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Craig delin

Hopwood sculp

O, she has seized his sword of flame!
And on it leant her breast so fair;
And sharp, sharp was that sword of flame,
And Youth and beauty perish'd there.

THE
POETICAL MAGAZINE;

OR,

Temple of the Muses.

Consisting chiefly of

ORIGINAL POEMS,

AND

Occasional Selections from scarce and valuable Publications.

BY

A SOCIETY OF GENTLEMEN.

These still exist, by thee to Fame consign'd.

PLEASURES OF MEMORY.

LONDON:

Printed by J. Swan, Angel Street,
FOR VERNOR AND HOOD, POULTRY;
and sold by all the Booksellers in the United Kingdom.

1804.

P R E F A C E.

THE Editors of this work are now enabled to present to the public a volume of Fugitive Poetry, the intrinsic value of which, independent of its numerous embellishments, cannot fail of rendering it a favourite with the lovers of polite Literature, and a valuable acquisition to the fond adorers of Poetic Genius.

To boast of the patronage which we have received in the course of this undertaking, at the same time that we are soliciting a continuance of that favour, is such a common, yet such an awkward way of expressing our gratitude, that we feel ourselves quite at a loss how to express those feelings which such flattering marks of attention must excite. We, notwithstanding, beg leave to say, that, however unworthy we may be of public suffrage, no endeavours, on our part, shall be wanting in order to deserve it.

PREFACE.

We likewise embrace this opportunity of coming forward, to offer, in return, our best thanks to those correspondents whose respectable and elegant compositions have stamped a value on our Miscellany, and of whose voluntary contributions and kindness we yet hope to avail ourselves.

The mode of publishing in monthly numbers may, with some readers, operate in preventing a book from enjoying that place in the library which its merits would otherwise ensure. Such, therefore, are now informed, that they may have the volume complete, either in boards or elegantly bound, by applying at the Publishers.

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THE OBSERVER.

No. VI.

Imitation of Burger's "Lenora."

AT Whitsuntyde, with gloomy thoughts,
Poor Mary struggled sore;
"My William, art thou slaine," said she,
"On Egypt's fatal shore?"

He went abroade, with many moe,
The Gallic foe to quell,
But he no word to her had writ,
An he were sick or well.

With sowne of trump, and beat of drum,
His fellow-soldyers come,
Their caps bedeckt with laurel boughs,
They seek their long'd-for home.

And every road, and every lane,
Was full of old and young,
To gaze upon the sun-burnt band,
Or mingle in the throng.

F F

"Thanke God!" their wives and children sayde;
 "Welcome!" the brides did saye;
 But greeete or kiss poor Mary got
 From none upon that daye.

She askte of all the passing traine
 For him she wisht to see;
 But none of all the Egypt lads
 Could tell if lived hee.

And when the soldyers all were paste,
 She tore her flowing haire,
 And cast herself upon the grounde
 In fit of deepe despaire.

Her mother ran and lyfte her up,
 And clasp'd her in her arme;
 "My child! my child! what dost thou ail?
 God shield thy lyfe from harme."

"O, mother! mother! William's slaine!
 What's all besydes to me?
 There is no mercye sure above,
 For all are spar'd but hee.

"Kneel downe, thy paternoster saye,
 'Twill calm thy troubled sprite;
 The Lord is wyse, the Lord is goode,
 What hee hath done is right."

“ O, mother! what I feel within,
No prayer can ever staye,
Nor aught that earth can now afford
My cruel pangs allaye.”

“ May be, among the *Heathen folk*,
Thy William false doth prove,
And takes an Infidel or Turk
To be his wedded love.

“ Then, wherefore sorrow for his loss?
Thy moans are all in vain;
And, when his soul and body parte,
His falsehoode will him paine.”

“ O, mother! mother! 'tis too late,
My hope is all forlorne,
For I, by William, am with chylde,
And soon it will be borne.”

“ Go out! go out! my lampe of life,
In endless darkness die!
That I should live to have a child
So sunk in infamie!”

And so despair did rave and rage
Athwarte her wither'd veins,
Against the Providence of Heaven
She hurlde her impious strains.

“ Go out! go out! ye neighbours all,
 Let night and darkness hide!—
 And, Andrew, take your dapple greye,
 And for a midwife ride.”

‘Twas late, and weary was the waye,
 But Andrew rode full fast,
 And spurr'd his steed amain, and reach'd
 The dowdy's door at last.

When, harke! abroad she hearde the trampe
 Of nimble-footed steed;
 And hearde an iron foot alighte,
 And climbe the staire with speede.

And soon she hearde a tinkling hande
 That twirled at the pin;
 And through the key-hole, grating hoarse,
 These words were breathed in.

“ What, ho! what, ho! thy door undoe;
 Art watching, or asleepe?
 Dost not remember Andrew Bell?
 And dosth thou laugh or weep?”

“ O, Andrew! tarry yet awhile,
 Till I throw on my smock;
 The blasts athwart the hawthorn hiss—
 Hast, Andrew, brought a cloak?”

“ The blasts athwart the hawthorn hiss,
I know it by my nose:
My spurre is sharp, my dapple pawes,
Gadzooks! ne'er mind your cloaths.

“ All as thou lyest upon thy couch
Arise, and mounte the crupper;
We have a score of miles to ride,
And I have got no supper.”

“ How! ride to night a score of miles?
Thou surely dost bemocke;
Eleven is the stroke that now
Rings on within the clocke.

“ And hast thou brought along with thee
A comfortable cup?”

“ There's what, within my saddle bag,
Will keepe our spirits up.

“ All as thou lyest upon thy couch,
Arise, nor longer stop;
The gossips all thy coming waite,
The chamber door is ope.”

All in her sarke, as there she laye,
Upon his horse she sprung;
And with her hand so firmly clenched
Round Andrew's waist she clung.

And hurry scurry, on they went,
Unheeding wet or drye;
And Andrew spurr'd his steed amain,
And laughid—he well knew why.

Tramp, tramp, across the land they speede,
They ride with mickle glee;
“The devil’s in the dowdy wife!
Dost fear to ride with me?

“The morn is bryght, and blue the nyghte;
Dost quake the blast to stem?
Dost fear to pass the church-walls neare?”
“Not I, but what of them?”

“Methout I hearde the parish clerke
Make the whole chapel ring;
And all the congregation met
The Psalms of David sing.

“Lead forth, O clerke! the chaunting quire
To swell our nuptial song;
Come, priest, and read the blessing soone,
For I’ve been absent long.”

They heede his call, and husht the sowne,
They soon were seen no more;
And Andrew spurr’d his steed amain
Yet faster than before.

Hallo! hallo! away they goe,
Unheeding wet or drye,
For Andrew thought he'd seen a sprite.
And grinn'd—he knew not why.

Tramp, tramp, across the land they speede;
Splash, splash, through waters wyde:
“The devil's in the dowdy wife
So well as she can ride!”

And backward scuddled, over heade,
The skye and every star;
And all that in the moon-shyne laye
Fled—the Lord knows how far!

“ I ween our journey soon will end,
My stomach is not dainty;
I snuff the hospitable scente
Of caudle cups a plenty.

“ The dowdy wife can ride apace—
Our hard rode race is run;
Well done, my trusty dapple greye,
Well done! my boy, well done!”

And when he from his steed alytte,
So keenly set was he;
She look'd just like a skeleton,
Whilome so blythe of blee.

The door full quickly Andrew op'd,
The prieste was sitting there,
And in his hand you might beholde
The book of Common Prayer.

And, lo! besyde him Mary's love
From Egypt's land came hee;
And in his arms a chubby lad,
And dandles on his knee:

And greetings fond and friendly there,
And soundes of mirth arose;
Then knew the dowdy all was right—
She might put on her cloaths.

Hence warning take, ye maiden's all,
If any such there bee;
And let me whisper in your ear—
Keepe your virginity!

M. M.

London.

