

such coincidences as the following are palpable :

- "O! for a muse of fire!" *Shakes. Hen. V.*  
 "O forre a spryte all feere!" *Ælla, l. 729.*  
 "His beard all white as snow.  
 "All flaxen was his pole." *Hamlet.*  
 "Black his cryne as the winter nyghte,  
 "White his rode, as the summer snowe." *Ælla, l. 851*  
 "No, no, ho is dead,  
 "Gone to his death-bed. *Hamlet.*  
 "Mie love is dedde,  
 "Gone to his dethe-bedde. *Ælla, l. 855.*  
 "Unhousell'd, unanointed, unaknell'd,"  
*Hamlet in Pope's Edit.*  
 "Unburied, undellevre, unespryte." *Goodwyne, l. 27.*  
 "Their souls from corpses unaknell'd depart."  
*Bat. of Hastings, Part I. l. 288.*  
 "The grey-goose wing that was thereon,  
 "In his heart's-blood was wet. *Chevy-Chace.*  
 "The grey-goose pynion, that thereon was sett,"  
 "Eftsoons wyth smokyn gcrimson bloud was wellt."  
*Bat. of Hastings, Part. l. l. 200.*  
 "With such a force and vehement might  
 He did his body gore,  
 The spear went thro' the other side  
 A large cloth-yard and more." *Chevy Chace.*  
 "With thilk a force it did his body gore,  
 That in his tender guts it entered,  
 In veritie, a full cloth yard or more." *Bat. of Hast.*  
 "Closed his eyes in endless night." *Gray's Bard.*  
 "He closed his eyne in everlastynge nyghte."  
*Bat. of Hast. Part II.*

"The advocates of Rowley, are, however, not destitute of arguments in their support; I shall therefore divide the evidence in the same manner as in stating the former, and endeavour to exhibit as fair a summary as possible.

ARGUMENT TO PROVE THAT THE POEMS ATTRIBUTED TO ROWLEY, WERE REALLY WRITTEN BY HIM AND OTHERS IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

*External Evidence.*

"I. The first grand argument which the advocates on this side advance, is the constant and uniform assertion (except in a single instance) of Chatterton himself, who is represented by his sister, and all his intimates, as a lover of truth from the earliest dawn of reason. He was also most insatiable of fame, and abounded in vanity. He felt himself neglected, and many passages of his writings are full of invective on this subject. Is it probable, that such a person should barter the fair character of truth, which he loved, for the sake of persisting in falsehood, which he detested? Is it probable, that a person of his consummate vanity, should uniformly give the honour of all his most excellent compositions to another, and only inscribe his name to those which were

evidently inferior? But even though a man might be thus careless of his reputation, during his lifetime, under the conviction that he might assume the honour whenever he pleased, would this carelessness continue even at the hour of death? Would he at a moment, when he actually meditated his own destruction; in a paper which he inscribes—"All this wrote between 11 and 2 o'clock Saturday (evening), in the utmost distress of mind,"—still repeat with the utmost solemnity the same false assertion that he had affirmed during the former part of his life? there was at least *no occasion* to introduce the subject at that time, and he might have been silent, if he did not chuse to close his existence with a direct falsehood. If we consider the joy which he manifested on the discovery of the parchments, the avidity with which he read them, he must be the most complete of dissemblers, if really they contained no such treasure as he pretended. To another very extraordinary circumstance Mr. Calcott has pledged himself, which is that on his first acquaintance with Chatterton, the latter mentioned by name almost all the poems which since appeared in print, and that at a time, when, if he were the author, one tenth of them could not be written.

"II. Next to the asseverations of Chatterton himself, we are bound to pay at least some attention to those of all his friends. His mother accurately remembers the whole transaction concerning the parchments, as I have already stated it. His sister also recollects to have seen the original parchment of the poem on our Lady's Church, and, she thinks, of the Battle of Hastings: she remembers to have heard her brother mention frequently the names of Turgot, and of John Stowe, besides that of Rowley. Mr. Smith, who was one of the most intimate friends of Chatterton, remembers to have seen manuscripts upon vellum, to the number of a dozen in his possession, many of them ornamented with the heads of kings or of popes, and some of them as broad as the bottom of a large sized chair. He used frequently to read to Mr. Smith, sometimes parts, and sometimes whole treatises from these old manuscripts; and Mr. Smith has very often been present while he transcribed them at Mr. Lambert's. Mr. Capel, a jeweller, at Bristol, assured Mr. Bryant, that he had frequently called upon Chatterton, while at Mr. Lambert's, and had at times found him transcribing ancient manuscripts answering to the former description. Mr. Thistlethwaite, in