

POETRY. Selected.

From the Father's Magazine. A FATHER TO HIS MOTHERLESS CHILDREN. Come, gather closer to my side, My little, smitten flock, And I will tell of him who brought Pure water from the rock...

THE MOTHER'S INSTRUCTION, ON PRESENTING HER SON WITH A BIBLE. REMEMBER, love, who gave thee this, When other days shall come, When she, who had thy earliest kiss, Sleeps in her narrow home...

VARIETIES.

DEATH OF MRS. BURNS. Mrs. Robert Burns, the widow of the great Scottish poet, died at Dumfries, on Wednesday, the 26th of March. Her health was considerably injured by a serious illness about twelve months ago...

FUNERAL OF MRS. BURNS—EXHUMATION OF THE POET'S SKULL. (From the Dumfries Courier.) The remains of Mrs. Burns were interred in the family vault on Tuesday, the 1st of April, with all the solemnity the occasion demanded...

and as the street in which the deceased resided is short, narrow, and situated so near to the church-yard, as to injure the appearance of any procession, it was anxiously asked that the coffin should be conveyed in a hearse to the Council Chamber stairs, and from thence carried shoulder-high along the line of the principal street...

As many persons were received into the house as it could possibly contain, including various clergymen, citizen friends, and country gentlemen, among the latter of whom we observed Sir Thomas Wallace, a kind personal friend of the deceased; Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, Mr. Dunlop, Southwick; Mr. James M'Alpine Leny, of Dalswinton; Mr. John Dunlop, Rosefield; Mr. Macadam, of Castledykes; Major Adair, Mr. Hannah, of Hannahfield, &c. &c.

The remains of Mrs. Burns were exhumed, privately, on the 19th September, 1815, and deposited with every regard to decency, in the arched vault attached to the Mausoleum, then newly erected in honour of his memory. The principal actors on that occasion, were the late Convenor Thomson, and Mr. Milligan, builders, Mr. Grierson, Secretary to the Monument Committee, and Mr. Bogie Terraughty.

It is generally known that the remains of Burns were exhumed, privately, on the 19th September, 1815, and deposited with every regard to decency, in the arched vault attached to the Mausoleum, then newly erected in honour of his memory. The principal actors on that occasion, were the late Convenor Thomson, and Mr. Milligan, builders, Mr. Grierson, Secretary to the Monument Committee, and Mr. Bogie Terraughty.

public examination of any kind. But those proved fallacious; on testing the coffin, it was found to be composed of ordinary materials, and liable to yield to the slightest pressure; and the lid partially removed, a spectacle was unfolded, which, considering the fame of the mighty dead, has rarely been witnessed by a single human being. There lay the remains of the great poet, to all appearance entire, retaining various traces of recent vitality, or, to speak more correctly, exhibiting the features of one who had newly sunk into the sleep of death.

Look on its broken arch, its ruined hall— Its chambers desolate, and portals foul; Yes, this was once ambition's airy hall, Behold through each lack-lustre eyesole, The gay recess of wisdom and of wit— Of passion's host that never brooked control— Can all Saint, sage, or sophist ever write People this lonely tower—this tenement reft?

Every thing, as has been stated, was conducted with the greatest propriety and care, and after the second grave-bed of the Poet and his offspring had been carefully prepared, the original tomb-stone was placed above their ashes, and the vault closed for a period of nearly nineteen years—that is, from the 19th of September, 1815, until the 28th of March, 1834.

The remains of Mrs. Burns, as has already been stated, were interred on Tuesday, the 1st of April. On the day preceding, the vault was opened by Mr. Crombie—a work of considerable difficulty and labour—and the keys of the mausoleum which is guarded round and round with high pillared doors, were placed temporarily in our own possession.

At nine, however, the attempt was renewed, with all the success which the most enthusiastic admirers of genius or science could desire. Again the party conferred privately, and proceeded stealthily, one after another, by the quietest paths, and after climbing over the

church-yard walls met by appointment in front of the mausoleum. In this, it must be confessed, there was something degrading; which reminded us of the horrid trade of body-snatching, but the most profound secrecy was indispensable, and if there be any who feel inclined to impute blame all we can say is our motives are good and totally alien to those of idle curiosity. Mr. Blacklock offered his services at a favourable moment, and it was well we had a gentleman with us qualified to give a scientific account of the appearance, preservation, and peculiarities of the skull.

What follows is from the pen of Mr. Blacklock:—"On Monday night, 31st March, 1834, Mr. John M'Diarmid, Mr. Adam Rankine, Mr. James Kerr, Mr. James Bogie, Mr. Andrew Crombie, and myself, descended into the vault of the Mausoleum for the purpose of examining the remains of Burns, and, if possible, procuring a cast of his skull.

The cranial bones were perfect in every respect, if we except a little erosion of their external table, and firmly held together by their sutures; even the delicate bones of the orbits, with the trifling exception of the os unguis in the left, were sound and uninjured by death and the grave. The superior maxillary bones still retained the four most posterior teeth on each side, including the dentes sapientie, and all without spot or blemish; the incisores, cuspidati, &c., had, in all probability, recently dropped from the jaw, for the alveoli were but little decayed.

Having completed our intention, the skull, securely enclosed in a leaden case, was again committed to the earth precisely where we found it. "ARCHD. BLACKLOCK. Dumfries, April 1, 1834."

many of our readers may not be in possession of the facts of the case, we shall lay a brief statement of it before them, which may account in some degree for the commiseration excited by his fate. Robert Cole Maxwell, and his prosector, Robert Lowe Holmes, were both relatives of Major Samuel Maxwell, who died in last May, leaving a farm near Charleville, called Garrandirk, of which he had been lessee. No will appeared, and the Major's uncle, Robert Maxwell, Esq. of Charleville, came down on the lands for debts due to him by the deceased and heir at law. The uncle, however, refused to yield possession, and thus matters stood when Mr. Robert Lowe Holmes came forward and stated he had in his possession a will made by the deceased, in which the property was devised to himself—and on the strength of this document he took forcible possession of the farm and dwelling house.

RESPIE OF MR. MAXWELL.—The feeling which has so universally been evinced in favour of a mitigation of Mr. Maxwell's sentence has, we are happy to say, been at once responded to by the government. It has been generally known that the grand jury and the long panel memorialized the executive in his favour, and their prayer has been supported by the recommendation of the law officers of the crown.

NOTICE. MR. C. S. PUTNAM, has removed his Office to the Rooms at the corner of Mr. Miller's Brick building in Queen's street, and next door to the Office of the Hon. G. F. Street. Frederickton, 30th April, 1834.

THE ROYAL GAZETTE. TERMS—16s. per annum, exclusive of Postage. Advertisements not exceeding Twelve Lines will be inserted for Four Shillings and Sixpence the first and one Shilling and Sixpence for each succeeding insertion.