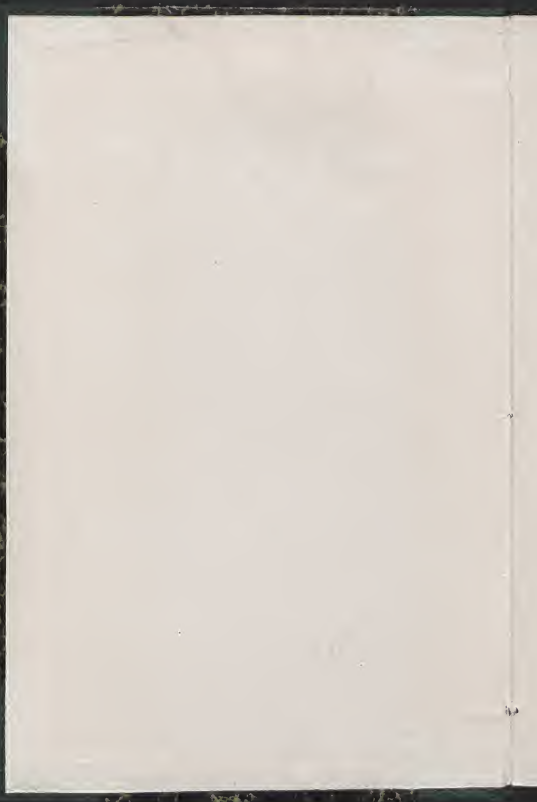


Thos. Guds. Repp:

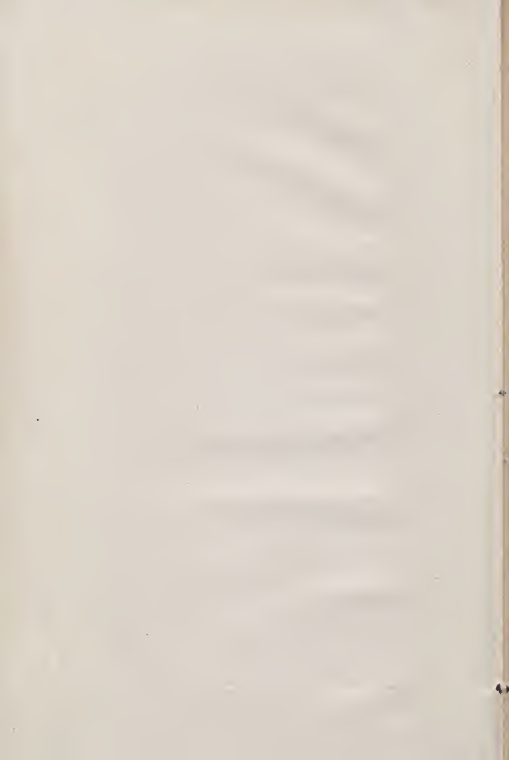
Carmen ad illust^{iss}
comitem Carolum
Grey.

Edinb. 1834



811
par

Forlaget for Gudm. Repp



CARMEN

AD

ILLUSTRISSIMUM COMITEM

CAROLUM - GREY.

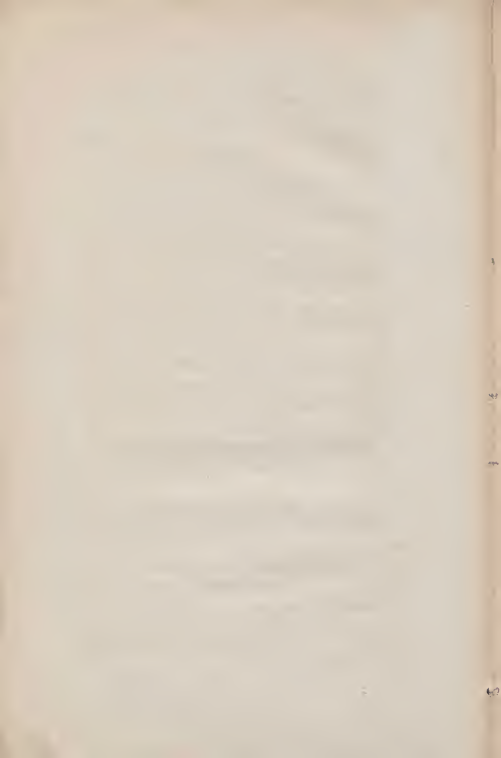
D. XVII. KAL. OCTOBR. A. MDCCCXXXIV.

EDINBURGI:

IMPENSIS THOMÆ CLARK.

EXCUDEBAT ANDREAS SHORTREDE.

MDCCCXXXIV.



THORLEIFUS GUDMUNDI REPP,

LECTORI S. P. D.

QUIBUS rationibus inductus alienigena, rem præclarissimam, quæ Mag. Britanniae unquam contigit, Senatus nempe Reformationem, carmine qualicumque statuerit celebrare, exponere vix foret necessarium, nisi forte conamen insolitum — nam eorum quæ quotidie fiunt facilis est venia — excusationem desiderare videretur. Igitur, cum ingens mortalium multitudo Edinburgi undecunque congregata, quasi ad splendidissimam quandam et triumphalem pompam, auctorem et principem reformationis, summo ardore et studio honorare decrevisset, nullus dubitavi, quin tantæ rei recordationem, celeberrimus quisque vates, pro ingenii ubertate et inventionis solertia, versu exsequi certaturus esset. In publico universæ nationis gaudio, Euterpes silentium, nec decorum satis videbatur, nec, in gente imprimis musica, omine faustum: nam Britannos eduli et potabili supplicatione contentos fore, minime fuit existimandum: fas erat Orphicis vel Olympicis lautiora exspectare carmina, præsertim in Britannia, ubi tam multi sunt, tamque insignes Musarum cultores: ubi academiæ atque palestræ poësin præ alia arte quacunque honorant atque sectantur. In hacce corona poetica, quam textum iri

præsagiebam, unum saltem folium barbaricum, quanquam decorem quidem nullum allaturum, tolerari tamen posse credidi: meum itaque promptus attuli, minime ægre laturus quod arte, elegantia, ingenio facile ab indigenis poetis vinccrer, imo, vel ab imis. *Liberale et honesta arte* vinci vix illi potuit grave videri, qui nuper fuerat malis victus artibus. Pretærea rei Britannicæ tanta jam moles est, et potentiae rami adco late sparsi, atque dissitæ radices, ut nil geri perferrive possit in populi Britannici commodum, quod non quadam ex parte prosit universo generi humano. Et similiter siquid detrimenti capit respl. Britannorum, totius orbis illa læsio est. Haud sum veritus itaque donum exhibere Musæ barbaræ; qua in re tam a contentionis suspitione tutus, quam ab invidia remotus videbar: meorum popularium, præter me, quantum sciam, nemo inter Scotos degit, nemo inter Britannos; nulla igitur adfuit "magis oportu-
norum concursatio;" nil prohibuit quominus Islandicas in me susciperem partes in Illustris Viri triumpho celebrando.

Ad ipsum carmen quod attinet, cum in illo non nulla obscura queant existimari, statui hic ejusdem sensum ex primere verbis Anglicis, et quidem soluta oratione. Versus 1—28 generalia tractant et aliquo pacto stropham referunt, quorum antistropham censeo reliquos (29—56) ipsum spectantes reformationis heroem. Versus 17—28 de obsoletis agit urbibus, quas *Rotten Boroughs* Angli vocant. Vale.

Scrpsi Edinburgi d. vi. Kal. Octobr.
A. MDCCCXXXIV.

Britons, you have suffered the tyranny of kings ; not unacquainted with popular tumults, you have been greatly afflicted by the ambition and slaughter of the nobles !

You have worn out all forms of government, as a garment ; laying aside such as you were again to receive with approbation ! Too slothful, you have, during long ages, fallen short of the best.

He shall deserve the highest praise for good government, who does not endure the violent laws of the multitude, but endeavours to control the overwhelming pride of the nobles.

To that which is inelegant in antiquity he bears no favour ; nor does he, without experience, traduce every thing modern ; weighing all things in a just balance, he preserves, he rejects.

Rocks are lasting monuments of engraven laws ; but an accursed wall, famous by ancient dilapidation, is not so well fitted for constructing a senate.

For Moses engraved his guileless law on a hard stone ; but, however much admiring things exalted, he never chose to make the rocks legislators.

Yet thou, O Gattou, art not superior to Ebal ! nor art thou, O Sarum, preferable to groaning Horeb : nor does any deserted borough excel Libanus in respect of honour.

Thou, who with prudence didst prevent the evils of Britain, O Grey ! thee ages will honour ; and thou shalt flourish in the perpetual praise of unborn generations !

The learned poet, who on a new lyre shall attempt in verse to unfold the great deeds of Britons, shall sing of thee as the saviour of thy country !

The African shall extol thee, though doubtful as to what he has gained, when weeping with a freeman's eye : yet the gift of the name he will extol, with vulgar praise.

Still those whom the garment of freemen adorns, and who boast being of the same colour as thou, obstreperously cry, that in vain the name is retained when the thing is set aside.

But having lately become the liberator of Spain, thou hast laid a beautiful foundation for a monument of thy fame, which will not be destroyed by time's corrosion, nor by any lightning.

Every nation, confessing, "Me thou hast benefited," entwines a laurel crown to the illustrious man, with kind outpouring of their wishes,—singing auspicious songs.

May the noble Grey live to a prolonged age, in high renown! May old age be light to him! And joining the prayer, raises her voice, remotest Thule.

AD ILLUSTRISSIMUM
DOMINUM COMITEM CAROLUM GREY,
D. XVII. KAL. OCTOBR.

PASSE regum sævitiem Britanne !
Haud inexpertum populi tumultus,
Quem male afflixit procerum timendus
Ambitus et nex.

Imperi cunctis, quasi veste, formis,
Use ! deponens iterum probandas,
Optima longis male segnis ævis,
Indiguisti.

Regiæ palmam meriturus artis,
Haud feret turbæ violenta jura,
Optimatum sed studet intumentes
Frangere fastus.

Haud vetustati favet invenustæ,
Nec recentes res latrat imperitus,
Cuncta momentis trutinata justis
Servat et aufert.

Saxa sculptarum monumenta legum
Firma ; sed dirus paries ruina
Clarus antiqua minus est senatum
Condere prosper.

Quippe Moyses sine fraude legem
Sculpsit in duro lapide, at ferendæ
Noluit rupem licet alta sectans
Præficere unquam.

Haud tamen Gatton ! superabis Ebal,
 Nec gementi Horeb potior Sarum, tu,
 Arx inanescens Libanum necque ulla
 Vincet honore.

Tu Britannorum catus obstitisti
 Qui malis, GREY ! Te celebrabit ævum :
 Tu futurorumque hominum vigebis
 Laude perenni.

Sospitatorem patriæ canet Te,
 Qui nova doctus cithara poeta
 Pandere amplas res populi Britanni
 Carmine qæret.

Tollet Afer Te, dubius quid auctus
 Liberi quamvis lacrimans oculo,
 Nominis munus tamen elevabit
 Laude gregali.

Liberorum sed toga quos adornat
 Concolores et Tibi venditantur,
 Nomen incassum strepitant retentum
 Seposita re.

Verum Iberorum modo liberator,
 Pulchra fundasti monumenta famæ ;
 Temporum nullo peritura morsu
 Fulmine nullo.

Fassa gens omnis : “ Mili profuisti,”
 Lauream illustri glomerant coronam
 Vota fundentes, studio benigno
 Fausta canentes :

Vivat extento celebratus ævo,
 Nobilis GREY ! Sit levis huic senectus,
 Et sua acclamat prece succinenti
 Ultima Thule.

