

# The Glasgow Herald.

118TH YEAR.—No. 132.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1900.

*TWELVE PAGES.*

PRICE ONE PENNY.

LONDON: LONDON & GLASGOW. PRINTED BY THE GLASGOW HERALD CO. LTD. (INCORPORATED IN SCOTLAND) 10, N. B. STREET, GLASGOW. TELEGRAMS: "GLASGOW HERALD." CABLES: "GLASGOW HERALD." PUBLISHED FOR THE PROPRIETOR BY THE MANAGER, JAMES WATSON, 10, N. B. STREET, GLASGOW.

"Lenore." By Gottfried August Burger.  
(London: Ellis & Elvey.) \*

This is a new translation of Burger's famous ballad, for though it was written in 1844, when the author was only sixteen years of age, it was practically lost, and a written copy of it only turned up recently at a sale. From that copy the present edition—really the first—has been published. It was a fortunate find, for although there have been many translations of "Lenore," young Rossetti's is one of the best, if indeed not the very best. It need hardly be said that most readers of poetry, especially in Scotland, have hitherto been acquainted with Burger's "Lenore" through Scott's translation, or rather imitation, as he modestly calls it. But, while Scott does not profess to adhere to the letter of the original, he assuredly succeeds in conveying in his version the spirit of the weird, romantic ballad. He adopted the title of "William and Helen." William Taylor, of Norwich, calls his version "Ellenore," while another translator prefers "Leonora." Dante Rossetti sticks to the original title, which was the right thing to do. Mr W. M. Rossetti, who edits his brother's translation, writes a very interesting preface, in which, besides giving a slight historical account of the different translations of "Lenore," he points out certain blunders into which the translators have fallen, or the verbal variations which they have deliberately adopted. We incline to agree with him in the high value he puts upon his brother's translation. It is an admirable piece of work, especially considering that it was written by a boy of sixteen. At the same time, we think it highly probable that Scott's version will hold its own among the various translations, not because it is the most accurate, but because it has found a permanent place in the popular imagination.