

MYSTIFICATION

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Mystifications by Clementina Stirling Grahame & John Brown

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CLEMENTINA STIRLING GRAHAME & JOHN BROWN

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Health to the auld wife, and weel mat she be,
That busks her fause rock wi' the lint o' the lie,
Whirling her spindle and twisting the twine,
Wyuds aye the richt pin into the richt line.

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MYSTIFICATIONS

BY CLEMENTINA STIRLING GRAHAME.

EDITED BY JOHN BROWN, M.D.



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PREFACE BY THE EDITOR.

THESE delightful *Mystifications*, which were privately printed four years ago, have been so much sought after in this country and in America, that I have prevailed—not without difficulty—on Miss Grahame to let the public, as well as her friends, enjoy them.

“Those who knew the best of Edinburgh society eight-and-thirty years ago—and when was there ever a better than that best?—must remember the personations of an old Scottish gentlewoman by Miss Stirling Grahame, one of which, when Lord Jeffrey was victimized, was famous enough to find its way into *Blackwood*, but in an incorrect form.”¹

“Miss Graham’s friends have for years urged her to print for them her notes of these pleasant records

¹ *Horæ Subsecivæ*, Second Series, Edinburgh, 1861, p. 316.

of the harmless and heart-easing mirth of bygone times ; to this she has at last assented, and the result is this entertaining, curious, and beautiful little quarto, in which her friends will recognise the strong understanding and goodness, the wit and invention, the fine humour of the much-loved and warm-hearted representative of Viscount Dundee—the terrible Clavers.¹ They will recall that blithe and winning face, sagacious and sincere, that kindly, cheery voice, that rich and quiet laugh, that mingled sense and sensibility, which met, and still, to our happiness, meet in her, who, with all her gifts and keen perception of the odd, and power of embodying it, never gratified her consciousness of these powers, or ever played

‘ Her quips and cranks and wanton wiles ’

so as to give pain to any human being.”

¹ “DEAR DR. BROWN,—In compliance with your request I send you my genealogy in connexion with Claverhouse—the same who was killed at Killiecrankie. John Graham of Claverhouse married the Honourable Jean Cochrane, daughter of William Lord Cochrane, eldest son of the first Earl of Dundonald. Their only son, an infant, died December 1689. David Graham, his brother, fought at Killiecrankie, and was outlawed in 1690—died without issue—when the representation of the