

were also shot off: and "Did he live?" said Charles. "No," said the narrator. "What a pity!" said the melancholy wag, "he'd have been such an ornament to society!" This might as well be taken for a specimen of Lamb's humanity and æsthetics, as his banter about Burns for a deliberate estimate of Scotch character and talent. The Scots have all to boast that history can give to claims of noblest glory—independence, liberty, genius, and achievement. They can, therefore, well afford to bear with the sneers of satirists and the laugh of wags; to be charitable, also, to nations of not less intellect or bravery than themselves, though not so successful.

