than what he suffered on the cross.  
 In evil hour I strove to read  
 Some poems of one lately dead,  
 And humbly hoped the sable pall  
 Might cover and atone for all.

---

A good old Englishwoman, who had come  
 Back to her country from the sights at Rome,  
 Was askt about them.

“ Well then, I have seen  
 Robes on men's shoulders rich as round our queen..  
 Strangers, who know no better, may miscall  
 A well-stuff strutting sausage *cardinal*:  
 It is not often we so gut a name,  
 But *cardinal* and *carnal* are the same.

## MILTON IN ITALY.

---

O Milton ! couldst thou rise again and see  
 The land thou lovedst in thy earlier day,  
 See springing from her tomb fair Italy  
 (Fairer than ever) cast her shroud away,  
 That tightly-fasten'd triply-folded shroud,  
 Torn by her children off their mother's face !  
 O couldst thou see her now, more justly proud  
 Than of an earlier and a stronger race !

---

Why are there mists and clouds to-day ?  
 It is that Rose is far away :  
 The sun refuses to arise,  
 And will not shine but from her eyes.

---

How often, when life's summer day  
 Is waning, and its sun descends,  
 Wisdom drives laughing wit away,  
 And lovers shrivel into friends !

---

## TO D'ORSAY GOING TO FRANCE.

---

You lose your liberty ; no cross  
 Or ribbon can supply that loss ;  
 Naught could your friend bequeath you save  
 The less warm refuge of the grave ?  
 Who was it squandered all her wealth.  
 And swept away the bloom of health ?

---

The *Revelations* want a guide  
 To draw the mystic veil aside ;  
 For these perhaps one guide may do,  
 But Goethe's *Epigrammes* want two.

---

Death indiscriminately gathers  
 The flowering children and rough-rinded fathers :  
 His eyes are horny, thus he knows  
 No different color in the dock and rose.

SHAKESPEARE IN ITALY.

---

Beyond our shores, past Alps and Appennines,  
Shakespeare, from heaven came thy creative  
breath,  
Mid citron groves and over-arching vines  
Thy genius wept at Desdemona's death.  
In the proud sire thou badest anger cease  
And Juliet by her Romeo sleep in peace ;  
Then rose thy voice above the stormy sea,  
And Ariel flew from Prospero to thee.

---

Disturbers of the earth ! who make  
Her fairest regions quail and quake,  
As-torne Vesuvius at this hour  
By some alike infernal power.  
God's realm with God ye might possess,  
But ye will ever strive for less.  
Fools ! fools ! the fragile crowns ye wear  
Sink into slough and leave you there.

---

What ! show Laertes meanly fed,  
 And offering an old guest stale bread ?  
 Yes ; Ithaca bore then no wheat,  
 I doubt if she bears any yet,  
 And the coast opposite so bleak,  
 None there that golden treasure seek.  
 Ceres, when Plutó bore away  
 Her Proserpine, was heard to say,  
 “ Laugh, Bacchus, laugh...but never more  
 We meet on yon unthrifty shore.”  
 Each lord here reapt his rye and oats  
 And stored the stubble for his goats ;  
 Yet each brought stoutly down the hill  
 Wherewith their well-dried skins to fill,  
 And housewives, frugal and exact,  
 Took special care they never crackt.

---

Of early days, and promist hours,  
 And eyes that brightened shady bowers,  
 Visions had floated round the head  
 Of Sophron ; he awoke and said,  
 “ Ah ! were but all things what they seem  
 Then life were nearly worth a dream.

---

Doctor'd by Bacon and Montaigne  
 My eyebrows may sprout forth again,  
 Worne by hard rubbing to make out  
 Plato's interminable doubt.  
 Around him were some clever folks  
 Until they stumbled into jokes ;  
 Incontinent I quitted these  
 To stroll with Aristophanes.  
 I'd rather sup on cold potato,  
 Than on a salmon cookt by Plato,  
 Who, always nice but never hearty,  
 Says Homer shall not join the party.

---

Give me for life the honest name,  
 Then take my due arrears of fame.  
 I am grown deaf, and shall become  
 A trifle deafer in the tomb.

---

Gibbon ! tho' thou art grave and grand  
 And Rome is under thy command,  
 Yet some in cauliflower-white wigs,  
 Others put lately into brigs,  
 Instead of bending back and knee,  
 Would pull thy chair from under thee.



## THE ARCHBISHOP OF TARANTO

SENT BY THE POPE TO RESIDE AT NAPLES.

---

Taranto now has lost her guide,  
 A prelate without prelate's pride.  
 On that Parthenopean coast  
 Incredulous of fog or frost,  
 His Median puss he smiles to see  
 Leap boldly on a stranger's knee,  
 And stretch out flat and lick his fur,  
 And switch his tail, and gape and purr.  
 O my two friends! may, many a day,  
 Both think of me when far away!

---

There are two rival foes for every breast,  
 And both alike are enemies to rest.  
 Fear, of these combatants, is much the strongest  
 Yet Hope upon the battle-ground stays longest.

WRITTEN ON THE  
STEPS AT HAMPDEN.

---

Along that avenue below,  
With drooping neck, and footstep slow,  
Came wounded Hampden's horse ; he stood  
Steaming with sweat surcharged with blood.  
Within that chamber overhead  
Died the most mourn'd of all the dead.

---

That critic must indeed be bold  
Who pits new authors against old.  
Only the ancient coin is prized,  
The dead alone are canonized :  
What was even Shakespeare until then ?  
A poet scarce compared with Ben :  
And Milton in the streets no taller  
Than sparkling easy-ambling Waller.  
Waller now walks with rhyming crowds,  
While Milton sits above the clouds,  
Above the stars, his fixt abode,  
And points to men their way to God.

## A PAINTER'S REPROOF.

---

Reviler! you should have been taught  
 Better than to hold kings at nought.  
 Look on my pallet; don't you see  
 How precious some of them may be?  
 Let them, like mummies, be well ground,  
 And then their uses may be found,

---

You ask how I, who could converse  
 With Pericles, can stoop to worse:  
 How I, who once had higher aims,  
 Can trifle so with epigrams.

I would not lose the wise from view,  
 But would amuse the children too;  
 Beside, my breath is short and weak,  
 And few must be the words I speak.

## A HEAVY FALL

ON CHRISTMAS-DAY, 1792.

---

Lucilla slapt my hand that day  
 Of Christmas when she heard me say.  
 What she declared was *like my folly*,  
 "O for that little sprig of holly!  
 O for that holly sprig to wear  
 Within my bosom all the year!"  
 For I had noticed who it was  
 That shook its rime off on the grass.  
 I leapt to snatch it from the ceiling;  
 It hung too high..so, tottering, reeling,  
 A headlong fall I could not check,  
 But fell outright upon her neck.

---

If you are not a poet you may live

With poets pleasantly: but if you are,  
 A little piece of counsel let me give...

Praise one you speak with..praise none else...  
 beware!

## INVITATION OF PETRONIUS TO GLYCON.

---

Tryphœna says that you must come  
 To dine with us at Tusculum.  
 She has invited few to share  
 Her delicate but frugal fare.  
 Contrive the dinner to make out  
 With venison ortolans, and trout ;  
 These may come after haunch of boar,  
 Or neck, which wise men relish more ;  
 And, Glycon, 'twould not be unpleasant,  
 To see among them spring a pheasant.  
 I voted we should have but two  
 At dinner, these are quite enow.  
 One of them, worth half Rome, will meet us,  
 Low-station'd high-soul'd Epictetus.  
 He told his mind the other day  
 To ruby-finger'd Seneca,  
 Who, rich and proud as Nero, teaches  
 The vanity of pomp or riches.

Just Epictetus can assure us  
 How continent was Epicurus,  
 How gorged and staggering Romans claim  
 With hiccups that immortal name.

Would you hear fables from the east  
 Told gravely by a tonsured priest,  
 When he has counted out so many,  
 Out with your purse and pay your penny,  
 Else will he, having power divine,  
 Blast all your limbs from nape to chine.

---

Nugent! I hope ere long to see  
 In leaf my lately planted tree.  
 Alas! that there will stand no more  
 She whose weak wrists the burden bore  
 Half-way down that smooth grassy mead,  
 And said, "*No help of yours I need.*  
*But you may hold it if you will,*  
*And the deep gap let Nugent fill.*"

Another gap was soon to hold  
 That graceful form, that heart now cold.

---

I saw upon his pulpit-perch  
 A well-fed gamecock of the church  
 Spread out his plumes, and heard him crow  
 To his lean pullets croucht below.  
 "Wretches! ye raise your throats to men  
 Who pry into your father's pen;  
 Look at your betters, do as they do,  
 And be content to chant a *credo*."

---

'Twas far beyond the midnight hour  
 And more than half the stars were falling,  
 And jovial friends, who lost the power  
 Of sitting, under chairs lay sprawling;

Not Porson so; his stronger pate  
 Could carry more of wine and Greek  
 Than Cambridge held; erect he sate;  
 He nodded, yet could somehow speak.

"'Tis well, O Bacchus! they are gone,  
 Unworthy to approach thy altar!  
 The pious man prays best alone,  
 Nor shall thy servant ever falter."

Then Bacchus too, like Porson, nodded,  
Shaking the ivy on his brow,  
And graciously replied the Godhead,  
“I have no votary staunch as thou.”

---

Julius, dear Julius, never think  
My spirits are inclined to sink  
Because light youths are swimming by  
Upon their bladders; so did I.  
When in our summer we swam races  
I splasht the water in their faces;  
And little hands, now only bone,  
Clapt me, and call'd the prize my own.

---

Will nothing but from Greece or Rome  
Please me? is nothing good at home?  
Yes; better; but I look in vain  
For a Moliere or La Fontaine.  
Swift in his humour was as strong  
But there was gall upon his tongue.  
Bitters and acids may excite,  
Yet satisfy not appetite.

---



“I wish you would but read those *Tracts*  
I sent you.”

I have read the *Acts* :  
And these, if duly follow'd, teach  
What jarring churchmen ought to preach.  
Well have I beaten brake and stubble,  
And bagg'd what ill repaid the trouble.  
Where is the pointer or retriever  
That can scent out the true believer?  
Moravians share the meal of Christ,  
His home-made bread and meat unspiced :  
But these poor souls are not the people  
To venerate the stole and steeple.

---

There is a tribute all must pay,  
Willing or not, on Christmas-day.  
I would be generous, nor confine  
Within too narrow limits mine.  
For such warm wishes, and such true  
Assurances as come from you,  
I almost doubt I send enough  
In sending a full pinch of snuff.

---

Some, when they would appear to mourn,  
 The tomb like drawing-room adorn ;  
 And foren flowers of richest scents  
 Bestrew the way to compliments.  
 Grief never calls on Grace or Muse,  
 Nor dares the Fates and Stars accuse,  
 Demanding clamorously why  
 They doom'd one so belov'd to die.  
 In her dim chamber solitary  
 She sits ; her low tones little vary ;  
 Now on the earth her eyes are bent,  
 Now heavenward rais'd implore content.

---

Awaiting me upon a shore  
 Which friends less loved had reacht before,  
 Stood one, my well-known voice drew nigh,  
 And said . . but said it with low sigh,  
 Lest Proserpine might hear afraid . .  
 Ah ! were we somewhat more than shade.  
 I threw my arms her neck around,  
 I woke ; it was an empty sound.  
 In groves, in grots, on hills, on plains,  
 With me that Vision stil remains.

---

TO A POET.

---

I never call'd thy Muse splay-footed,  
Who sometimes wheez'd, and sometimes hooted,  
As owls do on a lonely tower,  
Awaiting that propitious hour  
When singing birds retire to rest,  
And owls may pounce upon the nest.  
I only wish she would forbear  
From sticking pins into my chair,  
And let alone the friends who come  
To neutralize thy laudanum.

---

What my *Last Fruits* are when you see,  
Don't wish 'em longer on the tree,  
Nor, touching with the finger-tips,  
Refuse to let 'em reach your lips.  
I do remember well the day  
When many others worse than they  
Were for my sake received with grace,  
And found the warmest resting-place.

---

Kind friends forgive me, if you can,  
 For calling Slick an honest man.  
 Derision is enough ; I see  
 Wit lies remote from irony.  
 Let me devise, if I am able,  
 Instead of irony, a fable.

A dog by sudden spring had got  
 A pudding, smoking from the pot.  
 He was a wise old dog and knew  
 In this dilemma what to do.  
 He dipt it in the gutter, then  
 Ran on with it and dipt again.  
 Boys, girls, and women, trundled after  
 And clapt their hands and roar'd with laughter.  
 When clear of them, the bag he tore  
 And lickt the dainty o'er and o'er,  
 Until it was less hot ; at last  
 He broke outrageously his fast,  
 Then lickt his lips by way of grace,  
 And sought some cool and quiet place  
 Where his siesta he could take,  
 Nor hear what cries the cook might make.

Men may learn much from dogs, and Slick  
 Learnt from said dog his clever trick.  
 He lowers his muzzle and he eats  
 With ravening maw the foulest meats.

## TO RISTORMEL.

---

Known as thou art to ancient fame,  
 My praise, Ristormel, shall be scant :  
 The Muses gave thy sounding name,  
 The Graces thy inhabitant.

---

Cease to contend upon that slippery field  
 In which alone, Emilia, you must yield.  
 There comes one stronger, in whose steps we  
 trace  
 All Dryden's vigour and all Prior's grace.  
 Ivan from madden'd sire none else could save,  
 Or Casabianca from the flaming wave.  
 No maid of Hellas ever rais'd so high  
 A strain as she, 'twould crack your voice to try.  
 Felicia's varied harmonies run o'er,  
 But close the copybook and write no more.

---

\* A villa in Cornwall.

Ipsley ! when, hurried by malignant fate,  
 I left thy court and heard thy closing gate,  
 I sighed ; but, sighing, to myself I said  
 Now for the quiet cot and mountain-shade.

Ah ! what impetuous madness made me roam  
 From cheerful friends and hospitable home ?  
 Whether in Arrow's vale or Tachbrook's grove,  
 My lyre resounded liberty and love.  
 Let me once more my native fields regain,  
 Bounding with steady pride and high disdain,  
 Then will I pardon all the wrongs of fate,  
 And hang fresh garlands, Ipsley, round thy gate.

---

Lean'd on a bank, I seemed to hear  
 A tree's faint voice, and some one near.  
 Yes, sure enough ; I saw a maid  
 With wakeful ear against it laid.  
 Silent was everything around  
 While thus the tree, in quivering sound :  
 " They pant to cull our fruit, and take  
 A leaf (they tell us) for our sake,  
 On the most faithful breast to wear  
 And keep it til both perish there.  
 Sad pity such kind hearts should pant  
 So hard ! We give them all they want.

They come soon after, and just taste  
 The fruit, then throw it on the waste.  
 Again they come, and then pluck off  
 What poets call our hair, and scoff,  
 And, long ere winter, you may see  
 These leaves fall fluttering round the tree.  
 They come once more . . . then, then, you find  
 The root cut round and undermined :  
 Chains are clencht round it ; that fine head  
 Whereon stil finer words were said,  
 Serves only to assist the blow  
 And lend them aid to lay it low.”

Methinks I heard a gentle sigh . . .  
 Tell me, who can, the reason why.  
 It may have been for what was said  
 Of leaves and fruit, of root and head.

---

Thank heaven, Neæra, once again  
 Our hands and ardent lips shall meet,  
 And Pleasure, to begin his reign,  
 Scatter in largess kisses sweet :  
 Then cease repeating as you mourn  
 “ *I wonder when he will return.*”

A GREEK TO THE EUMENIDES.

---

Your lips, old beldames, will get dry,  
'Tis time to lay the spindle by.  
With that incessant hum ye make  
Ye will not let me lie awake,  
Or, what is better, fall asleep. . .  
Ah! what a doleful din ye keep!  
Unvaried all the year around  
The tiresome tune; its tremulous sound  
By fits and starts makes tremble too  
Me who would fain get rid of you.  
Maids are ye! maids whom Love derides  
Until he almost cracks his sides.  
He points at you, all skin and bones,  
And stiff as horn and cold as stones.  
I can not bear your nearer breath,  
A pleasanter is that of Death.

---



Let me look back upon the world before  
 I leave it, and upon some scattered graves,  
 Altho' mine eyes are dim with age and tears,  
 And almost all those graves lie far remote.  
 Memory ! thou hast not always been so kind  
 As thou art now ; at every step I come  
 Nigher to those before me : part I owe  
 To thee, and part to age : I ask no more,  
 For I have seen enough, and go to rest.

---

Ah, wherefor should you so admire  
 The flowing words that fill my song ?  
 Why call them artless, yet require  
 “ *Some promise from that tuneful tongue ?* ”  
 Doubt only whether Fate could part  
 A tuneful tongue and tender heart.

---

Such the protuberance that abuts  
 From pope's and king's enormous guts,  
 That to shake hands should either try,  
 A flock of geese between might fly,  
 And any parley would require  
 Some fathoms of electric wire.

---

Soon does the lily of the valley die,  
Later the rose droops o'er her family,  
Fresh children press about her couch of moss  
And she forgets, as they repair, her loss.  
The hapless lily none such comfort knows,  
But sinks the paler at the sight of rose.

---

No truer word, save God's, was ever spoken,  
Than that the largest heart is soonest broken.

---

Bold Atlas carried on his shoulder  
The globe, but Antonelli bolder  
Shuffles it off, and kicks it down  
And crushes with a triple crown.

---

When from above the busy crowd I see,  
The great and little seem one-sized to me.

ON THE RESTORATION OF LOUIS XVIII.,  
A FRENCH POET SINGS.

---

Descend, ye Muses, one and all,  
 Obedient to a Frenchman's call.  
 Which of you e'er refused to sing  
 The feats of a most christian king,  
 Or help to raise the Oriflamme  
 Above the towers of Notre-Dame?  
 Three cities, three without one blow,  
 Fell at the trumpet of Boileau:  
 He would have play'd without a line,  
 The devil with the Philistine,  
 No need, against him to prevail,  
 The weightier broadsword of Corneille.  
 Voltaire struck down with flash of pen  
 The League, the Iberian, and Mayenne,  
 And, if ye help me, with a touch  
 I doubt not I can do as much.  
 Then shall ye see the lilies bloom  
 Upon the seven hills of Rome.  
 Our Louis never shows the scars  
 His doublet suffer'd under Mars,

· Tho' many creatures daily fell  
 Before him ere the vesper bell.  
 But said, on looking down his file  
 Of steel and silver with a smile,  
 Far better thus than bid our men go  
 For empty glory to Marengo.

---

Shelley and Keats, on earth unknown  
 One to the other, now are gone  
 Where only such pure Spirits meet  
 And sing before them words as sweet.

---

There is a restless mortal who  
 Feeds on himself, and eats for two.  
 Heartburn all day and night he feels  
 And never tries to walk but reels.  
 Boy! on the table set the taper  
 And bring your lucifer; this paper  
 I must without delay set fire on  
 Or folks may fancy I mean Byron.  
 Be petty larcenies forgiven,  
 The fire he stole was not from heaven.

## ON ENGLISH HEXAMETERS.

---

Porson was askt what he thought of hexameters  
written in English :

“ Show me,” said he, “ any five in continuance  
true to the meter,

Five where a dactyl has felt no long syllable  
puncht thro’ his midrif,

Where not a trochee or pyrric has stood on one  
leg at the entrance

Like a grey fatherly crane keeping’ watch on the  
marsh at Cayster.

Zounds ! how they hop, skip, and jump !

Old Homer, uplifting his eyebrows,  
Cries to the somnolent Gods.. “ O ye blessed  
who dwell on Olympos !

What have I done in old-age ? have I ever com-  
plain’d of my blindness ?

Ye in your wisdom may deem that a poet sings  
only the better

(Some little birds do) for *that* ; but why are my  
ears to be batter’d

Flat to my head as a mole’s or a fish’s, if fishes  
have any ?

Why do barbarians rush with a fury so headstrong  
against me?

Have they no poet at home they can safely and  
readily waylay?"

Then said a youth in his gown, "I do humbly  
beg pardon, Professor,

But are you certain that you, to whom all the  
wide Hellas is open,

Could make Homer, who spoke many dialects  
with many nations,

Speak, as we now have attempted to teach him,  
our pure Anglo-saxon.

Then the Professor, "I wager a dozen of hock  
or of claret,

Standing on only one foot I can throw off more  
verses and better

Than the unlucky, that limp and halt and have  
"no foot to stand on."

"'Pon my word, as I live!" said a younger, "I  
really think he has done it,

Every soul of us here, by a score of hexameters,  
quizzing."\*

\* It is to be hoped that Milton may escape this profanation. Dryden, the master of rhyme, would have violated the Muse of Zion. That poet's ears must be stiff with indurated wax which receive not at least an equal pleasure from the cadences of Milton's verse as from Homer's. Every people has its pet poet; one unwieldy like Dante, another skittish like Voltaire; but Homer and Milton have been venerated wherever have been prominent the organs of veneration. May no iconoclast prevail against them!

## TIBULLUS.

---

Only one poet in the worst of days  
 Disdain'd the usurper in his pride to praise.  
 Ah, Delia! was it wantonness or whim  
 That made thee, once so tender, false to him?  
 To him who follow'd over snows and seas  
 Messala storming the proud Pyrenees.  
 But Nemesis avenged him, and the tear  
 Of Rome's last poet fell upon his bier.

---

Lately our poets loiter'd in green lanes,  
 Content to catch the ballads of the plains;  
 I fancied I had strength enough to climb  
 A loftier station at no distant time,  
 And might securely from intrusion doze  
 Upon the flowers thro' which Ilissus flows.  
 In those pale olive grounds all voices cease,  
 And from afar dust fills the paths of Greece.  
 My slumber broken and my doublet torn,  
 I find the laurel also bears a thorn.

WILLIAM VENOUR,  
COMMANDER OF THE CALYPSO.

---

Venour, my brave boy-guardian, who at school  
 Taught me the grammar he had lately learnt,  
 And led me over noun and five-barr'd verb,  
 Where is he? .There he sleeps below the waves  
 Of the Atlantic, there where all creation  
 Is mute, nor hears the voice that calls his name ;  
 But others shall, and far and wide beyond.  
 When elder prest around him and declared  
 He could not sail, for sure the Admiral  
 Knew not *Calypso's* state, he thus replied  
*My orders are to sail*: he sail'd . . and sank.  
 Short is my story : I could be prolix,  
 But the small casket holds things valued most.

---

The scentless laurel a broad leaf displays,  
 Few and by fewer gather'd are the bay's ;  
 Yet these Apollo wore upon his brow . .  
 The boughs are bare, the stem is twisted now.

---



The Muses at the side may move  
 But can not hold the wings of Love.  
 Lesbia was faithless to Catullus,  
 And Delia wandered from Tibullus,  
 Who closer when Death came would stand.  
 And yield to him alone her hand.  
 The tender heart is ever true  
 And all its world contains but two,  
 Inseparable those, nor cold  
 Until they mingle with the mould.

---

Why war against free brethren? God forbid  
 Ye split asunder your own native land?  
 Worst of barbarians, hear! . . . the pyramid  
 Built upon cannon-balls not long can stand.

---

I do not think that praises ever  
 Derange a sound and healthy liver,  
 Altho' they get into the head  
 Of some who are too highly fed;  
 A hungry mountain swain meanwhile  
 From bitter crust o'erflows with bile.

---

There was one powerful man, and only one  
 In God's wide world ; what could he not achieve ?  
 He might have driven from her citadel  
 Defiant Falsehood, and her tawdry guards  
 And bastard progeny innumerable :  
 He might have propt up cities with one arm  
 And driven with the other from the temple  
 Sellers of bones, of charms, of opiates,  
 Of glittering gauds and cutlery occult :  
 He, like the blessed one of Nazareth,  
 Might have restored the sight of the stone-blind  
 And rais'd the prostrate cripple up erect.  
 Earth spread her feast before him, millions rose  
 To serve him and to bless him ; did he bring  
 An honest man with him ? he brought instead  
 Desperate swordsmen and astuter knaves,  
 Who sit around him, and will sit until  
 The night fall heavily on their carouse,  
 And the seats reel beneath 'em, unregain'd.

---

Changarnier and a poet with a *De*  
 Now to his name cry *freedom!* and make free,  
 O Rome, to quarter hungry thieves on thee.

## ON A FAWN'S HOOF.

---

Have I not seen thee, little hoof, before  
 Thou wast a handle to my stable-door?  
 Have I not seen thee trotting o'er the park  
 In dread when distant hounds began to bark?  
 Ah! how much rather would I see thee now  
 With branching horns above thy lifted brow,  
 Commanding me by angry stamp to go  
 And keep away from where lie fawn and doe.  
 I never thought to feel again for deer  
 The guilt of murder that confronts me here.

---

So sad a mourner never bent  
 Against a marble monument  
 As, poorest of the paupers, she  
 On the damp grass who bends the knee  
 O'er her one lost; her words are few,  
*What shall I do! what shall I do!*  
 Are all she says, but those aloud,  
 And pity moves the silent crowd.  
 She rises . . she must carry back  
 The lent and oft darn'd gown of black.

## PTOLEMAÏS.

No city on the many peopled earth  
 Hath been the witness of such valiant deeds  
 As thou hast, Ptolemais ! and by whom  
 Were they achiev'd ? by Britons, one and all.  
 The first our lion-hearted king may claim ;  
 And who the second ? he who drove across  
 The torrid desert the (til then uncheckt)  
 Invader, from those realms the Ptolemies  
 Ruled, and the Cæsars follow'd in their train,  
 Sidney, the last of chivalry . . One more  
 Rode o'er the sea to win the crown that hung  
 Inviting on thy walls : he also bore  
 A name illustrious even as Sidney's own,  
 Napier was he.

'Tis somewhat to have held  
 His hand in mine, 'tis somewhat to record  
 One of his actions in the crowded page.

We send a thief a thief to catch  
 And Peter's bastard finds his match.

## ON GESNER'S IDYLS.

---

Gesner, to Sicily he does no wrong  
 Who listens fondly to thy pastoral song.  
 The Muses, nurst by Nature, bow'd the head  
 And sigh'd in silence when thy spirit fled.  
 Homer's sole rival, Mincio's youthful swain  
 To catch Sicilian tones essay'd in vain.  
 None dared take up the broken pipe, for none  
 Among the wistful claim'd it as his own.  
 A sunny clime call'd many a piper forth,  
 But only thy strong pinion braved the north.

---

Under his pulpit lies poor Sydney,  
 And few are left us of his kidney.  
 With me, my friends, you can but lunch,  
 For a good dinner go to Punch.

\* Sydney Smith.

DISTRIBUTION OF HONOURS  
FOR LITERATURE.

---

The grandest writer of late ages  
Who wrapt up Rome in golden pages,  
Whom scarcely Livius equal'd, Gibbon,  
Died without star or cross or ribbon.

---

TO THE AUTHOR OF VESTIGES OF CREATION.

---

Wise was Democritos, nor less the sage  
Whom Philip call'd to guide his wilful son,  
Not tardy to shake off the dust that fell  
Upon the eyelids of the Athenian youths  
From quaintnesses and quibbles in a school  
Where Truth, if ever sought, was never found.  
Our teachers find her, some of them on earth,  
Some in the wilderness above the skies.

Thou hast gone after them and close behind,  
Briton! thou who hast traced the vestiges  
Of God's creation! Deem it not presumption

If I dare question thee why thou hast call'd  
The vulture, wolf, and boa, the police  
Ordain'd to keep in order and suppress  
Us bipeds, when we come in crowds too dense.  
Were it not better to reward the stout  
And vigilant, for every bird and beast  
Of rapine they shall kill? Even in our land  
Vipers and snakes and hawks and kites are seen.  
Is there no shame in this? why not propound  
A stated price for every head of them?  
Were it not better so than fifty-fold  
For fellow men to slaughter fellow men  
And feed the hungry cannon's mouth alone?  
Is there none brave enough to seize the scourge  
Now sounding in our ears? let that be done,  
Then to the vipers and the birds of prey.

---

We hear no more an attic song,  
Teuton cuts out the Athenian's tongue,  
And witches and hobgoblins fill  
Each crevice of the Aonian hill.

---

Many can rule and more can fight,  
But few give myriad hearts delight.

## TO W. STORY.

---

Story! whose sire maintained the cause  
 Of freedom and impartial laws,  
 How would he have rejoiced to see  
 A field far smoother trod by thee.  
 Ah! could he from the grave but hear  
 The voice of Europe, far and near,  
 Extol thy sculptures that retrace  
 What Rome had lost of attic grace.

---

Poets as strong as ever were,  
 Formerly breath'd our British air:  
 Ours now display but boyish strength,  
 And rather throw themselves full length.  
 Waller was easy, so was Sedley,  
 Nor mingled with the rhyming medley.  
 Descending from her higher places  
 The Muse led Prior to the Graces:  
 He was the first they condescended  
 To visit. . . are their visits ended?



## ON THE TOMB OF QUEEN ANNE.

---

A queen who snatcht from Marlboro's hand  
 The bay-girt baton of command  
 Lies here : and courtiers now malign  
 The creature whom they call'd divine ;  
 Yet none among them has denied  
 That she was sober when she died.

---

## TO SCOTCH CRITICS.

---

Why should ye sourly criticise  
 A poet more profuse than wise.  
 The gentle Muse would not send from her  
 Her Ovid, tho' preferring Homer.  
 Mind, wise was gentle Ovid too,  
 And equal'd in his art by few.  
 Sirs, malice is a worse disease  
 Than all your itch and all your fleas.

ON THE WIDOW'S ORDEAL,  
BY WASHINGTON IRVING.

---

Chaucer I fancied had been dead  
Some centuries, some four or five ;  
By fancy I have been misled.  
Like many : he is yet alive.

*The Widow's Ordeal* who beside  
Could thus relate? Yes, there is one,  
He bears beyond the Atlantic wide  
The glorious name of Washington.

---

G I B B O N .

---

Gibbon has planted laurels long to bloom  
Above the ruins of sepulchral Rome.  
He sang no dirge, but mused upon the land  
Where Freedom took his solitary stand.  
To him Thucydides and Livius bow,  
And Superstition veils her wrinkled brow.

## TO SIR WILLIAM DRUMMOND:

Drummond, your praises have been ever dear,  
 But most when pour'd into that willing ear  
 Which, turn'd away from flattery's voice, would  
     bend

To catch the slightest word that fell from friend.  
 She\* tells me, time and studious hours have  
     bow'd

That gracile form which shunn'd the ignoble  
     crowd;

And few even of the learned you admit

To share your wisdom and enjoy your wit :

And you expect and watch without dismay,

As virtuous courage bids, life's closing day :

Long may it linger yet, serenely bright,

And our last star stil guide us thro' the night.

No, I will never weave a sonnet,

Let others wear their patience on it ;

A better use of time I know

Than tossing shuttles to an fro.

\* The Idler in Italy.

## TO AN ESPOUSED.

---

Never has any house pour'd forth  
 On east and west, on south and north,  
 In any age so many men  
 Powerful alike with sword and pen  
 As Napier's : from that house you send  
 Glad tidings, Nora, to your friend,  
 That such a race not soon shall cease,  
 But flourish fresh with rich increase ;  
 And the next season may produce  
 A scion to a branch of Bruce.

---

*Hic jacent cineres* are words that show  
 Burnt were the bodies of the dead below.  
 Some tell us that live heretics alone  
 Were thus consumed when Mary graced the  
 throne ;  
 But others, more inquisitive, maintain  
 It was the practise in a later reign,  
 And point to recent tombstones that attest  
 Where not the *bones* but where the *ashes* rest.

## FOR A GRAVESTONE IN SPAIN.

---

Say thou who liest here beneath,  
 To fall in battle is not death.  
 You, tho' no pall on you was cast,  
 Heard the first trump nor fear'd the last.

---

Parrots have richly color'd wing,  
 Not so the sweetest bird that sings ;  
 Not so the lonely plaintive dove ;  
 In sadder stole she moans her love,  
 And every Muse in every tongue  
 Has heard and prais'd her nightly song.

---

A man there is who was believ'd  
 By many ; all he has deceiv'd ;  
 To one on earth may he prove true,  
 O lady, and that one be you.

## TO THE COUNTESS BALDELLI.

---

To-morrow if the day is fine  
I visit you before you dine.  
Juliet a little shy may be,  
But Blanche will sit upon my knee,  
Just as another some years older  
Sate once with arm about my shoulder.  
This is all twaddle, folks will say,  
But you are wiser far than they.  
Head upon head they could not reach  
The lines of this unspoken speech.  
Forgive me, Gertrude, if I'm proud,  
Your hand has rais'd me o'er the crowd.

---

One tooth has Wordsworth, but in sooth  
No man has such another tooth :  
Such a prodigious tooth would do  
To moor the bark of Charon to,  
And better than the Sinai stone  
To grave the Ten Commandments on.

TO PETER THE FISHERMAN.

---

Thou hast been ever active, Peter,  
 And netted loads on loads of fish ;  
 Could we but get them somewhat sweeter  
 'Twere well . . . alas, how vain the wish !  
 We must remember that they come  
 Close-hamper'd all the way through Rome.

---

TO THE  
 WORTHY SON OF A GREAT JURIST.

---

Story ! could thy good father come  
 Again and see his shattered home,  
 Then might fraternal discord cease  
 And Valour yield the palm to Peace.

## BID TO THINK OF FAME.

---

Rather than flighty Fame give me  
A bird on wrist or puss on knee.  
Death is not to be charm'd by rhymes  
Nor shov'd away to after-times.  
Of maiden's or of poet's song  
Did anything on earth sound long?  
Why then should ever mortal care  
About what floats in empty air?  
All we devise and all we know  
Is better kept for use than show.  
Perhaps we deem ourselves the wise,  
Other may see with clearer eyes.  
Little I care for Fame or Death,  
Or groan for one gasp more of breath.  
Death, in approaching me, looks grim,  
I in return but smile at him.



## GREECE ! BE TOLERANT.

---

“ *Children of Pallas !* ” is the voice that swells  
 Above the lofty Parthenon, “ awake, awake  
 From heavy slumber and illusive dreams,  
 Throw the door open . . Look at Babylon,  
 Corinth and Carthage and Jerusalem,  
 Earth’s giant offspring whom she rear’d in vain :  
 They all are dust, or worse than dust, a haunt  
 Of brutes, and brutal men, who tear the beard  
 One off another to cram down their throats  
 Incredibilities which both call creeds.

Whatever stands must fall ; the dust alone  
 We trample on rises and keeps its form.  
 There was one holy man who said to all  
 ‘ *Love ye each other :* ’ all have heard the words,  
 Few mind them ; prayer serves for obedience.

Grivas ! whom H ellas now invokes by name,  
 Albeit that name was never heard of yore

And time has paralyzed the mother tongue...  
Do thou forbid the insidious foot to tread  
Thy sacred land : let speech and thought be free ;  
So shalt thou hear such hymns as shook the fanes  
When Æschylos from Marathon return'd,  
And Athens envied most the wounded brave."

---

Never must my bones be laid  
Under the mimosa's shade.  
He to whom I gave my all  
Swept away her guardian wall,  
And her green and level plot  
Green or level now is not.

## TO ARTHUR DE NOÉ WALKER.

---

Few verses, and those light, I send,  
A paltry present to my friend.  
Heroes and heroines none remain  
Upon my wide Hellenic plain,  
While many a weak unthrifty stem  
Germinates in the place of them.  
As in Atlantic woods, unsown  
And not worth sowing, plants are grown  
Where ancient forests high and grand  
Tower'd over leagues of subject land.  
To your protecting care I trust  
The scraps you rescued from the dust.  
Save, you who saved embattled men,  
The feebler offspring of my pen.

Ultima, lector, habes ignoti carmina vatis,  
 Ista peregrini scripta fuere manu  
 Italiæ nullos hæredes Naso reliquit,  
 Et segetem nullam fert Latialis ager.  
 Extitit haud alius, tristi Sulmone relicto,  
 Qui coluit Musas ut voluere coli,  
 Arripui plectrum semel aut bis vatis Horati ;  
 Et mihi dilectam Lesbia fudit avem.  
 Hospite Verona est uno gavisâ Catullo,  
 Undaque trajecto risit aprica lacûs.  
 Liquit, ut audiret recitantem Larius Alpes,  
 Nec magis aversus forsitan Arnus erit.

---

Si mendacia manè vesperique  
 Discit Napoleo, atque voce clarâ  
 Cuncta edicta refert, stupere noli ;  
 Antonellius huic fuit magister.

## CREDITE.

Posse sacerdotem præcludere Tartara vobis  
 Credite, cœlestes posse aperire domos ;  
 Exhibito nummo salsæque aspergine lymphæ  
 Quodcunque est sceleris posse abolere notam ;  
 Credite summissum pedibus dare jura per orbem  
 Debere, et pavidis regibus esse ducem ;  
 Credite, perpessi, donec clamaverit alter  
*Quis deus, O populi ! jusserit ista pati ?*

## AD REGEM SARDINIÆ.

Haud unquam tetigit regum mea dextera dextram,  
 Horum alii jaceant ut lubet ante pedes.  
 Dixerit haud quisquam me sollicitâsse potentûm  
 Muncra, quæ dederint aut potuere dare.  
 Est egitur licitum jam denique plaudere soli  
 Qui manibus puris scepra paterna gerit.  
 Vive, salus patriæ ! neque cessent proelia donec  
 Projectus fuerit Noricus ensis humi !  
 Restituat Romæ popularia jura tribunus  
 Qui tua nunc intrat castra, vir ante vios.

## AD GARIBALDUM.

---

Dum patrio sermone meo celebrare parabam  
 Facta tua, Italiæ gloria summa, Liger !  
 Hôc monitu calamum correptum Musa repressit . .  
 “ Conveniunt potius verba latina duci.  
 Ille quidem Liger est, sed et est Romanus, et  
 Urbem.

Tutatus, vindex protulit arma foras.  
 Concinuere tubæ fulgentque sub Alpibus illa . .  
 Quò fugit Austriacus ? quò fugit iste minax ?  
 Libertatem alii produnt, victricia fœdant  
 Signa, sed absimilis regibus unus adest :  
 Ergo Romanâ Garibaldus voce canendus  
 Atque inter fastos concelebrandus erit.”

---

I trans æquor Atlanticum, libelle !  
 I quâ stella Columbiae refulget,  
 Et salvere jube hospites benignos :  
 Si Britannia erat noverca quondam.  
 Nos fratres sumus, et sumus futuri.

## AD ROMAM.

---

O Roma! sortem quis tuam non defleat!  
 Ut acerba contigit piis!  
 Deos Deasque mox videbimus nate  
 Nudâ, atque vix superstitem.  
 Sed una restat quæ tibi servat fidem,  
 Laverna; liquit filium,  
 De Vaticano monte qui vibrat faces  
 Et fulmina et tonitrua.  
 Fragore ridens artifex vafer suo  
*Benedicite!* ait, "*Benedicite!*"

---

Queruntur esse de puellarum satis  
 Jocosiorum lusibus.  
 Pindum colentes virgines, vos ferreum.  
 Projecite eum de vertice  
 Qui, dum juvenus adfuit, non riserit  
 Aut flêrit ob Cupidinem.

## DE VIRGINIS IMMATURA MORTE.

---

Sævâ procellâ tu cadis obruta  
 Florente vitâ : virginibus parum est  
 Iniqua sors ; flevete nunquam  
 Degenerem peperisse prolem,  
 Hæ sæpe fregit pectora fortibus  
 Iphis, quibuscum Gloria constitit  
 Domi forisque ; heu ! sæpe pravis  
 Succubere animi viriles.

---

## CANUM TRIUM SEPULCHRA.

---

Canes valetis queis benignus Demido  
 Sedem sepulturæ dedit  
 Hortos amænos inter ; hos obambulet  
 Dun vivit, et vivat diu !  
 Mihi, O fideles, vestra contingat quies  
 Semoto ab infidelibus !



## F A M A.

---

Persequitur mala Fama bonam, mox calcibus in-  
stat,  
Denique sub pedibus candida palla jacet.

---

## GAIETA EXPUGNATA.

---

Toto optata anno terraque marique duobus  
Regibus, "æternam famam Gaeta," tulisti...  
Dedita Caldino; neque egebit Etruria laudis,  
Quam nec hyems repulit nec flamma, sed acrius  
ursit.

---

Hunc infra lapidem sepelitur adultera conjux,  
Si proba sis, mulier! si vir honestus, abi  
Felix qui natos videat genitoris amantes!  
Felix qui sanctos dormiit inter avos!

## AD ITALUM.

---

Quot quantique tibi mendacia vendit aruspex,  
 O Itale! hunc audis? si vir es, esse proba.  
 Fâbellis nutricis amas inhiare, nec horres  
 Id quodcunque putri molliit ore senex.

---

Præteritos annos revoco mihi pectore tristi,  
 Quos prius haud sineres triste manere diu.  
 Mortua sis aliis, mihi non morieris, Ianche!  
 Hoc jurare jubet, dum sepeliris, Amor.

---

Immemores non sunt omnes virtutis avitæ.  
 Bellatoris equi jam Sarmata quassit habenam,  
 Et propiore juba domino stat celsior ipso  
 Hinnitus iterare claros longèque sonantes,  
 Inque aciem, naribus fumantibus, arrigit aures:  
 Audiit hunc Tiberis, Padus audiit, audiet Ister.

## SAVONAROLA.

---

Ut defendus es, O Savonarola ?  
 Orans pro patriæ salute,  
 Legis nil veriti deosve nutu  
 Impuri nebulonis interisti  
 Igne, quem meruit magis, crematus,  
 Ingrato populo ingerente torres,  
 Romæ pontifices cruore gaudent  
 Et ritus Druidum ferunt per orbem.

---

Vincti perpetuoque vinciendi,  
 Qui semper dominos habere vultis  
 In sparsos cineres Savonarolæ  
 Dantes frangite imaginem, suprâque  
 Altare erigite altero tyranno,  
 Hæres legitimus (sed id negatur).  
 Sedem cedat avunculus nepoti.

## AD DIVUM PATREM.

---

Dive Pater? natos, at non impune, vorâsti ;  
Saturnuo pœnas sub Jove nonne dedit ?

---

## AD LIVAM.

---

Nulla puellarum levis est occultave culpa,  
Tu superos igitur, Livia, teque time.

---

## AD REGIS MINISTRUM.

---

Mel tibi protendit Corsus, tu rejice donum  
Lethale, in Corso melle venena latent.

DE CARMINIBUS LUCRETII  
 STYLO SCRIPTIS.

---

Sæcula vix alium bis nona tulere poetam  
 Qui Musas Italas auditâ voce vocaret,  
 Omnes exilium Nasonis triste dolentes,  
 Denique vir\* surgit carmen sublime Lucreti  
 Exsuperans, et humi prosterans omne priorum  
 Quot genuit cretas ignavo semine tellus.

---

Pax fugit Italiam : Discordia sola gubernat,  
 Imperitat populis, regibus imperitat.  
*Improbis hæc tam culta novalia miles habebit ?*  
*Barbarus has segetes ?... Gallus habebit ; habet.*  
 Nulla columba, diu sperata, reducit olivam,  
 Et Philomela suo mœret abacta Pado.

\* Robert Smith.

## AD POERIUM.

---

Diva illa quæ nunc exulat Neapoli  
 Sub Alpibus non algida est,  
 Ibi illa diva, fortibus semper comes,  
 Te amplectitur, Poerio.

---

“*Non ego famoso perstrinxi carmine quemquam.*”

Id facilis Naso dixit, idemque velim :  
 At memori gratum est mihi falsa rependere vèro,  
 Nec nocuisse aliis qui nocuere mihi.

---

## OVIDIUS.

---

Me nescis, Ovidi? tecum mea prima juvenus  
 Lusit, ob hoc semper tu mihi carus eris ;  
 Et quia viventes poteras laudare poetas ;  
 Tale hominum nobis interit omne genus.

## CATULLUS. CALVO SUO.

Benacus est amœnus, estque Larius,  
 Neutrum revisere hyems acerba me sinit,  
 Nam tusse, sum quassatus, atque ea impulit  
 Ad molliorem apricioremque aera,  
 Ubi retusa est Alpium ferocitas,  
 Fratrum gigantum qui minabantur Jovi.  
 Albæ volueres mî supervolant caput,  
 Undis marinis litori irruentibus  
 Ab Adriâ.

• Satis tibi rescribitur,  
 Patiere tu quoque hâc meâ gravedine  
 Si plura : dormi dum licet, dum salvus es.

Poema vis : Cæcilium adi, dabit tria  
 Tribus dicata, acceptaque illa, Gratiis.  
 Ne verte chartam, nil ibi est poematis.

STATIUS.

---

Stattus Aonias tentat decorare puellas,  
 Sed cadit elatâ lapsa corolla manu.  
 Audit agrum 'ventos gelidos perflare Latinum  
 Et vacuas spicas linquit abacta Ceres.

---

ARNOLDUS SAVAGIUS.

---

Parietibus pictis, populo quos curia monstrat  
 Nescio quot proceres obtinuere locum.  
 At tibi nulla datur sedes, Arnolde Savagi,  
 Quo sine nulla esset curia : fortis eras ;  
 Fortis eras sapiensque, et (territus ante) senatus  
 Præsïde te vires sumpsit, erantque tuæ.  
 Solus nempe audax audacemque ante tyrannum  
 Fatus es, adsurgens, ista silente domo.  
 " *Voce loquor populi : dum jura infecta manere  
 Tu sinis, haud æris subsidia ulla dabit.*"\*

\* *Rapinus*, in historiâ suâ hæc verba de homine refert qui primus in Parlamento, quum præses eligeretur, rege presente jura populi vindicavit.



## IN OBITUM ELISABETHÆ SORORIS.

---

Ingenuo vultu, formâ quam Gratia finxit,  
 O soror ! haud paucis sollicitata procis,  
 Est visum potius matris vigilare senectam  
 Et dare pauperibus, dum requierat, opem.  
 Æquè nobilibus grata obscurisque fuisti,  
 Sic casa cum lacrymis, sic gemit aula, *vale.*

---

## AD PUELLAM ARCITINENTEM.

---

Hos inter juvènes parata parvum  
 Arcum tendere, non vides ut ista est  
 Ludus virginibus periculosus,  
 Atque ut difficile est tibi et sorori  
 Evitare Cupidinis sagittam ?  
 Sese abscondit ; ego assidens sub ulmo.  
 Talem voce seniliter tremente  
 In aurem monitum edidi ; repente  
 Iratus puer irruit. “ *Quid audes*”  
 Dixit “ *in mea jura ? tu dolebis.*”

## AD VETUTAM IMPUDICAM.

---

Etsi non es Ariminensis ortu  
 Ista ut Folia jam notata Flacco,  
 Et notata nigerrimâ notarum,  
 Pronâ accepta sit aure cantilena  
 Quam canto tibi, plurimique cantant.  
 Macra amplexibus improbis puella  
 Non est ausa loqui pater quod ausus.  
 At nos impavidi sumus, venenum  
 Acre nil veriti tuum osculorum.

---

Invidia! quid te in orbe toto est foediùs  
 Sed adsides mortalium,  
 Summis, corum utrinque nemo pluribus  
 Stipatus est clientibus.  
 Poeta dextram dum poetæ porrigit,  
 Tibi sinistram pone dat.  
 Sapientibus piisque mos idem est, viris  
 Ac foeminis, dum vivitur :  
 Deos precantur supplices, surgis suprâ,  
 Diis omnibus potentior.

## HORATI VERSUS NOVI.

---

Perfide! die per omnes  
 Te deos oro, Italiam cur properas premendo  
 Perdere? cur avitum  
 Oderis campum impatiens liberioris auræ?

---

## IN ETRURIAM POST X. ANNOS REVERSURUS.

---

Jam mihi prætereunt octava decennia vitæ,  
 Perque pigras venas ultima serpit hyems.  
 Anne revisurus sim, sæpe vocatus, amicos  
 Nescio, semper enim est Spes malefida mihi.  
 Sperabam placidos redeunti occurrere natos,  
 Lusistique iterum, Spes fugitiva, senem.  
 Attamen est aliquid mitem usque fuisse parentem,  
 Vulnere ob hoc apsum con graviore dolat.  
 Non merui...has voces itero fletum inter acerbum,  
 Heu! solatioli non meruisse parum est.

## AD ERSCHINUM.

---

Erschine ! nostra paras tutari litora classe,  
 Dux operum patiens, strenuus, atque sagax.  
 Navita mente alacri jussis obtemperat omnis  
 Ut puer, et partem se putat esse tui ;  
 Namque alius nemo sic novit lene severo  
 Miscere, utque suo tempore utrumque decet.  
 Tot curas inter tua fertur epistola nobis,  
 Nataliem haud dubii lætificare novum.  
 Anno nondum acto te villula nostra recepit  
 Uno cum socio : sit reditura dies !

## AD NAPIERIUM DUCEM.

---

Napieri ! cubito inclinanti pauca legenda  
 Sunt mea, sed scribo ; sis memor usque mei !  
 Sis memor ut colui te paucos inter amicos,  
 Innumeris curis vulneribusque gravem.  
 Verùm es qualis eras animo, si viribus impar,  
 Agnoscuntque tuam Gallus Iberque manum.  
 Historiæ tendit tibi jure Britannia palmam,  
 Nec sola est gladio gloria parta tuo.

## AD ROSAM, LIBEROS SUOS DOCENTEM.

Toto in filiolis die occupata,  
 Sed non immemor inter hos amici,  
 Ut horas ages, O Rosa, innocentes !  
 Tales semper erant, erant beatæ  
 Semper, at minus antequam doceres  
 Quî sulcus traheretur, exarantem  
 Plus unâ maculâ oblitum libellum,  
 Palparesque genam et manum obsèquenti.  
 Te revisere Fata mi negârunt ;  
 “ Unum hoc maceror,” at tua ora menti  
 Auferre haud pôtuere, nec loquelam  
 Castam illam ingenuo lepore tinctam.  
 Una vocula me parum dolebat  
 Quæ nunc excruciat ; valere jussus  
 Novi vespere crastino futurum  
 Ut prius fuit ; heu ! procul remotum  
 Nullo vespere me jubes valere.  
 Si verè mihi sola tu maneres  
 Ipsa, nec fugitura mox imago,  
 Esse non sineres gravem senectam ;

Nunc tantum obveniunt, favente somno,  
 Isti currere seriam atque inertem  
 Acri garrulitate provocantes,  
 Pultantes humerum aut pedam trahentes,  
 Id silens nemo, illa querna sedes,  
 Et candens domus hospitis, suprâque  
 Hortus pensilis adfluenta rivo.  
 Ristormel,\* Rosa ! liberi, valetè !

---

M A N I N U S .

---

Te, Mannine, virum ducemque, cordi est  
 Versu concelebrare non inepto,  
 Sed parem meritis quis illud ? urbis  
 Antiquæ Venetum decus salusque  
 Dum visum Superis eras, nec ignes  
 Nec ferrum fugere hostium sinebas.  
 At quum infidus avunculus neposque  
 Speranda omnia prodidere, pectus  
 Firmum frangitur ; exul occidisti,  
 Sævo cum gemitu omnium Italorum.

\* Ristormel, domus in Cornubiâ.

Mendaciorum prolificus pater  
 Conculcat orbem : dicite quamdiu  
 Idem coronatus sacerdos  
 Æneidum generi imperabit.

Ad arma rursus ! surgite, surgite,  
 Vivi quot estis ! Te merito ducem  
 Astroëa descendens salutat,  
 Stringe pium, Garibalde ferrum.

Vir ante primos Italiæ viros  
 (Et terra nusquam est prole beatior)  
 Audis, reversuroque plaudit,  
 Hoste pedem retrahente, Roma.

Est digna consors militiæ tuæ  
 Quæ vulneratis auxilium tulit,  
 Medelaque ipsa est visa tantùm  
 Luminibus gravibus dolore.

Vultu severò occurrere Cypridi  
 Minerva tandem desiit ; annuit,  
 Et pulchrior fit pulchritudo  
 Quam fuit in nitidâ juventâ.

Secunda vertunt te duce prælia,  
 Urbes resurgunt ; jam caput erigit  
 Dejecta, calpestrata, regum  
 Parthenope pede barbarorum.

Haud otiosam nunc Capuam vides,  
 Baias-ve solis divitibus datas  
 Obambulari, nec cavernam  
 Purpuream Capræ inquinandam.

Messana mœsto lumine, fortium  
 In busta, forti nunc aperit sinum,  
 Scyllæque latrantes silesunt,  
 Nec fremit ut fremuit Carybdis.

Aptat solutas pastor arundines  
 Ad labra, certans carmine mutuo,  
 Et virgines raptore pulso  
 Floribus Enna novis coronat.

Extrema cerno litera Brundusî  
 Lætata tantis hospitibus ; probat,  
 Virtute priscâ non sepultâ,  
 Ut Lacedæmonium est Tarentum.



## VATICINIUM.

---

Unus homo Romæ cunctando restituit Rem ;  
Restituet non cunctando (deus adjuvet !) alter.

---

O mea ! si mea sis quam somnia sola reducant,  
Rursus in hunc gremium nocte silente veni !  
Id saltem licet, amplexu non detinet alter,  
Et nequit obsistens te prohibere soror.

---

Queruntur esse de puellarum satís  
Jocsiorum lusibus.

Pindum colentes virgines ! vos ferreum  
Projicite ab illo vertice  
Qui dum juvenus adfuit non riserit  
Aut flêrit ob Cupidinem.

## AD POETAM.

QUI MARE LIBERUM ALCÆI METRO SCRIPSIT.

---

Audax juventâ Pindarieum melos  
 Tentare cœpi, sed cecidit lyra  
 Imbelliori, Musa risit  
 Et facilem dedit insonandam.

Roberte ! solus tu potes addere  
 Sublime carmen Pierio choro,  
 Potare Dircen, deque Pindi  
 Vertice volvere dithyrambos.

## AD GARIBALDUM.

Victoriarum gloria provocat  
 Multos subactis montibus Alpum,  
 Multos amictos veste nigrâ,  
 Syrmate versicolore multos.

Si sint aperto in Marte pericula,  
 Sunt et silenti nocte latentium  
 Sicariorum pugiones,  
 Poculaque insidiosa cœnis.

Discriminorum victor es omnium,  
 At obsecramus te reducem domi  
 Semper peregrinos latrones  
 Canidiasque mares cavere.

Deos precamur (non hebetes deos  
 Pinguesque, rubris cruribus) obsidem.  
 Te, pace firmata, tueri  
 Civibus Italiaeque toti.

## AD VILLAM IN AGRO MEDIOLANENSI.

O villa amicis læta frequentibus  
 Æstate quondam, non bifores patent  
 Uti solebant, has refringit  
 Barbarus, et dominatur urbi.

En ! militantùm turba procacium  
 Invadit hortos ; non acer educat  
 Vitem reluctantem, nec infra  
 Nympha videt fragiles aquarum.

Flecti columnas propter imagines  
 Atlas deorum ; sed veniet dies  
 Quando hæ relucebunt et illæ,  
 Et fugiet malefidus hospes.

Prædam latroni præripiens latro  
 Stricto ense nunquam nocte minabitur ;  
 Tandem inter hæc arbusta solæ  
 Luscinia merulæque certent !

Napoleo ! visa est tibi gloria fallere gentes ?  
 Cur qui tanta potes non potes esse probus ?  
 Nos venale genus fulmusque sumusque poetæ,  
 At quis egenus ita est ut tua facta canat ?  
 Singula quando obolo mendacia vendidit uno  
 Ditiore Assyriis regibus Irus erit.

---

Ver erat extinctum, languere inceperat annus,  
 Ibam ubi secreto in litore Larna jacet,  
 Ut nimis assiduos tandem frustrarer amicos  
 Utque aurâ fruerer liberiore maris.  
 Vicina oppidulo formosæ villa Philippæ  
 Stabat, in oppidulo cepit utrasque domus.  
 Vecta redibat equo, nonnunquam vespere sero,  
 Et semper lateri lætus adesse fui.  
 Parvulus Asturco me vexit, at iste protervus  
 Continuò huic fricuit, me minitante, genu.  
 Nescio ut acciderit, sed eram proclivior ultra,  
 Dixi aliquid, forsàn vix satis aure procul :  
 Tunc ea . . non dextram missura, sed arctius usu  
 Stringens, ut subito sæpe pavore solet . .  
 “ Quid facis ? improbior vis Asturcone videri ?  
 Desine . . vis clamem ? . . desine . . nulla dabo.”

PRECES PRO SALUTE REGIS QUI MORBO  
 PEDICULARI LABCRAT.

---

Ut Natura jubet, pisces sint piscibus escæ ;  
 Atqui, pedicule, parce tu pediculo.  
 Usque clientelæ fidissimus hospes adhære ;  
 Vivax sit ille, diis bene annuentibus,  
 Quamvis per tenebras et claustra diutius audit  
 Paucos gementûm (ut ante) queis gavisus est.  
 Carminibus Superos calidis pietate precamur  
 Vivat, pediculis simul cohortibus ;  
 Quumque suprema diës illuxerit, ista legantur . .  
 PEDICULORUM MAXIMUM HOC MAR-  
 MOR TEGIT.

---

Per strictos gladios et per deserta locorum  
 Egit iter mulier saneta, secuta virum :  
 Succubuit tandem Garibaldi digna marito,  
 Lassa fame, insomni lassa labore viæ.

---

PRO PORTÂ.  
 PER HANC PORTAM INGRESSUS EST URBEM  
 GARIBALDUS,  
 SICILIÆ LIBERATOR, ROMAM LIBERATURUS.

---

Occupat ecce iterum Corsus capitolia Brennus,  
 Militeque ejecto plebs jacet ante pedes.  
 Restituenda quidem sunt libera jura, sed armis,  
 Et non Romuleâ restituenda manu.  
 Gallia promissis nunquam stetit, omnia vertit,  
 Semper erat fortis, perfida semper erat.  
 Creditis huic, Italia? aut estis simulare coacti  
 Quâ virtus jocus est et dolus ingenium?

---

Pro domo.  
 His in cædibus natus est, patria nondum  
 venundatâ,  
 Siciliæ Italiæ-que liberator GARIBALDUS,  
 multos insignes Roma, plures Græcia, celebravit,  
 vos propius videtis vestratem clariorem.

## AD LAGOUM QUI THEBAIDA MISERAT.

---

Tentare rursus, O Lagöë, me jubes  
 Thebaida ; cur hæc perpeti coegeris  
 Crudeliora quàm Thebe patrata erant ?  
 Fugi, fatebor, et cucurri ad extera ;  
 Minora ibi graviora sunt ; cautis vice  
 Saburra erat calcanda . . sed subegimus.

---

Felix qui natos videat genitoris amantes !  
 Felix qui sanctos dormiit inter avos !

---

Improbus est patriam qui vendidit, improbus  
 emptor ;  
 Regibus, O Itali, quantula habenda fides !  
 Parthenope fortes amat adsequiturque Sicanos ;  
 Ecce ! duas gentes liberat unus homo.  
 Unus homo Romæ cunctando restituit Rem,  
 At non cunctando restituet melior :  
 Vive, vale, Garibalde ! parat tibi certa triumphos,  
 Jam gladio fracto perfidus hostis abit.



## MORBUS POETARUM.

---

Expertes pauci livore fuere poetæ,  
 Purus erat scabie Naso, Tibullus erat.  
 Quisque suum morbum est catulus perpressus,  
 adultis  
 Non manet: ah! certe sunt meliore luto.

---

Tu pro libertate fatigas voce senatum,  
 Esse nequis Graccus, Gracculus esse potes.

---

Si nunquam volui tecum cænare vocatus  
 Est quia me solitâ sede sedere juvat.  
 Diffugis a dextrâ Burdette, volasque sinistrâ,  
 Infaustum id visum est omen aruspibus.

---

Tandem laborum desino, neque amplius  
 Mea charta sub stylo crepat.  
 Cænæ, sodales, parva ut est, accumbite,  
 Ego interim dormitum eo.

## MORS NUPTÆ.

Mors, illa advena pluribus  
 Importuna, toro institit  
 Pyrrhæ, quæ timuit parum  
 Acclinem faciem deæ.  
 Sed dilexerat Acidem  
 Ab ludis puerilibus,  
 Atque illum propiùs videns,  
 Protentâ male dexterâ  
 Inquit, difficili halitu,  
 “ Fletûs desine inutilis,  
 “ Te solabitur altera,  
 “ Cujus par sit amor meo !  
 “ Me specta . . viden . . haud fleo.  
 “ Eheu ! nescio cur mihi  
 “ Sic implent lacrymæ sinum.”  
 His dictis gemuit semel,  
 Mors pulchrum tetigit caput,  
 Et constant lachrymæ gelu,

Tres esse honestos hac in urbe crederes ?  
 Ita est . . at unus est canis.

EPITAPHIUM SAVONAROLÆ.

---

In hoc loco crematus est vivus,  
 Pontifice Maximo jubente,  
 Hieronomus Savonarola.  
 Pro animâ ejus precari supervacaneum est,  
 Salvam esse certiores facti.  
 Vobiscum ita sit qui legitis!

---

Infructuosi jam laboris desino  
 Quo charta sub dextrâ crepat.  
 Cænæ paratæ vos, amici, accumbite,  
 Surgo, atque dormitum eo.

## PRO SEPULCHRO.

Parce novum, reverende latro, violare sepulchrum,  
 Nullas invenies quo sepelimur opes.  
 Tu contentus abi, conjux priùs abstulit aurum,  
 Flaccidaque, ut nôsti, colla monile gerunt.

Ubi ille in alto qui solet æthere  
 Volare? ubi ales qui jovis ad latus  
 Sedere? bubonem videmus,  
 Occinit in mediis ruinis.

Qui liberandum protenus Adriam  
 Edixit alta voce vocantibus  
 Idem resurgentem vetustis  
 Implicat Italiam catenis.

Urbes reclamant.. "I, caput occule,  
 Nec pejeratum laurea protegat!  
 I, regibus solis fidelis!  
 I, maculate cruore nostro."

En! colla torquet libera pontifex  
 Quem Roma dudum finibus expulit.  
 Inulta-ne æternùm manebit  
 O Superi! Perusina cedes?

## AD SUTHEIUM.

---

Laudare quæ calens juventâ scripseram  
 Primus fuisti, forsitan neque ultimus,  
 Utcunque id est, hæc pauca parvaque accipe  
 Lantonianis involuta nubibus  
 Quæ dissipaveris benigno lumine.

## AD POETAM AMORE LABORANTEM.

---

Quum cupidineo igne torquearis,  
 Cur versus scythico crepat rigore?  
 Cor mihi dolet intimum, unde versus  
 Tam plenus fluit et fluet perennis.

## HIANTIUS ET PERILLA.

---

Olim dixit Hiantio Perilla ;  
 “ Quum defloruerit mihi venustas,  
 Et forsan priùs, ardour omnis ille  
 Quo nunc angeris, aut videris angi,  
 Ne demum in cinerem cadet timendum est.”  
 Tunc Hiantius, ut solent amantiés,  
 Jurans plurima, et applicans sigillum  
 Quod semper juvenes habent paratum,  
 “ Non credis quod ais, Perilla ! crede  
 Uni, fallere nescio puellas ;  
 Si decreverit ardor ob senectam,  
 Et sunt queis ita contigit, miselli !  
 Mea (ah ne properes eam obsecro te)  
 Ipsa frigida non erit favilla.”

---

## GARIBALDI UXOR.

---

Per strictos gladios et per deserta viarum,  
 Victa fame, insomni victa labore viæ,  
 Succubuit tandem Garibaldo digna marito  
 Extorrem mulier sancta secuta virum.

## IN OBITUM SUTHEII LAUREADONATI.

---

Suthei! mortuus es; paremque frustra  
 Ullum quærimus aut virum aut amicum.  
 Si minus dolet invidus poeta,  
 Est saltem docilis dolere, visus  
 Flores projicere in recens sepulchrum.  
 Illud non facio; probent ut angor  
 Hæ veræ lacrymæ in lacum cadentes.

## AD PONTIFICEM.

---

CIVIUM CÆDE IN URBE PERUGIÂ JESSU EJUS PATRATÂ.

---

Fallere non sat erat populos, quin cæde latrones  
 Pascis, et infantum sanguine tingis avos.  
 Haud facis ipse, inquis; væ! perfide! nonne  
 coronam  
 Imponisque duci concelebrasque diem?  
 Proh scelus! et Galli circum sine vindice dextrâ  
 Talia facta vident intuituque probant!  
 Exul eris, fraudesque tuæ cædesque patescent . .  
 Vive Dei oblitus; non erit ille tui.

## AD HEROINAM.

Quœnam dearum stat mediâ viâ ?  
 Quâ me morantem voce jubet sequi ?  
 Gressum recognosco superbum  
 Atque oculos aliter timendos.

Trivultiorum filia nobilis !  
 Nuper benigno lumine Larium  
 Lustrans, reliquisti paternæ  
 De proavis dititionis Alpes,  
 Vallesque flavas et juga vitium  
 Obducta pronis retibus ; est acer  
 Pubentibus fidus minister,  
 Sunt nemora undisonique fontes.

Parendum . . Eamus quâ tuba concitat  
 Ad arma fortes Ausoniæ viros,  
 Quâ Roma vexillis coruscat  
 At nemora Albunæ sonantis.

Corneliarum non domus interit,  
 Non mersa fulvo gurgite Clelia,  
 Non Arriæ ferrum vetustas  
 (Hoc geris increpitans) peredit.



En ! vulneratis illam adhibes manum  
Quam gloria esset tangere regibus,  
Nec dentium stridorem acutum  
Nec saniem refugis nigrantem.

Citum latronis nunc retrahit pedem  
Detrusa agristi milite Gallia,  
Diu sibi ipsi non fidelis,  
Ast aliis malefida semper.

Musæ (fatebor sponte) Britannicæ  
In calceo alto pes patulus natat,  
Nec Gratia zonam modestæ  
Pectoribus religant anhelis :

Sed barbarorum cruda loquentia  
Te non lacesset ; non vacuum melos  
Tibi insusurrandum, nec ibis  
Deciduo decorata serto.

Ad imperantis Justitiæ latus  
Guttam supremam sanguinis abluēs,  
Post bella, post regum tumultus,  
Egeriæ gelido liquore.

## AD LIBERTATEM.

O quæ revisis Romulcas domos,  
 Urbesque opimas mollis Etruriæ,  
 Udosque fines Sirmionis  
 Et Venetum Ligurumque portus ;

Quæ nunc Canopum, nunc Arabum sinus  
 Regisque mersi mobilibus vadis,  
 Indique montanas latebras  
 Ostiaque ulteriora Gangis,

Reduz adibis Hesperios viros,  
 Viros Iberos? an pateram libet  
 Lymphâ salubri implere ab Istri  
 Fontibus oppositique Rheni?

Infrâ relucent Helvetiæ lacus,  
 Et arcta rident pascua vallium  
 Dulcem referri cantilenam  
 Voce domum revocante vaccas.

Torrentis alti et fluminis abditi  
Audire plangorem Helvetios juvat,  
Et mox susurròs, dein cachinnos,  
Tunc fremitum et rabiem ; ruinam

Utrinque lapsam ab culmine montium  
Adscendere inter, stare super, vides.  
Qui magna consuescunt tueri  
Magna ferent, facientque magna.

Refringis istis et glaciem Alpium  
Metumque pellis pensilibus jugis ;  
Quacunque venisti reident  
Lumine candidiore soles.

Horentia intras mœnia vepribus  
Queis Archimedis contegitur globus,  
Callesque quos ferro notavit  
Empedocles deus Agrigenti.

Messana, tendens brachia, vinculis  
Exserta, pubes te Drepani vocat,  
Sublimiorem te propinquâ  
Tollit Erix redivivus arcem.

---

## RICARDUS MILNES,

Vir sagax, eloquens, eruditus, próbus,  
 quum Senatui ut præset vocaretur  
 id unum patriæ negavit;  
 oblatos a principibus titulos  
 modeste et leniter amovit.

---

Semper amicitiae maneant mihi, semper amores!  
 Hos equidem solâ mente manere gemo.  
 Fugit amor primus, fugiens tres liquit amicos,  
 Ingenio paucos aut pietate pares.

---

Ut defletus eras et adhuc deflendus amicis  
 Pluribus! haud unus te moriente venit:  
 Haud venit, expirat dum spiritus ultimus, unus  
 Qui premat ardentem febre,\* Lagöë, manum.  
 Ah quotias illo ludebam nomine quondam!  
 Nunc prohibent omnes Fata severa jocos.  
 Ipse facetus eras aliique fuere faceti  
 Te duce, nunc fractus mussat abique Lepos,  
 Nam procul à patriâ tua conditur urna Panormi,  
 Et serò hâc tristi carmine nota jacet.

\* Francis Hare.

## AD PUELLAM.

---

Te laudare quis ausus est? tacemus,  
 Nam summæ addere non licet columnæ.

---

· Cordata! certè nomen habes tuum.  
 Jussu deorum, quæ gladium manu  
 Stringis virili; jam minatur  
 Exitium rêliquis tyrannus.

Quid plura? carmen sit breve, nam brevis  
 In orbe nostro vita fuit tibi  
 · Cordata! sed feliciorẽ  
 Fama dabit peritura serò.

---

Non quod eras formâ præstantior omnibus, Anna,  
 Exequias sequerer corde dolente tuas,  
 Non quod Saxonice de regibus esset origo  
 Et poteras priscum nobilitare genus,  
 Sed quia pauperibus solatia ferre solebas  
 Et grave, depulsâ morte, levare caput.

## FRATRUM NAPIERIUM CONCORDIA.

---

Severioribus præesse literis  
 Est magna gloria, major est  
 Viros potentes, imperantes, regios,  
 Humanitate vincere.  
 Quam tu colebas haud erit tui immemor  
 Historia, Martis ad latus,  
 Et ille, fratrum utrique constringens manum,  
 Mirabitur concordiam.

---

Hospes! ruderibus quæ restant parce sepulchri,  
 Namque sacro lapidi litera nulla manet.  
 Tutari melius reges potuere jacentem,  
 Anne fuit salvis in foribusque metus?  
 Nec civis melior fuit aut elementior hostis,  
 Quem ve ita prosequitur militis altus amor.

## BANDELLI FRATRES.

In cœlo Geminos videmus inter  
 Altioraque clarioraque astra  
 Queis divi sua nomina indiderunt.  
 His æqui pueres fuere fratres  
 Bandelli, ante oculos humi jacentes.  
 Illis vita erat una, et una mors est,  
 Extinctis simul; impio tyranno  
 Anglus prodidit; heu! pudet fateri.  
 Chartam, quam mihi fert Camæna puram,  
 Hujus nomine nullus inquinabo,  
 Quo damnabitur ultimo Britanno.  
 Fratres! occubuistis, haud peristis.

Incertus stylus est dicis mihi, veraque dicis,  
 Sed duo de cœlo mî comitantur iter.  
 Nubilus interdum est, interdum purus, Apollo,  
 Et soror; utcunque est Luna pudica, vaga est;  
 Nunc alta ingreditur, nunc parva humilisque  
 recedit,  
 Jam facie totâ pallida, jamque rubet.

## MOECHA.

---

Te, si quis pius est apud poetas,  
 Atque si quis amator est, vocabit  
 Deliis, scelerata, Lesbiisque  
 Infidelibus infideliorem.

---

## PATAVINIS.

---

Lapidem Tito Livio sacrum, O cives pii,  
 Nolite prolixis inscriptionibus temerare ;  
 Ab horâ matutinâ in his legendis laboravimus,  
 Date respiraturis locum.

---

## BEMBI EPITAPHIUM.

---

Heic situs est Bembus : servabât Apollinis aram,  
 Longè abigens alium cum genetrice deum.



## THEBAIDE PERLECTA.

---

Thebaidos quicumque graves superavit arenas  
 Sit pius, est ultra nulla timenda sitis.  
 Diis agimus grates quum surgere nausea cessat  
 Et portum intravit victo Aquilone ratis.

---

Scandere qui violata diu Capitolia tendis  
 Siste pedem ; haud iterum diripienda vide.  
 Mox poteris Italos Gallis haud esse minores  
 Scire, nec apricos reperere semper humi.

---

Allobrigum solio rex est stabilitus avito ;  
 Nondum adeò fidum vendiderat populum ;  
 Nondum tradiderat servilibus hostibus arcem  
 Unde patent Italæ queis spoliantur opes ;  
 Nondum abigi Româ quas jussit adesse cohortes  
 Viderat, aut cives tam violenta pati.

## AD PSYCHEN CUM CATELLO.

---

Psyche, nobilis es neque es superba,  
 Idcirco tibi quem petis catellum  
 Committo tenerum : hunc scio fovebis,  
 Quantum nescio, nec sciens faterer  
 Si mollem in gremio sinas cubare  
 Et narem gelidum applices tepenti.  
 Priscum est huic genus . . id manet legendum  
 In libris veterum sacris . . priusquam  
 Nos essemus homunculi, creatum.  
 Forti pectore sæpe militabat  
 Insignis genitor, minus fidelis  
 (Aiunt) conjugio : ut pudica proles,  
 Et conjantior ut tibi sit uni,  
 Hanc collo injice sericam catenam.

## ITALIÆ DIRÆ.

---

Cæsis civibus, ut fit, urbe captâ,  
 Diras Italiæ diu gementis  
 Partiuntur avunculus neposque.

---

 PSYCHE RESPONDET.
 

---

Munus accipio tuum lubenter.  
 Est auro pretiosior catena  
 Illa serica quæ ligat catellum ;  
 Esset aurea forsitan, sed auri  
 Nullam particulam tenet crumena  
 Quam nevi tibi, nam latro sacerdos  
 Et conjux, bene juncta in his latroni,  
 Omnem surripuere, teque rident.

LUDLONIS EPITAPHIUM APUD  
HELVETIOS.

---

Libera gens olim te, Ludlo invicte, recepit  
 Et non ingrato condidit ossa solo :  
 Tantis pro meritis hoc unum est, occidis exul..  
 Debueras patriæ carior esse tuæ.

---

Ille parum expertem te ducit, America, culpæ  
 Cui spumant labia et cui jecora ægra tument.  
 Africa non paucos, non paucos India, morbos  
 Intulit, at periit tempore quisque suo.  
 Sunt soli æterno tacti livore poetæ,  
 Nec maculam delet diminuit-ve dies.  
 Unus inhorrueret majorem occidere fratrem  
 Sutheius : quianam deperit omne genus ?  
 Maluit idem agnos hædosque fovere tenellos,  
 Et coluit flores quos dedit ipse Deus.

MONUMENTA MINUS ILLUSTRUM  
IN ÆDE DIVI PAULI.

---

Quot monumenta vides parvis erecta poetis  
Atque aliis alium qui meruere locum !  
Miltonum, egregios qui claruit ante Britannos,  
Quæris? in ignotâ conditus æde jacet.  
Supprime (si potis es, neque justa excandeat)  
    iram. .  
Est aliquid tali talibus esse procul.  
Forsitan inscriptas aliquo rudiore colono  
Immetita tegant gramina literulas.

---

Sceptrigerum nullus vixit sine laude poetæ,  
At quis egenus ita est ut velit esse tuus?

---

Plurima sunt mentem quæ diffugêre sequacem,  
Plurima quæ cuperes non meminisse manent.

## AD ALEXANDRUM CÆSAREM.

---

Si vis antiquis nova jungere firmaque regna  
 Nil prohibet, quod avi non potuere potes ;  
 Conciliare potes tibi pectora fida virorum,  
 Fortia, quam fuerint forcia, facta probant.  
 Crede mihi, Scythico fas haud est vincere ferro  
 Caucasium, aut luxu debilitare, genus.  
 Cede igitur validis montes venatibus aptos,  
 Cede minus validis pascua, cede casas,  
 De quibus ad cœlum fumus solet ire serenum,  
 Nec ferrugineo grandine tecta quati.  
 Respice, sit quamvis longinquus, respice finem ;  
 Morte alii reges non periire suâ.  
 Phasidis in ripâ cupidus transire sinistram,  
 Siste pedem, ulterius si gradiare peris.  
 Forsan in hâc terrâ liquit Medea nepotes,  
 Atque herbas, quales legerat illa, legent.

---

Persequitur mala Fâma bonos, bona longius abstat,  
 Sera venit, serâ sidera nocte micant.

## NOMINA ERUDITORUM.

---

Inter lumina clara literarum  
 Est Meibommius, est Morhoffiusque,  
 Puffendorfius, Heidelhammerusque,  
 Gruterusque (ita vox sonat suis)  
 Et Schneiderius ore paulum aperto,  
 Nare latius, et magis sonante,  
 Sternutans bene, nomen haud male edit.  
 Et Rhunkenius, ortus ad paludem,  
 Longa retia quæ trahit Batavus..  
 Swedenborghius, insecutus Umbras,  
 Quas ille ad libitum evocat vel arcet.  
 Tunc SchlegHELLIUS, aureis catenis  
 Ut multâ cruce nobilis coruscat  
 Donati parili latinitate  
 BrawnIUS gravis, ingemens podagrâ,  
 Et StilleGIUS, applicans lacertum  
 Ac firmans baculo pedem sinistrâ :  
 Nec Strabellus abest, cliens fidelis.

Quamvis ferreus est mihi atque acutus'  
 Stylus, his aciem timet retundi,  
 Et campum sterilem horret exarare.

---

AD AMICAM.

---

Dura ! cur iterum abruis sedile  
 Quod junctis genubis tibi apparavi ?  
 Satisne esse putas prope adsedere  
 Vel collo dare dexteram reclini ?  
 Me spes, ut levioribus, fefellit.  
 At saltem liceat (gravè invidenti)  
 Saxum sternere molliore musco.

---



Musa quæ veteres fovet, per omnes  
 Terras quando iêrat, vocans poetas  
 Et divos, neque adesse pertinaces,  
 Nasoni facilis magistro Amoris  
 Mutatas dedit exhibere formas  
 Ipsius Jovis ac Jovis nepotum.  
 Stant infra Capitolium canentes  
 Quidam grandiloqui, poeta nullus.  
 Tomi conditur urna (si sit urna)  
 Vatis tam teneri omnibusque cari.

---

## GRATIÆ PRO CARMINIBUS ACTÆ.

---

Indomitis gelidas superavi passibus Alpes,  
 Sævus erat labor et sævior inde sitis :  
 Ecce mihi mittis tua carmina ! nec labor ullus  
 Ante fuit, parilis nec fuit ulla sitis.

## EUROPA.

En pulsis aquilis Alpes novus occupat hostis,  
 Et suus Helvetiæ clauditur ipse lacus.  
 Sed modo Libertas apparuit; eccè reversam  
 Pandit ubi extremas barbarus Ister aquas;  
 Scilicet his in aquis, ripam super ense reposto,  
 Romulidum soboles fortia membra lavit.

Sunt semperque fuere qui potentes  
 Laudant ut dapibus fruantur, istos  
 Jure ventriloquos potes vocare.

Ægrotus cubuit Petri locupletior hoerès  
 Quem voluit memorem spurca puella sui.  
 Solari studuit frater, dixitque gementi  
 Unumquemque suam ferre necesse crucem.  
 Tunc Petri soboles. Eheu, sanctissima Virgo!  
 Sit satis; hanc iterum (scis) iterumque tuli.  
 Si fuerit posthac eadem mihi pœna luenda,  
 Ne sit in extremis, ut solet esse, precor.

## AD GALLUM IN ROMA.

---

Galle, soles templis arisque revellere divos,  
 Deinde auferre domo quicquid haberet opum.  
 In viteres dominos nunc vincula rupta minaris,  
 Servus es, at servos dedecet esse truces.  
 Crediderim, nisi te scieram benè, tristia passum,  
 Velle alios vitâ liberiore frui.

---

Triplex deposui manû volumen  
 A quo Lesbia Deliaque emicantes  
 Demulcent animos tepore molli :  
 Cur friget tua Cynthia, O Properti !

---

Magnanimo Pico cur hostis, Bembe, fuisti ?  
 Artibus ingenuis claruit ille simul.  
 Forsitan id propter celata incanduit ira,  
 Nam facile ignoscit nemo poeta pari.

## IN OBITUM VIRI REGII.

---

Stat silens populus dómum ante clausam .  
Quia intus Pietas Amorque mœrent.

---

 PAX.
 

---

Pax est quum cedere qui penates  
Ausi sunt quasi liberi, tueri.  
O illud *quasi!*

Conspicere amictu

Sæpe versicolore, sæpe et atrâ,  
Libertatem . . ubi nunc foras ituram !  
Cæca carceris intimis tenebris  
Nescit, siqua dies, die potiri.  
Pax est ; ipse ita dixit imperator.  
Ferrum vibrât et hoste non reperto,  
Civem interficit incubante nocte :  
Mille conticuere ; in urbe pax est ;  
Ingratique superstites queruntur.

## INVIDIA.

---

Debilis Invidia est, sed multo debilior vir  
 Qui nequeat pedibus subjecere Invidiam.

---

## LAUDATOR.

---

Non assem neque frustra sum daturus,  
 Vel frusto levius vel asse carmen,  
 Ut datis pretio pari vicissim.  
 Vestrum non aveo aut volo favorem  
 Qui solos veneramini potentes.

## AD JURANTEM.

---

Forsan tantillum tu credebare priusquam  
Jurares ; sonus est debilis in vacuo.

---

## AD JULIUM.

---

Laudes accipio tuas, egenus  
Laudis, non avidus, poematum ergo.  
Si verè mihi sit quod esse dicis  
Id certò satis est.

Iter cameli

Mulique has steriles eant arenas,  
Interdumque refrigerentur aura  
Et fontem inveniant brevi scatentem :  
Haud ego insequor, haud ego antecessi.

---

Quot olim habebam ruris incolas mei  
 Venatibusque curribusque idoneos  
 Haud vendidi ullum, sed potiri gramine  
 Jussi atque avenâ, donec adforet dies  
 Superstitem ruptura dentium ordinem,  
 Nec trahere plaustra, nec mediâ urbium viâ  
 Quassare inanem ad os ligatum sacculum.  
 Mors militaris cuique contigit seni  
 Quem valle amænâ viderat Lantonia,  
 Hinnitibus gavisâ, tunc silentibus.

---

### AD BALBUM.

---

Romæ forisque, trans cacumina Alpium  
 Tui fuere nominis multi incltyti :  
 Pares eorum te genuisse filios  
 Cognovimus ; nec flentis est paterna vox  
 Audita, ni sit intimâ forsân domo  
 Solatium amicis adferens dolentibus.  
 Bini sub armis occubuere, sed manet  
*Alter paratus sanguinem profendere*  
*In campo eodem.*

Si resurrectura sit  
 Italia, sacros inter hymnos concinat  
 Te, Balbe, filiosque tam dignos patre.

## IN ÆDE.

---

Sí pii estis, O cives, nolite prolixis inscriptionibus  
hanc ædem temerare; ita morbum vestrum  
teterrimum, *verborum diarrhæam*, curet  
omnipotens Deus.

---

Gens nunquam priùs omnis est precata  
Pro salute vivi unius, precatur  
Nunc simul, Garibalde, et audiunt Dii  
“Hæc vera est pietas,” Deûm supremus  
Inquit, “salvus erit, diuque vivet.”

---

Canem amicum suum egregiè cordatum,  
qui appellatus fuit Pomerò,  
Savagius Landor infra sepelivit.



## AD. ITALIAM.

---

Sperâsti incertam tibi conciliare sororem. .  
 En ! tibi juncta novis Gallia compedibus.

---

Scandere qui violata diu Capitolia tendis  
 Siste pedem ; haud iterum diripienda vides.  
 Mox poteris Italos Gallis haud esse minores  
 Scire, nec apricos reperere semper humi.

---

Obtecta abietibus, super saburram,  
 Innixa in cubitum puella sedit,  
 Expectans juvenem : quis ille ? nomen  
 Musa me jubet et Pudor tacere.  
 Hunc vidit, nisi fallor, at videre  
 Quemquam dissimulavit, extulitque  
 Crura longius ut sopore vincta.  
 Dixerunt veterum molestiores  
 Scitas fallere vel catos puellas.  
 Ut quandoque necesse fit, supina

---

Atque immobilis osculum ferebat.  
 Duplex forsitan aut triplex miscella.  
 Surgens, nec subito, increpare coepit,  
 Dirum nescio quid viro minata  
 Qui tantum scelus ausus est patrare.  
 Verum omnes veniam dabunt pudicæ  
 Delictis gravioribus precanti,  
 Si rite, ut voluere dii, precatur.

---

GARIBALDI ADVENTUS AD  
 NOVUMCOMUM.

---

Lari! nunc jubeo tuas avere  
 Nymphas, et calathis referre plenis  
 Laurum, si superest, duci Italorum.  
 Alpinae rosea manu puellæ  
 Carpserunt thyma, quæ capræ negârunt  
 Atque hædo (doleat licet) tenello.  
 Rarus flos manet integer prope oram  
 Benaci, redolent viæ resectis,  
 Ergo currite et obviam itie, Nymphæ,  
 Tam bellas pudet esse tardiores.

---

Nullus amicorum superest mihi, forsitan unus  
 Aut alter vellet jam meminisse mei.

Illos in gremium maternum Terra recepit;  
 Heu quoties dixi *Sum quoque, Terra, tuus.*

Invidiam nunquam sensi prius, ergone venit  
 Innocuo, tangens dura senile caput?

Non ego cuncta velim credas mihi; credere noli  
 Qui lætare hodie cras doliturus, eris.

Vix audit strepitum velox Fortuna rotarum  
 Queis vehitur, subter florea sarta cadunt.

Meta prope est, sed et est obscuraque nudaque  
 meta,

Et calcata nimis palluit herba diu.

Vox audita fuit, sed vox fuit ista poetæ,

“*Majestas et Amor non bene conveniunt.*”

Indignatus Amor verba execranda refellit,

Sceptraque gesturis adstitit æquus Hymen.

“Vivite felices” inquit “memoresque parentum,

Clarius exemplar Terra dedisse negat.”

Desuper intuitu grassantem avertere Martem

Tu potes, aretoi stella serena maris!

In te solliciti convertunt ora Britanni,  
 Deque tuâ jactat gens oriunda domo.  
 Lumine pernôctes quo nunc spectaris eodem,  
 Et seram inficiant nubila nulla diem!

---

Regibus est fatuos populis imponere reges,  
 Est populis fatuos pellere; fugit Otho:  
 Germanis solidam dedit esurientibus escam,  
 Interea periit Attica turba fame.  
 Plurima gens vincta est neque rumpere vincula  
 certat,  
 Græcia sublimi stat capite inter avos:  
 Jamque diem festum properat celebrare Decem-  
 bris.

Harmodiosque iterum voce sonante loqui.  
 Non deerit melior myrtus nectenda puellæ,  
 Nec deerit calvo mitis oliva seni.

---

Nunquam relinquens in Superis locum,  
 Mortalibus Spes invigilat pia  
 Queis perstiterunt fortitudo  
 Corporis atque animi viriles.

Tu nec fuisti languidus otio  
 Nec martē iniquo, Sarmata, frangeris,  
 Ergo resurget Coscius  
 Protinus, omine faustiore.

Certaminum olim Gloria constitit  
 Comes tuorum : non sine carmine  
 Ibas triumphali ; canendum  
 Est aliud, reticente nostro.

Sonabit illud clarius, altius,  
 Dum tardioris vulnere militis  
 Plaudentibus circa propinquis  
 Firmat amata pedem puella.

---

Consedere duo vir et puella,  
 Alter alterius manum tenebat.  
 His erat solitum vocare ab altâ  
 Turri, quæ super imminet, columbam,  
 Et panis dare ferculum minuti.  
 Obstipo capite et vaftris ocellis,  
 Cursitans propius remotiusque,  
 Leni murmure, dein gravi, minatur

Quassis haud semel avolare pennis  
 Si nil adjiceretur inquietæ  
 Ob jejunia post-meridiana.

*Non uni tibi (ne querare!) dixit*  
 Matris esurientium misertus  
 Qui diu extulerint aperta rostra,  
*Est spes irrita mæstaque, O columba!*  
 Et, me si dubitas, roga adsidentem.

---

## PETENTI VERSUS LATINOS.

---

Ramos vetustos scandere roboris  
 Periculosum est, nec minùs aggredi  
     Sedes poetarum priorum  
     Qui Latii coluere campos.

Id ausus olim, nunc peragro loca  
 Dilecta frustra, laurus ibi aruit  
 Et myrtus, at frondem recentem  
 Accipies humilis myricæ.

---

Reges deorum non timent tonitrua  
 Neque alteras cæli minas ;  
 Idem popelli vocibus frementibus  
 Humi reformidant sonum,  
 Pūque devenere et inflexo genu  
 Orant sacerdotum preces.

---

Unam surriperem mediâ de valle rosarum,  
 Tuque mihi hanc unam dura puella negas.  
 Vivere amem nisi quidam alius donatus haberet,  
 Huic nimis esse nequis prompta negare . . nega.

---

## INSERTIONS.

---

*Page 2, after the 3rd verse, insert :*

HOMER.

He rests, and to the many toils endur'd  
There was not added the worse weight of age.

LAERTES.

He would be growing old had he remain'd  
Until this day, tho' scarcely three-score years  
Had he completed ; old I seem'd to him  
For youth is fanciful, yet here am I,  
Stout, a full twenty summers after him :  
But one of the three sisters snapt that thread  
Which was the shortest, and my boy went down  
When no light shines upon the dreary way.

---



*Page 21, after the 10th verse insert :*

I thought I heard a Triton's shell, a song  
 Of sylvian Nymph, and laughter from behind  
 Trees not too close for voices to come thro',  
 Or beauty, if Nymph will'd it, to be seen ;  
 And then a graver and a grander sound  
 Came from the sky, and last a long applause.

---

*Page 22, between the 5th and 6th verse, insert :*

HOMER.

Dreams are among the blessings Heaven bestows  
 On weary mortals ; nor are they least  
 Altho' they disappoint us and are gone  
 When we awake ! 'Tis pleasant to have caught  
 The clap of hands below us from the many,  
 Amid the kisses of the envious few.  
 There is a pride thou knowest not, Laertes,  
 In carrying the best strung and loudest harp.

LAERTES.

Apollo, &c.

---

*Page 27th, after the 15th verse, insert:*

Alas, Mœonides, the weakest find  
 Strength enough to inflict deep injuries.  
 Much have I borne, but 'twas from those below ;  
 Thou knowest not the gross indignities  
 From goat-herd and from swine-herd I endur'd  
 When my Odysseus had gone far away ;  
 How they consumed my substance, how the proud  
 Divided my fat kine in this my house,  
 And wooed before mine eyes Penelope,  
 Reluctant and absconding til return'd  
 Her lawful lord, true, chaste, as she herself.

HOMER.

I know it, and remotest men shall know.  
 If we must suffer wrong, 'tis from the vile  
 The least intolerable.

LAERTES.

True, my son  
 Avenged me : more than one God aided him,  
 But one above the rest ; the Deity  
 Of wisdom, stronger even than him of war,

iv.

Guided the wanderer back, and gave the arms  
And will and prowess to subdue our foes,  
And their own dogs lapt up the lustful blood  
Of the proud suitors. Sweet, sweet is revenge ;  
Her very shadow, running on before,  
Quickens our pace until we hold her fast.

HOMER.

Rather would I sit quiet than pursue.

LAERTES.

Now art thou, &c.

---

*Page 66, after verse 2, insert :*

Her dogmatists would narrow our Elysion,  
And would extend the realm of Tartaros  
And dam up Phlegethon to overflowing.



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on 30 January, 2020

