

for himself. Thomas Campbell, however, was by no means undistinguished; the author of "Hohenlinden," "The Battle of the Baltic," "The Soldier's Dream," "The Last Man," and the ever popular "Ye Mariners of England" was the recipient of honours such as the Rectorship of the University of Glasgow and an invitation to deliver a course of lectures at the Royal Institution, London.

James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, who was born the year before Scott, and died in 1835, was always regarded as one of the literati of Edinburgh in her golden age. Those who appreciate the poetry of the Scottish peasantry do not need to have Hogg's poems recommended to them, those who do not know them, have missed more than can easily be expressed. Professor Wilson said that Hogg was the only worthy successor of Burns; and Prof. Veiten, himself, a poet and a borderer, declared that "after Burns, Hogg was the greatest poet that has sprung from the bosom of the common people". However much of a broken reed poor Hogg may have been in the management of his own affairs, he was none such poetically. His "Ode to the Skylark" is as fine as any other to that ode-inspiring bird. "Cam' ye by Athol", and "Come o'er the Stream, Charlie" are as good Jacobite songs as any by Lady Nairne; and "When the kye come hame" is certainly superior to some songs of Burns. Much of "Kilmeny" and all of the "Queen's Wake" is literature, some of it reaching a high degree of petical excellence.

The border peasantry contributed yet another notable name to the annals of Scottish literature at the close of the century, for John Leyden, while at Edinburgh University, was in the literary "set". Leyden was born in Roxburghshire in 1775, and died in Java at the age of thirty-six. Although licensed to preach by the Church of Scotland in 1800, Leyden never became a minister, for both Medicine

and Literature established their claims upon him. Leyden besides helping Sir Walter with the "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border", wrote a few poems which were very highly thought of. Having acquired a surprisingly accurate knowledge of Oriental languages, Leyden was appointed Professor of Hindustani in the Bengal College. On a visit to Java with Lord Minto he died after only a few days' illness. It is of this John Leyden that Sir Walter writes so beautifully in "Marmion", when speaking of the Border scenery,

"Scenes sung by him who sings no more;
His bright and brief career is o'er,
And mute his tuneful strains;
Quenched in his lamp of varied lore,
That loved the light of song to pour,
A distant and a deadly shore
Has Leyden's cold remains."

Of course no sketch of Edinburgh Society at the beginning of the nineteenth century would be complete without Carlyle, for though we associate that great Scotsman with London, and very definitely with a house in Chelsea, yet Carlyle had his Edinburgh period. Thomas Carlyle, born in 1795, was not indeed one of the literati at the turn of the century; but he was attending classes at Edinburgh University in 1810, and by 1818 had come from Kirkcaldy to Edinburgh to earn an income somehow. The Carlyles' first home after their marriage was at 21 Comely Bank, on which house there is now a tablet, and in this house they were visited by Jeffrey, de Quincey, Sir David Brewster, Professor Wilson and Sir William Hamilton. From this commonplace little house, Carlyle corresponded with the author of "Faust".

Professor John Wilson (1785-1854), in some ways the most prominent figure in the Blackwood Group, is at the present time probably the least read of any of them. His "Isle of Palms" and even his once so famous "Noctes Ambrosianae" are really well known only to students of literature.