

memory of his wife. He determined to emigrate to America. In the poem we see him shortly before he left, sitting on the same stile on which he and Mary sat the day they were married. The day is bright again. The lark is singing and the corn is fresh and green, but he is very lonely. He sees the spire of the church where they were married, and, near by, the graveyard where she and her child are at rest. He thinks of all she had been to him, and now he is bidding her a long farewell. The thought of her brave heart inspires him with quiet hopefulness. He is going to a land where there is bread and work for all, and grand old woods, and bright skies. But often he will see again, in thought, the place where Mary lies, and the little stile where they sat side by side, and the bright May morning when first she was his bride.

E. J. McI.

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#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

This poem is the expression of a true, warm Irish heart that sympathized with the joys and sorrows of Irish hearts. Helen Selina Sheridan was born in 1807, the grand-daughter of one of England's greatest dramatists and orators, Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Under a careful mother, she was trained in the seclusion of Hampton Court, in the companionship of her sister, afterwards the Hon. Mrs. Norton (author of "Bingen on the Rhine,") and the Duchess of Somerset. Her first husband was the Earl of Dufferin. Beautiful and witty as well as true-hearted, she won the affections of the people not only by her disposition but also by her many lyrical poems. "Of all her pieces" says one writer "the 'Irish Emigrant' is the most universal favorite. Nothing could surpass its simple and touching pathos and fidelity to nature, especially to Irish nature." Other poems, "Terence's Farewell," "Katey's Letter," and "Sweet Kilkenny," are likewise deservedly popular. In prose Lady Dufferin has published "The Honourable Impulsia Gushington," satirizing the high life of this century. She married Lord Gifford shortly before his death. She herself died in 1867, but her name lives in her poems, and in the fame of her son, whom we have known and honored as Governor-General of Canada.