

tell the world that I glory in the title. I come to congratulate my Country, that the blood of her ancient heroes still runs uncontaminated; and that from your courage, knowledge, and public spirit, she may expect protection, wealth, and liberty. In the last place, I come to proffer my warmest wishes to the Great Fountain of Honour, the Monarch of the Universe, for your welfare and happiness.

When you go forth to waken the Echoes, in the ancient and favourite amusement of your Forefathers, may Pleasure ever be of your party; and may Social-joy await your return! When harassed in courts or camps with the justlings of bad men and bad measures, may the honest consciousness of injured Worth attend your return to your native Seats; and may Domestic Happiness, with a smiling welcome, meet you at your gates! May Corruption sink at your kindling indignant glance; and may tyranny in the Ruler and licentiousness in the People equally find you an inexorable foe!

I have the honour to be, with the sincerest gratitude and highest respect, MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN, your most devoted humble servant,

ROBERT BURNS.

EDINBURGH, April 4, 1787.

This first Edinburgh edition contained the following pieces in addition to those already given to the public in the Kilmarnock edition:—

Death and Doctor Hornbook.  
The Brigs of Ayr.  
The Ordination.  
The Calf.  
Address to the Unca Guid.  
Tam Tamson's Elegy.  
The Epitaph, and Per Contra.  
A Winter Night.  
Stanzas composed in the prospect of Death.  
Verses left at a Reverend friend's house.  
The First Psalm paraphrased.  
A Prayer, under the pressure of violent Anguish.  
Address to a Haggis.  
Address to Edinburgh.  
Song—John Barleycorn.  
“ When Gullford Good.  
“ My Nanny, O.  
“ Green grow the Rashes.  
“ Again rejoicing Nature sees.  
“ Farewell to Ayr.

Another Edinburgh edition came out in April, 1793, in which appeared (among others) the following:—

Verses written in Friars' Carse Hermitage.  
Ode—Sacred to the Memory of Mrs. Oswald of Auchincruive.  
Elegy on Capt. Matthew Henderson.  
Epitaph on the Same.  
Lament of Mary, Queen of Scots.  
Lament for James, Earl of Glencairn.  
Tam o' Shanter.  
The Wounded Hare.  
On Capt. Grose's Peregrinations.  
The Humble Petition of Briar Water.  
The Soldier's Return.

A large number of the poet's songs first appeared—many after his death—in Johnson's *Museum* or in the somewhat similar work of George Thomson. Currie, again, in his edition of the poet's works, was the first to bring to light a number of pieces, such as: The Second Epistle to Davie; The Inventory; On dining with Lord Daer; Answer to the Guide-wife of Wauchope House; Elegy on the Death of Sir James Hunter Blair; Address to the Toothache; the Lass o' Ballochmyle; Monody on a Lady famed for her Caprice; &c. &c.

Thomas Stewart in 1801 and 1802 first gave to the world some highly important productions of the poet, including the Jolly Beggars; the Twa Herds; Holy Willie's Prayer; the Kirk's Alarm; Letter to James Tennant, Glenconner; the Five Carlins; &c. &c.

#### NOTE

ON PIECES SOMETIMES ATTRIBUTED TO BURNS.

#### THE HERMIT OF ABERFELDY.

Who'er thou art these lines now reading,  
Think not thou art from the world receding,  
I joy my lonely days to lead in  
This desert drear;  
That fell remorse, a conscience bleeding  
Hath led me here.

This poem was first incorporated among Burns's writings in Hogg and Motherwell's edition of his works, on the authority—not much to be depended on—of Peter Buchan. It is not in Burns's style.