

when under "its cloudy canopy" did you hear anything of the celebrated Pegasus? Some say he has been brought off with other curiosities to Britain, and now covers at Tattersall's. I would fain have a cross from him out of my little moss-trooper's Galloway, and I think your Lordship can tell me how to set about it, as I recognize his true paces in the high-mettled description of Ali Pacha's military court.

A wise man said — or, if not, I, who am no wise man, now say — that there is no surer mark of regard than when your correspondent ventures to write nonsense to you. Having, therefore, like Dogherry, hestowed all my tediousness upon your Lordship, you are to conclude that I have given you a convincing proof that I am very much your Lordship's obliged and very faithful servant,

WALTER SCOTT.

From this time the epistolary intercourse between Scott and Byron continued to be kept up; and it ere long assumed a tone of friendly confidence equally honorable to both these great competitors, without rivalry, for the favor of the literary world.

The date of the letter last quoted immediately preceded that of Scott's second meeting with another of the most illustrious of his contemporaries. He had met Davy at Mr. Wordsworth's when in the first flush of his celebrity in 1804, and been, as one of his letters states, much delighted with "the simple and unaffected style of his hearing — the most agreeable characteristic of high genius." Sir Humphry, now at the summit of his fame, had come, by his marriage with Scott's accomplished relation, into possession of an ample fortune; and he and his bride were among the first of the poet's visitants in the original cabin at Abbotsford.

The following letter is an answer to one in which Mr. Southey had besought Scott's good offices in behalf of an application which he thought of making to be appointed Historiographer-Royal, in the room of Mr. Dutens, just