

the previous reign. She gave an heir to the throne, in the Crown Prince, afterwards Christian VII. ; but within two years the Danes had to lament her death, in giving birth to another son.

Among the attendants who constituted the retinue of this royal daughter of England, there went to Copenhagen one Bertram, a silk dyer, and with him, if not earlier, his son, Charles Julius, a youth who by-and-by achieved for himself, in very questionable fashion, a notable reputation among European scholars.

The age was one of much literary ingenuity, and of not a little successful imposture. The prevailing ideas in reference to historical evidence were so vague and crude, that the most barefaced literary frauds obtained ready acceptance even among scholars and critics ; and their exposure brought little or no discredit on their perpetrators. One well-known example of literary masquerading will suffice to illustrate this curious phase of the eighteenth century. Lady Wardlaw, of Pitreavie, the wife of a Scottish Baronet, found, according to her own account, in a vault of Dunfermline Abbey, or elsewhere, an ancient manuscript containing the greater part of the heroic ballad of "Hardyknute." This was published in 1719 as a genuine antique, at the joint expense of Lord President Forbes and Sir Gilbert Elliot, of Minto ; and figured at a later date, in Percy's "Reliques of Ancient English Poetry," as "a Scottish fragment : a fine morsel of heroic poetry." After a time some less credulous critics began to suspect the modern authorship ; and Lady Wardlaw, without distinctly admitting it, practically confirmed their judgment by producing additional stanzas. Still later, Lord Hailes—who had persisted in the opinion that the ballad was ancient, though retouched and much enlarged by its professed discoverer,—is said by Bishop Percy to have communicated extracts of a letter from Sir John Bruce, of Kinross, the year after his death in 1766, "which plainly proved the pretended discoverer of the fragment of *Hardyknute* to have been himself." According to the earlier account, Lady Wardlaw "pretended she had found this poem, written on shreds of paper employed for what is called the bottoms of clues." But Lord Hailes furnishes this quotation from the letter asserted to have been addressed by Sir John Bruce to Lord Binning : "I send you a true copy of the manuscript I found some weeks ago in a vault at Dunfermline. It is written on vellum, in a fair gothic character, but so much defaced by time, as you'll find, that the tenth part is not

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