

bitism was a solid principle,—died with the generation that fought at Culloden, and they were succeeded by the class to whom Jacobitism formed merely a sort of laughing-gas, that agreeably excited the feelings. These last bore exactly the same sort of relation to the race that preceded them, that our admirers of earnestness in the present day bear to the earnest men of a bygone time whom they admire. Their principle was ineffective as a principle of action : it was purely a thing of excited imaginations, and of feelings strung by the aspirations of romance ; and died away, even when elevated to its highest pitch, in tones of sweet music, or the wild cadences of ballad poetry.

But this Jacobitism of the middle stage of decay had at least the merit of being a reflection of the real Jacobitism that had gone before. It was Jacobitism mirrored in poetry. Not such, however, the character of yet a third species of Jacobitism, that exists at the present in a few calculating minds wretchedly unfitted for the work of calculation. We have heard of an English divine of the last century who, having grafted on his theology the philosophy of Bolingbroke and Pope, used to assert in his discourses, that whatever *was* was right, and who was urged after sermon, on one occasion, by an individual of his congregation,—a little thin man, formed somewhat like the letter S, with one shoulder greatly higher and one leg greatly shorter than the other,—to say whether *he* was all right. "Oh yes, all right," was the unhesitating reply of the reverend Doctor ; "you are quite right *for a cripple.*" Now, the middle stage of Scotch Jacobitism was in like manner quite a right thing of its kind : its legs and shoulders were not equal ; it stumped about on a Jacobitical leg to-day, and sometimes, as in the case of Burns, stood on a Jacobinical leg to-morrow ; but then it was all quite right for a cripple, and, if it could do nothing more, produced at least some pretty music and some exquisite song. The ex-