Ancient History

OF

THREE BONNETS.

IN FOUR CANTOS.



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THE PERSONS.

DUNIWHISTLE, & Father to Joukum, Briffle, and Bawfy.

JOUKUM, in love with Rosse.

BRISTLE, a Man of Resolution.

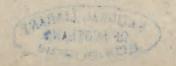
BAWSY, a weaker B other.

BARD, a Narrator.

BEEF, Porter to Rosie,

GHAIST, the Ghost of Duniwhistle,

Rosie, an Heiress.



A

TALE

OF

THREE BONNETS.

CANTO I.

BARD.

While eith flipt down for baith these uses.

Then Duniwhistle, worn with years,
And gawn the gate of his forbears,
Commanded his three sons to come,
And wait upon him in his room:
Bude Bristie tteek the door: and syne,
He thus bigan—

Duni whistle. — Dear bairns of mine, I quickly maun submit to sate, And leave you three a good estate,

ATALEOF Which has been honeurably won,! And handed down frie fire to fon, But clag or claim for ages past: Now that mayne prove the laft, Here's thre peru ffion Bornets for ye, Which our Great Grtchers wore before ye, And if ye'd hae na man betray ye, Let naething ever wile them trae ye; But keep the Bonnets on your heads, And hards free figning foolish deed, And ye shall never want such things, Shall gar ye be made of by kings: But, if ye ever with them part Fou fair ve'll for your folly tmart: Bare-headed then ye'll look like inools, And dwindle down to filly tools Hand up your hands now facar and fay, As ye shall answer on a day ---Ye'll faithfully observe my will, And a' its premisses suifil.

Bristle. My worshy father, I shall strive, To keep your name and faine alive, And rever shaw a faul that's dast and, To gar touk take me for a bastland:
If e'er by me ye're dischey'd,
May witches rightly in me ride.

Joukem. What ex shill dare by force or guile.
This Bonnet assume head to swile,
For sic a baund attempt shall one,
And ken I was begot by you.
Elle, may I like a gypsie wanger,
Or my daily bread turn pander.

THREE BONNETS. 5
Brwfy. May I be jyb'd by great and sma',
And kytch'd like ony tennis ba',
Be the disgrace of a' my kin.
If e'er I with my bonnet twin.

Bard No v foon as each had gi'n his aith, The auld man yielded up his breath, Was row'd in linen white as inaw, And to his fathers borne awa'. Bat scarcely he in moss was rotten, Before his tell'ment was forgotten, As ye shall hear true future sonnet, How Joukum fin ter'd wi' his Bonnet, And bought frue fenteless Billy Bawly, His to propine a giglet laffy, While worthy Britle not fae doner'd, Preserves his Bonnet, and is honour'd, Thus Caractus did benave, Tho'by the fate of war a flive; His body only, --! or his mind, No Roman power could break or bind. With Bonnet on he bauldly spake, His greatness gart his fetters crack. The victor did his frientship claim, And tent him with new glories hame. But leave we Brifis and finile.

But leave we Briffs and finile, And to our tale with ardour fire.

Beyond the hills where lang the billies, Hid bred up queys and kids and fillies, And foughten many a blody buttle, With theires that came to let their cattle: There liv'd a lass kept rary-shows, and fidiers ay about her nouse,

ATALEOF Wha at her table fed and ranted, With the flout ale she never wanted. She was a winfome wench and waly, And could put on her claiths fu' brawly, Rumble to ilka market-town, And drink and fight like a dragoon: Just sic like her wha far aff wander'd. To get herfelf weel Alexander'd. Rosie had a word of meikle siller, Whilk brought a hantle o' wooers till her. Amang the rest young master Jouk, She conquer'd ae day wi' a look: Frae that time forth he ne'er could stay. At hame to mind his corn or hay, But grew a beau, and did adron Himself with fifty bows of corn, Forby what he took on, to rigg Him out with linen, shoon and wig, Snuff-boxes, fword knots, canes and washes, And sweeties to bestow on lastes, Cou'd newest aiths genteely swear, And had a course of flaws perquire: He drank and danc'd, and figh'd to move, Fair Rosie to accept his love After dumb figns he thus began, And spake his mind to'er like a man.

Joukam. O take me Rosie to your arms, And let me revel o'er your chaims; If ye say na, I needna care, For apes or tethers made of hair, Pen knives or pools I miuna need, That minute ye say na, I'm dead,

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O let me lie within your breast:

And at your dainty tazle feast:

Well do I like your send to singer,

And sit to her your st— 's Singer.

While on thus sun side o' the brae,

Belongs to you, my limbs I il lay:

R sie. I own, sweet Sir. ye woo me frankly,

But a' your courtship firs sae randly, Ot selfish interest, that I'm stead,

My person least employs your head.

Joukam What ad Riochen's this your mak-When your poor lover's heart is breaking; (ing With little logic I can thew, That every thing you have is you: Besides the beauties of your person, These beds of silvers you set your a-e on, Your claiths, your lands, and tying pelf,

Are every ane your very felf,

And add fresh lusture to these graces, With which adorn'd your saul and face is.

Rose. Ye seem to have a loving stime For me, and have your native hame; that gars me eight o trust you meikle, For searyou shou'd prove salse and sickle.

Joukum. I troth my jugged billy Briftle,
Abou his gentrie makes fic fiftle,
That if a body contradict him.
Fiers ready with a duck to flick him;
That we tries me of hime I vow,
And fain would live and die with you.

Bard Observing Jouk a wee tate tipfy,

Smirking reply'd the pauky gipfy.

Rosie. I wad be very was to see,
My lover tak the pet and die;
Wherefore I am inclin'd to sais ye,
And do what in me lies to please ye:
But first ere we conclude the pastion,.
You must perform some gallant action,
To prove the truth of what you've said,
Eise, for you, shall die a maid

Joukum. My dearest jewel gie't a name, That I may win both you and fame: Shall I gue fight with forest bulk, Or cleave down troops with thicker skulls. Or shall I douk the deepest sea. And coral pou for beads to thee? Penty the Pope upon the nose, Or p-- upon a hundred beaus?

Rose In troth dear lad, I wad be laith, To risk your life, or do you skaith, Only employ your canny skill, To gain and rive your father's will, With the consent of Briss and Bawsy, And I shall in my bosom hawse ye, Soon as the satal Bonnets three, Are ta'en frae them and gien to me.

Joukum. Which to preferve I gied my aith!
But now the cause is life and death,
I must, or with the Bonnet part,
Or twin with you and break my heart:
Sae, tho' the aith we took was awin',
To keep it now appears unlawfu,
Then, love. I'll answer thy demands,
And sly to fetch them to your hands.

THREE BONNETS.

Bard. The famous jilt of Palestine
Thus drew the hooks o'er Samson's een,
And gart him tell where lay his strength,
Of which she twin'd him at the length,
Then gied him up in chains to rave,
And labour like a ga'ey slave:
But Rose, mind, when growing hair,
His loss of pith 'gan to repair,
He made of thousands an example,
By crushing them beneath their temple.

to continuo continuo

CANTO II.

Bard. He supper sowin-cogs and bannocks
Stood cooling on the sole o'winnocks
And, cracking at the westlin gavels,
The wives fat beeking of their navels,
When Jouk his brither Brissle found,
Fetching his evining wank around
A score of ploughmen of his ain,
Who blythly whistled on the plain.
Jouk three times congee'd, Brissle anes,
Then shook hand, and thus begins.

Bristle. Wow, brither Jouk, where hae ye I scarce can trow my looking een, (been? Ye're grown sae braw: now weird's desendme Gin that I had nae maist miskend ye, And where gat ye that braw blue stringing, That's at your houghs and shon'ders hinging?

10 ATALE OF

Ye look as fprush as one that's wooing, I ferly, lad, what ye've been doing.

Joukum. My very much respect brither, Should we hide ought trae ane anither. And not, when warm'd with the same blood Consult ilk ane anither's good; And be it kend ty'e, my design, Will prosit prove to me and mine.

Brissli. And brother, troth it much commend Your virtue, thus to love your trieds, I makes me blyth, for aft I said, Ye were a clever mettl'd lad.

Joukum And fre, I hope will ever prove
If ye befriend me in my love:
For Rofie, bonny, tich and gay,
And fweet as flowers in June or May,
Her gear I'll get, her fweets I'll rifle,
If ye'll but yield me up a trifle,
Promife to do't, and ye'fe be free,
With ony thing pertains to me.

Bristle. I lang to anse er your demand,

And never shall for trifles stand.

Joukum. Then she desi es as a propine, These Bonnets, Bausy's, yours and mine; And well I wat that's one great matter,

It I fae eafily can get her,

Bristle Ha, ha! ye Judas, are ye there? The D -- then nor she neer get mair. Is that the trifle that ye spoke of? What thick ye, sir, ye mak a mock of? Ye silly mansworn scant or grace; Swith let me never see your sace.

Seek my auld Bonnet aff my head!
Faith that's a bonny ane indeed!
Require a thing I'll part with never;
She's get as foon a lap o' my liver,

Vile whore and jade, the woody hang her.

Bard. Thus faid, he faid, nac mair for anger,
But curs'd and ban'd, and was nae far,
Frae trading Jouk amang the glar.

While Jonk with language glib as oolie,
Right pawkily kept aff a toolie,
Well masked with a wedder's skin,
Although he was a tod within.

He hum'd and ha'd, and with a cant,
Held forth, as he had been a faint,
And quoted texts to prove we'd better,

Part with a sma' for a greater.

Joukum. Ah! brither, may the furies rack me
If I mean'd ill, but ye mistak me;
But gin your Bonnet's sic a jewel,
Pray gie't or keep it, sir, as you will,
Since your auld fashion'd fancy rather,
Inclines till't than a hat and feather;
But I'll go try my brither Bawfy,
Poor man, he's nae sae dast and saucy,
With empty pride to crook his mou,
And hinder his ain good like you;
If he and I agree, ne'er doubt ye,
We'll make the bargain up without ye;
Syne your braw Bonnet and your noddle
Will hardly baith be worth a bodle.

Bard. At this bauld Briftle's colour chang'd,

He Iwore on Rose to be reveng'd,

Bristle. I hou vile disgrace of our forbears, Wha lang with valiant dint of weirs, Maintain d their right 'gainst a' intrusions Of our auld faes the Rolycrucians, Doft thou defign a last to catch Us in a girn with this base match, And for the hauding up thy pride, Upon thy brither's riggins ride: I'll fee you hang'd, and her the gither, As high as Haman in a tether, Ere I with my ain Bonnet quat, For any barrow'd beaver har, Whilk I, as Rosie takes the fikees, Maun wear or no just as she likes: Then let me hear nae mair about her, For if ye dare again to mutter, Sic vile proposals in my hearing, Ye need nae-trust to my forbearing; For foon my beard will tak a low. And I shall crack your crazy pow.

Bard. This faid, brave Bristle said nae mair, But cock'd his Bonnet with an air, Wheel'dround with gloomy brows & muddy,

And left his brither in a fluddy.

and and and and

CANTO III. Bard. OW Sol wi' his lang whip gae cracks
Upon his neighering confers backs, o gar them tak th' Olympian Brae, Vi' a cart lade of bleezing day; The country hind ceases to snore, and sings fred his bed, unlocks the door, his bladder tooms, and gies a rit, then tentily surveys the lift, and, weary of his wife and flacs, to their imbrace prefers his elaes. carce had the lark forfook her neft, Whan J uk, wha had got little reit, or thinking on his plot and laffie, Sot up to gang and deal wi' Bawfie: Lway falt o'er the bent he gade, And fand him doz ng on his bed, tis blankets creishy, foul his fark, His curtains trim d with spicer's wark; oot draps hang frae his root and kipples, His floor was o' tobacco spittles: fet on the antlers of a ceer, lang mony an auld claymore and spear, With coat of iron and target truffy, nen thick of dirt and unco fuffy: snough appear d to show his Bliy, that he was lazy, poor and filly, and wadna mak for great buille, About his Bonnet as did Bristle.

ATALEOF Jouk three times rugged at his shoulder. At langrun, Bawfy rakid his een, And cries, What's that? What do you me! Then looking up he fees his brither.

Bawly. Good-morrow Jouk, what brid Your e early up, ... as I'm a finner (you hit!) I feenly rife before my dinner:

Well, what's ye'r news, and how gaes a' Ye've been an ucno time awa'.

Jovkum. Bawfy, I m blyth to fee you will For me, thank God, I keep me heal: Get up, get up, ye lazy mart, I have a fecret to impart, Of which, when I give you an inkling, It will fet bait your lugs a tinkling.

Bard Straight Bawly rifes, quickly drea White hafte his youky mind impresses: Now riggid, and morning drink brought

Thus did fl.e-gabtet Jouk begin.

joukum My worthy brither, well I wa O er fe kleis is your wee estate, Fir sic a meikle saul as yours, That to things greeter higher towers; But ye ly loitering here at hame, Neglestiu' baith of wealth and aame, Thor, as I faid, ye have a mind, That is for higher things deligued.

Bawly. That very true, thanks to the iki

But now to get them there it lies.

Joukum. I'll tell ye Baws, -- I ve laid a p That only want your casting vote,

THREE BONNETS. 15

And if ye'll gie't your bread is baken;
But first accept of this love-taken;
Here tak this gowd and never want,
Enough to gar you drink and rant;
And this is but an arle penny,
To what I afterward design ve;
And in return I'm sure that I.

Shall naithing feek that ye'll deny.

Bawly. Andtrothnow Jouk, andneither will!

Or after never car me Billy;

If I refuse, wae light upon me, This gowd, O vow! 'us wonder benny.

Joukum. Ay, that it is—tis e'n the a'
That gars the plough of living draw,
'Tis Gowd gars logers feight the fiercer,
Without it preaching wad be scarcer;
'Tis gowd that makes the great men witty,
And puggy laffes fair and pretty;
Without it lacies nice wad dwindle,
Down to a wife that snoves a spindle.

But to the point, and wave Digression,
I make a free and plain confession,
That I'm in love, and as I said,
Demand from you a little aid,
To gan a bride that eithly can,
Make me son, blost and you a man:
Give me your Bonnet to present
My mistress with, and your consent,
To rive the Dast and fashion'd deed,
That bids ye wear it on you head.

Baufy. Ogosh! Ogosh! then Jonk have at her,

If that be as 'tis nae great matter.

Joukum. These granted she demands naemai To let us in her riches shair;
Nor shall our herds as heretosore,
Rin ass with ane anither's store,
Nor ding out ane anither's harns,
When they forgather mang the kairns;
But freely may drive up and down,
And sell in ilka market down,
Belongs to her,—which soon you'll see,
If ye'll be wise, belang to me:
And when that happy day shall come,
My honest Bawsy, there's my thumb,
That while I breathe I II ne er beguile ye,
Ye'se baith get gow d, and be a Builey.

bawy. Faith Jouk, I fee but little skaith In breakin of a fenicless aich,
That is imposed by doited dads,
(To please their whims) on thoughtless lads
My B nnet! welcome to my Bonnet!
And meik'e good may ye mak on it,
Our rather's Will I se make nae din,
Thos Rosie should apply thehin;
But say, does Billy Brittle ken,
This your design to mak us men?

Joukum. Ay, that he does, but the stiff ass
Beas a heart-hatred to the lass,
And rattles out a handle stories,
O blood and dirt and ancient glories,
Meaning four fends that us'd to be,
Between ours and her family;
Bans like a blockhead that he'll never,
Twin with his Bonner for a her Gear;

THREE BONNETS. 17.
But you and I conjoined can diag him;
And, by a vote, to reason bring num;
the stand close, his unco eith,

To rive the test ment spite ors teeth, And ear him ply, for a his clavers, To lift his Bonnet to our Beavers.

Bawfy Toen let the doof delight in drudging What cause have we to sen his grudging;

Too R sy's fed on the fell, I you and I be well ousfells

Bard Thus Jock and Bavfy were agreed,

And Briss man yield, it was decreed.

Thus far I've fung in Highland strains,
Of Jouk's armour and pawky pains,
To gain his end with ilka brither,
Sae opposite to ane anither;
Of Bristle's hardy resolution,
And hatred to the Rosycrucians;
Of Bawsy, out in flavery neck-fast.
Sel ing his Bonnet for a breakfast,
What follows on't, of gain or skaith,

CANTO IV.

I'll tell when we hae ta'en our breath.

Bard. OW foon as e'er the Will wa torn,
Joukwithtwa Bonnets, on the morn,
Frae Fairyland fast bang'd away,
The prize at Rosy's feet to lay;
Wha sleely when he did appear,
About his success 'gan to spear.
Joukum. Here bonny lass, your humble slive

Joukum. Here bonny lass, your humble flive Presents you with the things you crave,

The riven Will and B nnets twa, Which makes the third worth nought ava Our power given up, now I demand, Your promised love, and eke your hand.

Bard. Rosie smil'd to see the lad outwitted.
And Bonner's to the si mes committed,
Immediately an awfur sound,
As ane wad thought, rise frace the ground.
And syne appear'd a stal vart Ghaist,
Whase stern and angry looks amaist
Unhool'd their sauls.— shaking they saw,
Him srace the fire the Bonnets draw;
Then came to Jouk. and with twa drugs,
Encreas'd the length of baith his lugs,
And said ——

Ghaist.— Be a' thy days an ass, And kackney to this cuming lass:
But for these Bonnets I'll preserve them,
For bairns unborn that will deserve them.

Burd. With that he vanished frae their een And lest poor Jouk wi' breeks not clean. He shakes, while R sie rants and capers, he And ca's the vision nought but vapours: Rubs o'er his checks and gab wi' ream, Till he believes't to be a dréam: Syne to the croset leads the way, To toup him up with usquebae.

Rosie. Now, bonny lad, ye may be free,
To handle ought pertains to me;
And cre the fun though he be dry,
Has driven down the westlin sky,
To drink his wamefu' of the sea,

here's be but ane of you and me. marriage ye shall hae my hand; ut I mann hae the fole command, rairyland to faw and plant, nd to fend there for ought I want. Bard. Ay, ay, cries Jouk, all in a fire, nd stiffining into strong defire Youkum. Come haste thee, let us sign and seal nd let my billies gae to the diel. Bard Here it wad make o'er lang a tale, o tell how meikle cakes and ale, nd beef and broe, and gryce and geefe, nd pies a' running o'er wi creesh, las ferv'd upon the wedding-table, o mak the lads and laffes able, o do, ye ken, what we think shame, rhos ilka ane doesst) to giest a name. But true it is, they foon were bucklid, nd foon the made poor Jouk a cuckold, and played her bawdy sports before him ith cheils that car d not tippence for him, lesides a Rosycrucian trick, he had a dealing with Auld Nick; nd, whenever Jouk began to grumble, ald Nick in the neift room wad rumble. te drank, and fought, and spent her gear, fith dice, and felling of the mare. hus living ike a Pelzi's get, e ran her ell sae deep in debt, borrowing money at as hands, at yearly income of her lands, firce paid the intrest of her bands.

A TALE OF Jonk, av ca'd wife behind the hand, The diffing of his doings find; O er la e he row began to lee, The ruin of his family: Bui past relief laird in a midden. He's now oblig'd to do her bidden. Away with strict command he's tent, To fair land to lift the tent. And with him many a Catterpillar, To rug frae Briss and Bawfy filler; For her braid table mann be ferved. Tho' Fairy-fowk should a be stary'd. luk, thus iurrounded with his guards, Now plunders hay flocks, barns, and yard They drive the nowt frae Briffle's fauld, while he can nought but ban and scald.

Brifile Vile flave to a huffey ill begotte By many dads, with claps has rotten, We re na for honour of my mither, I should na think ye were my brither.

Jouk Dear brither, why this rude reflection.

Learn to be greatful for protection;

The Petercueans, bloody beafts,

That gar touk lik the downs of priefts,
Elfe on a bander, like a haddock,
B. brooked, sprowing like a paddock,
These monsters, lang or now had come,
With saggoss, laz, and tuck of dium,
And twin'd you of your wealth and lives
Syne, without speering,—your wives,
It does the Rosycrucian stood,
The bulwark of your rights and blood;

THREE BONNETS. 21 n ! yet terfooth we girn and grumole, ad with a gab unthanfu mumble it many a black noworthy curfe, hen Rosse bids ye draw vour puise; her she's sae gen'ror fl content, ich na aboon thirty per cent. Briffle Damn you and her tho now I m blac hopefu yer to fee the day, gre ye bai'h repeat that e'er, reaved by force away my gear, ithout, or thanks, or making price, even speering my advice. Youkum. Peace gouk, we naething do at at, it by the letter of the law: ien nae m ir with your din torment us, o ling like ane non compos mentis, de Rofie issue may a writ, tye ve up baith hand and fir, nd duageon ve but mest or drink Il ye be larv'd, and die in hink Bard Tous Jak mo B itt e when they met ith he braw dam uage wher treat. It fury girws in B. file's veins; ad the his Bonnet he retains. et on his cicit he may not cock it, It in a coffer close maun lock it. hie headed, thus he cen knocks under, ed less them drive away the plunder, e have I feen, befide a tower. ae king of brues obliged to c ur; ha, on his royal pauliches thole, dwarf to prob him with a pole!

While he wad shaw his fangs and rage, With bootless brangling in his cage.

Now follows that we take a peep, Of Bawfy looking like a sheep, By Briftle hated and dispised, By louk and Rosie as little prisid.

Soon as the horse had heard his brither Toukum and Rofe were prick'd the girlier Away they fcour over hight and how, For fidging tain what'eer he dow, Counting what things he now did mifter. That wad be given him by his fifter, Like shallow bards wha think they siee, Because they live fax stories high, To some poor lifeless lucubration, Perfixes fleeching dedication, And blythly dream they'll be reflor'd. To ale-house credit by my lord. Thus Bawly's mind in plenty rowed, While he thought on his promis'd gowd, And baileyship, which he with fines, Wad mak like the West-India mines, Arrives, with future greatness dizzy, Ca's, Where's Men louk?

Beef. -- Mest louk is bify.

Barofy. My Lady Rosie, is she at leisure Beet. No, Sir, my Lady's at her preasure Barely I wait for her, or him, go shew Beef. And pray ye, Master, wha are you Bawly. Upo' my faul this porter's fawly Sirrah, go tell my name is Bawfy,

THREE BONNETS. Their brither who made up the marriage Beef and fo I thought it by your carriage. etween your houghs gae clap your golding, with hame and teast upon a spelding, or there's nae rom beneath this roof, entertain a simple coof, he like of you, that nain can truft, Vha to your ash h ve been unjust. Bard. This taid, he dadded to the yate, ind left poor Bawfy in a fret, Via loud growl'd, and made a ding hat was o'erheard by a' with n. woth Role to J uk, Come le's away, Ind fee what's you makes a' this fray, ay they went, and faw the creature, uir runkling ilka filly feature, f his dull ph'z with gins and glooms, tamping and buing at is thumbs. hey tented him a little while, hen came fuil on han with a finile. Thich loon gart him forget the torture, Tas raised within him by the porter. e will a fucking weanie yell, it shake a raitle or a bell, hands its tongue -- Let that alane, to its yamering fa's again: It up a fing, and straight its feen, b laugh with tears into its een. us eithly anger'd, eithly pleas'd, Yeak Bawly lang they tantaliez'd, Inh promiles right wide extended, ne ne'er perform'd ,nor ne'er intended:

ATALE OF. &c. But row and then when they did need his A supper and a pint they gied him, That done, they hie nie niir to fay, And fearcely ken him the neift day. Poor fallow, now this mony a year, With some faint hope, and routh of fear, He had been wrestling with his fare, A drudge to Joukum and his mate; While Briftle faves his munly look, Regardless baith of Role and Jonk; Maintains right queitly 'youd the cairns, His honour, conscience, wite and bairns, Touk and his rumelgary wife, Dive on a drunken gaming life, -'Cause loper they can get no rest, -For Nick and Duniwhille's ghaift, Wha in the garrets often tooly, And shore, them with a bloody gully. Tous have I fung in ham'et rhyme.

A lang that scorus the teeth of time,
Yet modestly I hide my name,
Admirihg virtue mair than same.
But tent ye wha despise instruction,
And give my wark a wrong construction,
Frae hind my curtain, mind I tell ye,
I'll shoot a fatire thro' your belts;
But wha with having jees his Bornet,
And says, thanks ty'e for your Sonnet,
Ye shana want the praises due,

ro generolity. Alieu.

FINIS.