

less musical, and someone has declared it to have more dignity than the "Brook."

The "Revenge of Hamish" is a strong ballad which as a portrayal of human passions, and their fatal consequences, ranks with Campbell's "Lord Ullin's Daughter."

Lanier's work was handicapped by ill health. The seeds of consumption were sown, when he was a prisoner at the time of the war, and the remainder of his life was a struggle for existence. All these years he was without regular income and necessarily made frequent and expensive journeys in search of health, working all the harder, that he might sing the songs he felt called on to utter before death should bid him cease. With a fever temperature of one hundred and four degrees, and when he was too feeble to raise a spoon to his mouth, his masterpiece "Sunrise" was composed.

Another serious handicap in his life, was the crushing of the spirit of the South by the war. In a letter to Bayard Taylor in 1875, he said: "Perhaps you know that, with us of the younger generation in the South since the war, pretty much the whole of life has been merely not dying."

Lanier's aim was to bring poetry within musical rule. He had a profound opinion of the sacredness of Art. "Beauty is holiness and holiness is beauty," was a favorite remark with him on the subject of art. His writings as well as his personal character were as pure as the notes of his flute.

In 1881, his friends took him to North Carolina in the hope that amid the pines of that region he might at least, breathe out his life with less pain, than in his adopted home in Baltimore. There on the 7th of September, he died, at the early age of thirty-nine.

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