

POETRY.

WHAT IS GLORY? WHAT IS FAME?

BY W. MOTHERWELL.

What is Glory? What is fame?
The echo of a long lost name;
A breath, an idle hour's brief talk;
The shadow of an ardent thought;
A flower that blossoms for a day,
Dying next morrow;
A stream that hurries on its way,
Singing of sorrow;—
The last drop of a boothless shower,
Shed on a sere and leafless bower;
A rose, stuck in a dead man's breast—
This is the World's fame at the best!

What is fame? and what is Glory?
A dream—a jester's lying story,
To tickle fools withal, or be
A theme for second infancy;
A joke scrawled on an epitaph;
A grin at Death's own ghastly laugh;
A visioning that tempts the eye,
But mocks the touch—nonentity;
A rainbow, substanceless as bright,
Flitting for ever
O'er hill-top to more distant height,
Nearing us never;

A bubble, blown by fond conceit,
In every sooth itself to cheat;
The witch-fire of a frenzied brain;
A fortune, that to lose were gain;
A word of praise, perchance of blame;
The wreck of a time-banded name,—
Ay, this is Glory!—this is Fame!

EFFECTS OF A REVOLUTION IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Many talk of a revolution in this country as inevitable, now that the expectations formed of the Reformed Parliament have been so much disappointed, and a collision between the Lords and Commons seems almost certain. It seems to be thought from a Revolution would spring a new system of Government, under which taxes would be light, trade and commerce flourishing, profits high, and the people contented and happy. These talkers overlook the circumstances that, in such a revolution as would likely take place in this country, great misery would, in all probability, be the first consequence, and that the present generation could hardly feel the benefits of the change. A revolution such as that in France in 1830, by which one branch of a family is placed on the throne instead of another, would produce little change in the state of the country, and is not the sort of revolution which is contemplated by those who consider such an event not improbable. It is a revolution which would remove the reigning family from the throne, substitute for monarchy another kind of Government, and, by annihilating the national debt, permit a great reduction in our taxation. Now let us consider what would be the consequences of such an event. The fundholders are not, as is often supposed, generally men of a great wealth; on the contrary, by far the greater number of them are persons of very moderate fortune. Thus there are no fewer than 90,755 persons whose dividends do not exceed 10l. per ann. 41,295 not exceeding £20; 99,582, £100; 26,049, £200; 15,459, £400; 5141, £900; 3243, £1000; 1734, £2000; 487, £4000; so that of the total number of fundholders, amounting to 283,958, only 2436 have incomes exceeding £1000 per annum. The first effect then of applying a sponge to the national debt is to involve in ruin upwards of a quarter of a million of persons, mostly belonging to the middle classes, and chiefly heads of families. Then the funds of saving banks are mostly all invested in the funds, and the depositors in these banks in England and Wales, exclusive of Scotland and Ireland, amounted in 1830, to 384,120, and may be moderately estimated for the whole United Kingdom at present at half a million. The class of persons to whom the deposits belong may be judged of from the circumstances that the average sum deposited is £34, and that nearly one half of the deposits are sums under £20. The total amount of sums deposited cannot be short of twenty millions, and therefore a revolution would cause a direct and immediate loss to the working classes of these twenty millions. With the first outbreaking of a revolution the Bank of England must necessarily suspend payment, and this suspension must necessarily, and instantly, be followed by the stoppage of every bank in the United Kingdom. Almost all the Insurance Companies have the greater part of their funds invested in the funds or in bank stock, and hence their insolvency, also is inevitable. The proprietors of bank stock, therefore, would lose the whole capital they had invested. Paper money being rendered worthless, we should be deprived of a circulating medium; for the small quantity of gold and silver now in circulation would speedily be hoarded and disappear, and we would thus be reduced to barter. All the manufacturers throughout the kingdom would stop their works, as they would not have means to pay their workmen, and millions of operatives would be turned out to the streets to starve, or live by plunder and rapine. The owners of property would naturally unite for its defence, and hence, in every street and in every village, scenes of the most horrible violence

and carnage would ensue, and the kingdom would be deluged in blood. There being no longer any pay for the army, 50 or 60,000 men, with arms in their hands, would be let loose at free quarters on society, to live by plunder as they best could. Scotland would probably suffer more than any other part of the united kingdom by a revolution. Here every thing rests on credit. Ready money, or metallic circulation, is almost entirely unknown. It is all credit,—nothing but paper, cash accounts, bills, paper money.—Touch but the funds and the whole fabric comes to the ground, and anarchy and confusion take the place of order and peace.—Such appear to us to be the consequences of a revolution, or of applying a sponge to the national debt. It would cause not only a national bankruptcy, but the bankruptcy of almost every individual. It would put an end to business of all kinds reduce millions to starvation, cause a complete change of property, and give a shock to the country which it would not recover in a century.—*Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle.*

GERMAN LEGEND CONNECTED WITH DER FREISCHUTZ.—In a translation, lately published by Schloss, of the original legend on which Weber's opera is founded, from the German of A. Apel, we find the following legend; it is narrated by the descendant of the person introduced:—"It was my great grandfather who first possessed and erected the ranger's lodge. Originally he was a poor squire, and served the Knight of Wippach, who liked him well, and took him with him to wars, to tournaments, and hunting; particularly on one occasion this Knight of Wippach found himself at a grand hunting meeting, which the Duke held here, with many knights and noblemen. Near this spot the hounds started a stag, upon whose back sat a man, piteously wringing his hands and shrieking fearfully; for at that time a tyrannical custom existed among the lords of the chase of fastening unfortunate wretches to stags, for some trivial infraction of the forest laws, that they might be miserably mutilated or torn to pieces, or perish of hunger or thirst. When the Duke perceived this he was beyond measure enraged, immediately stopped the chase, and offered a great reward to any one who should hit the stag, but withal threatened disgrace and punishment if the shot wounded the man whom he wished to take alive, that he might know who had dared to execute so cruel a deed in violation of his prohibition. The nobles refused, the squire came forward, he took his rifle, levelled it in God's name, and with a pious faith-breathing prayer, intrusted the ball to the holy angels; then, without taking a long aim, he boldly fired into the forest, and in a moment the stag flew out of it, fell, and expired; but the man was unhurt, and his hands and face were not even scratched by the brambles. Envy followed this success, and the squire's success was attributed to witchcraft, because he had taken no aim, but sent into the blue heaven a free shot, which must always hit. It was then resolved that each of his successors (in the rangership of the forest) should make a trial shot before he received the rangership." This is the foundation of the opera.

BYRON'S LAST MOMENTS.—It was now evident Byron knew he was dying. Tita his affectionate servant stood weeping by his bed holding his hand and turning away his face from his master, while Byron looking steadily, exclaimed, "O questa e un bella scena!" When Fletcher came to him he endeavoured to express his last wishes, and between his anxiety, says Moore, to make his servant understand him, and the rapid failure of his powers of utterance, a most painful scene ensued. On Fletcher asking him whether he should bring pen and paper to take down his words, "O no!" he replied, "there is no time;" his voice became hardly audible; for a considerable time he continued muttering to himself a few names of the friends who were most dear to him.—After a feeble effort to explain his wishes, he exclaimed, "Now I have told you all,"—"My Lord," replied Fletcher, "I have not understood a word."—"Not understand me!" said the dying man, with a look of the utmost distress, "what a pity—then it is too late, all is over."—"I hope not," said Fletcher; "but the Lord's will be done."—"Yes, not mine," replied Byron! He then tried to utter a few words, of which none were intelligible except "My sister! my child!" When Parry loosened the bandage that was tied round his head, he appeared to revive a little; he shed tears after it was loosed, then took Parry's hand, uttered a faint good night, and then sank into a slumber. During the evening he occasionally slumbered, and when he awoke he muttered to himself rapidly and incoherently. For the next twenty-four hours he lay in a comatose state, incapable of sense or motion; life was only indicated for some hours by the rattling in his throat; at length it ceased, and Byron was a corpse at sunset!!—*Infirmities of Geniuses.*

DISCOVERY OF AN EXTENSIVE AND SPLENDID CAVERN.—About six weeks ago, as some workmen were employed in quarrying stones in a limestone quarry, situated within seven miles of the town of Caher, and six miles of Mitchelstown, on the old line of road, they

discovered, at the distance of twenty feet from the surface, an opening into the rock, capable of admitting the body of one person. Prompted by curiosity, one of the men entered the opening, and proceeded along a sloping declivity which terminated at the distance of forty or fifty feet from the entrance in an abrupt descent of about twenty feet. Unable to proceed further, he returned, and having procured a ladder he, accompanied by two or three of the workmen, proceeded to explore the cavern. Having descended the ladder, they proceeded along a passage about three hundred yards in length forty feet in breadth, and generally between thirty or forty in height, at the termination of which a superb cavern, nearly one mile in circumference, presented itself to their view. This grand cavern seemed to be supported by about 150 chrysal columns, varying in height from thirty or forty feet and in diameter from one to eight feet. In the middle of this spacious cavern is placed a chrysalised petrefaction, exactly resembling a table, about seven feet in length and two feet in breadth, surmounted with chrysal cannelabras of the most curious construction. The subject would be endless were we to enumerate the variety of surprising creations which nature has displayed in this subterranean palace. At the distance of seven or eight hundred yards, and immediately opposite the entrance, lies another passage, which led them into what they called the lower cave, which is about three quarters of a mile in circumference, supported like the former cave by lofty pillars, and decorated with the most fanciful productions. Having proceeded through this cave, they discovered an aperture, which having ascended by a flight of eight steps, a sight presented itself to their view capable of impressing the strongest emotions of surprise and astonishment on the mind of the spectator. It is useless for us to attempt a description of this astonishing hall; suffice it to say that it is about three miles in circumference, supported like the other caves with innumerable pillars, and adorned with almost perfect imitations of all that art and nature present to our view. However, we cannot forbear remarking that in the centre of this magnificent hall, and depending from its roof, appears a petrefaction resembling the body of a horse, through which, at the distance of 15 feet from the floor, issues a stream of pure water, which, forming several evolutions on its chrysalised bed, disappears, with hollow murmurs, at the furthest extremity of the hall. Through an opening to the right in the last mentioned hall, they descended by a flight of ten or twelve steps to a cavern called the long cave, about a mile and a half in circumference, supported in like manner by superb columns, and adorned with many of the same imitations of nature and art. Amongst the imitations of art is a hollow chrysalised petrefaction, resembling a drum, which, when struck upon, produces a sound, the reverberation of which will continue for several minutes.—Having proceeded through the last-mentioned cave, they came to a fissure in its right side, which led them into what they called the cellar cave. This cave, unlike the rest, is not supported by pillars, nor adorned with those productions of nature for which the others are so highly appreciated; but, the spectator is amply compensated for the absence of those ornaments, by the view of a deep and rapid river, which urges its subterranean course through the middle of the cave, and which, in all probability, is the same which passes through another celebrated cave, called the "Sheep Cavern," a place too well known to offer any comment upon. Several beautiful specimens of spar, &c., have been brought from the cavern, and left for inspection at our office.—*Tipperary Free Press.*

MILITARY EXECUTION OF A YOUNG LADY BY THE RUSSIAN SOLDIERS.—Several letters from the frontiers of Poland announce that the young lady Hawecker, aged 18, was recently shot at Lubin by the Russians, accused of having furnished to the insurgents provisions; she proceeded quietly to the place of execution between a file of Russian soldiers. Count Michel Wollowicz having returned from France put himself at the head of the insurgents in the environs of Grodno; having engaged in a skirmish with the Russians, he was wounded and taken prisoner, and was immediately hung at Grodno. Although this execution took place, and numerous arrests, the insurgents are augmenting in force in the whole of Volhynia and Podolia, and it is stated that the Russians have been obliged to retreat from all the villages. The citadel of Warsaw will soon be finished; and Kiev is also to be strongly fortified.

GOOD EFFECTS OF GINGER.—John Dickson, Esq., of Kingsland, near Haddington, having occasion to employ a great number of reapers during the harvest of 1832, and fearing the effects of the cholera which at that time prevailed in many parts of the country, purchased some ginger, from which he had a decoction made, and sent a portion to the field each day to mix with the drinking water. The consequence was that no cholera appeared. The reapers were exceedingly fond of the ginger water, and said it made them very comfortable. In former years Mr. Dickson uniformly had several

persons on the sick list, which humanity forbade him to send from the premises. This year he had none, and he considers he saved more on this score than the cost of the ginger. Comfort and safety may thus be obtained for a trifle, as the duty on ginger is about to be reduced to 1d. 4/16. This experiment is worthy the attention of the Temperance Society.—*Scotsman.*

FEMALE EMIGRANTS.—A letter, dated Nov. 12, 1832, from Hobart Town, mentions the arrival of the ship Princess Royal, with a cargo of females. On coming up the river the ship went aground near Pittwater, where they were obliged to land the ladies for safety. They were all rejoiced, if not at the vessel striking, at having the pleasure of jumping about once more on shore, which they did as playful as lambs. Mr. Gordon, late a police magistrate, and Mrs. Gordon, behaved very kindly to them. One of the females, when offered a place at 15l. a year, replied, "Ladies, I can get as much per week." Some went to situations procured for them, and others got married; but the writer states, that he is sorry to say the ladies were soon obliged to abandon the major part of them, who are now strutting about the *parc*; and he adds, their appearance is such, that if there were a Covent-garden or a Drury-lane theatre there, the residents might from the scenes before them suppose themselves in London.

PROGRESS OF CIVILIZATION AT ALGIERS.—The influence of the Turks has long been declining in Algiers. But there are few Moorish families not connected in marriage with the public functionaries sent thither from Constantinople. Their descendants are denominated Couloghly, and have always enjoyed peculiar privileges. The families connected with them have been enriched; but the source of wealth, which consisted in piracies upon the coast of Spain and Italy, has been stopped during many years; and Lord Exmouth put an end to christian slavery in 1816, while various treaties with Europe decidedly checked the former irregular warfare and weakened the Turks. In this state of things we found the Moors ready to receive us as liberators. Our manners and refined habits were more pleasing to them than those of the Turkish soldiery. They have not forgotten Spain and its enchantments. Their countenance and gestures, and their whole demeanor, are strikingly Spanish. One of them, Sidi Bou Dharba, told me, one day, that by his mother's side he was descended from the Moors of Grenada. I have often played at whist or ecarté, with those pretended barbarians, and found myself in enlightened discussion upon the comparative merits of European and Moslem manners. Their dwellings are fitted up with great luxury. At the country-house of Sidi Hameden, whose eldest son was educated at Paris, are to be seen all the resources of a man of taste, a library, and a garden laid out in the English style. Polygamy is almost unknown at Algiers. They have much more freedom than in other Mahomedan countries. They have the exclusive management of the house, and pay much attention to the education of their children. The Algerines are fond of music, and offered to contribute towards the expense of a theatre. Many of them speak French, Italian, Spanish, and English, and what seems decisive as to the civilization of the Moors, they possess a great number of schools conducted upon the Lancaster and Bell systems of mutual instruction; and primary instruction is more general than in France. It is a great error to suppose them hostile to our more enlightened views.—*Westminster Review.*

THE SUBLIME.—An editor in the western part of New York thus announced the entrance of La Fayette into his village:—"The Gallic hero, seated in a chariot, led the van; the rosy morn be-sprinkled the oriented clouds with effulgent glory—and the gorgeous sun, at last uprising, like a warrior from his repose, walked up into the sky, gilding the vast expanse of ether, and throwing his broad and splendid rays upon a line of one-horse wagons and chaises, filled with individuals principally from our village!"

NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS.—The French says Lavater, have no traits so bold as the English, nor so minute as the Germans. I know them chiefly by their teeth and laugh. The Italians I discover by the nose, small eyes, and projecting chin. The English by their foreheads and the weakness of their hair. The Germans by the angles and wrinkles round the eyes and the cheeks. The Russians by the snub nose, and their light coloured or black hair.

PRESENT STATE OF PARTIES.—We rely upon our authority when we say that the other day the observation of the highest personage in the realm on the present state of parties was literally this:—"There are two mad parties in the country—the Radicals and the ultra-Tories; but the ultra-Tories are by far the most mad of the two."—*Town.*

Europe may perhaps behold ages of bad taste, but never any of barbarism; the invention of printing has prevented that.

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