

**BYRON RE-STUDIED IN HIS
DRAMAS; BEING A
CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS A
DEFINITIVE ESTIMATE OF HIS
GENIUS. AN ESSAY**

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Byron re-studied in his dramas; being a contribution towards a definitive estimate of his genius.
An essay by William Gerard

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WILLIAM GERARD

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AN ESSAY

BY

WILLIAM GERARD.

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"[Byron] must unquestionably be regarded as the greatest talent of the century . . . The English may think of [him] what they please, but it is certain that they can point to no poet who is his like. He is different from all the rest, and, in the main, greater."

Goethe. -- Conversations with Eckermann.

"We are sustained, however, by the conviction that his nation will one day awake from the blind fury of abuse and obloquy with which it assailed him to a more rational temper, and perceive once for all that all the husks and dross of the individual and his time, through and beyond which the best have to work their way, had no permanence, but were only momentary and transient, while, on the contrary, the astonishing renown to which he has now and for all time raised his country, remains boundless in its splendour and incalculable in its consequences. Assuredly this nation, which has so many great names to boast of, will give him an illustrious place among those who confer on her abiding honour."

Goethe, of Byron.

"For the world thine eye was rarest,
All the heart to thee was known :
Thine were loves of women fairest,
And a song thy very own."

Faust, Sec. Part, Act. III. (B. Taylor's Trans.)

“Our Byron was in his youth but what Schiller and Goethe had been in theirs. . . . With longer life, all things were to have been hoped for from Byron ; for he loved truth in his inmost heart, and would have discovered at last that his Corsairs and Harolds were not true. It was otherwise appointed. But with one man all hope does not die. If this way is the right one, we too shall find it.”

Carlyle (in 1827).

“Charm is the glory which makes
 Song of the poet divine,
 Love is the fountain of charm,
 How without charm wilt thou draw,
 Poet ! the world to thy way ?

Charm is the poet's alone.”

M. Arnold.

“ Δεῖ με νῦν καθέσθαι.”

Byron's last words.

SUMMARY.



I

Uncertainty of the critical position in regard to Byron—Need of some harmonizing conception—The Dramas afford a vantage-ground for a general re-consideration of his genius—The main strands common both to his poetic and dramatic work—The relation and mutual interdependence of these strands - - - - - PAGES 13—29

II

Significance of the dramatic element in Byron's work—Preliminary examination of his general style—What is external in his method of dramatic conception and expression 30—43

III.

Byron's dramatic principles considered—Wherein they are false and wherein true—Byron's "New kind of Drama"—The dramatic ideal and its various phases—Growing prominence of the idea in drama—This illustrated by reference to Shakespeare and Goethe—How Byron treads within the same circle—Provisional definition of his dramatic method—Modifications suggested by his preference for certain subjects—The final definition determined by reference to the ethical bias of his mind—The Dipsychus idea 44—83

IV.

Light in which Byron's dramatic principles must be regarded—Byron as a critic—Division of his Dramas into groups—Dramas in which the idea predominates—The trilogy of *Manfred*, *Cain*, and *Heaven and Earth*—Exposition of each in relation to the central idea—Dramas in which the idea involves a wider play of character and dramatization—The *Deformed Transformed* and *Sardanapalus*—Exposition and analysis—Dramas in which the dramatic action and the ideal action coincide—The true theory of Byron's apparent failure in historical drama—Exposition of the theory in *Marino Faliero*, in *The Two Foscari*, and in *Werner* - - - - 84—140