

Lord Melville! "Tis vain to name him whom we mourn in vain!" Almost the last time I saw him he was talking of you in the highest terms of regard, and expressing great hopes of again seeing you at Dunira this summer, where I proposed to attend you. 'Hei mihi! Quid *hei mihi?* Humana perpessi sumus!' His loss will be long and severely felt here; and envy is already paying her cold tribute of applause to the worth which it maligned while it walked upon earth."

Lord Melville was buried without pomp at Lasswade, near Edinburgh, in which parish Melville Castle is situated.

Deriving from his parents a solid understanding and a sound constitution, he, as we have seen, learned early, as is the custom of Scotland, to put them both to their proper use. Starting, as narrated, with little other capital but these endowments and this training, he laid the foundation of his house with wisdom, and the superstructure upreared thereupon by him has accordingly endured. The title of Lord Melville, of which he was the originator, has come down with distinction to the present time; and his family, immediate and collateral, continues to send forth from time to time men able and willing to do good service, civil and military, to the commonwealth. A column and a statue preserve the memory of the first Lord Melville in Edinburgh. The former, begun during his lifetime, stands in St. Andrew's Square. Its proportions are those of the column of Trajan, in Rome; but instead of being covered with a spiral series of sculptures, like Trajan's pillar, it is fluted. It cost £8,000. The height is 136 feet; the figure at the top, added at a later period, is 14 feet: the altitude of the whole is thus 150 feet.

His statue in white marble stands at the north end of the Great Hall of the Parliament House in Edinburgh. It is by Chantry; and Lord Cockburn's caustic remark is: "It is, perhaps, Chantry's worst. The column," he adds, "has received and deserves praise."

It is a curious circumstance to take note of, that on the column in St. Andrew's Square, to this day, there is no inscription. Pope's couplet on the so-called Monument in London, everyone remembers:

"Where London's column, pointing at the skies,
Like a tall bully, lifts the head and lies."

Some such biting satire as this, it is certain, would quickly have shaped itself in men's mouths, had the exaggerated language appeared on the Edinburgh pillar, which the worshippers of Melville would