

mere *tableaux vivans*, as on this occasion, but not without the apology of Bacon when he wrote "of Masques and Triumphs." "These things are but toys," said the philosopher; "but yet, since princes will have such things, it is better they should be graced with elegance than daubed with cost." What was chiefly remarkable in the visit of George was the tact with which the monarch avoided every occasion of offence, and how, trading on so very slender a stock of real worth as that which he possessed, and in the face of so large an amount of adverse feeling as that which he had previously excited, he should have contrived to render himself popular by the exercise of the "petty moralities" alone. Never did the "mere gentleman," abstracted from the good, great, generous qualities of our nature, accomplish more. He came to Edinburgh only two years after the trial of Queen Caroline; and, without exhibiting anything higher than the urbanity of the thoroughly well-bred man, he taught all Scotland to forget for the time the result of that trial. We regret that Sir Robert Peel should not have availed himself of the advantages of having served under so accomplished a master in the art of pleasing. George IV. came to Edinburgh under every disadvantage, and regained there much of the popularity which he had previously lost; Sir Robert came to Edinburgh in the train of his royal mistress,—a monarch in whose favour the partialities of the nation had been largely awakened; and, after losing well-nigh all that remained of his own popularity, he would have lost for her, had the thing been possible, her popularity too.

The recent royal progress through Edinburgh has had its many striking scenes; but the chronicler who may have to concentrate himself on one description as a specimen of the whole, would do well to select the scene of Saturday last, as exhibited in the upper part of the High Street, when her Majesty, after just receiving the city keys, passed on to the