

will mourns

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ight

THE SILLER CROUN.

AIR—The Siller Croun.

AND ye shall walk in silk attire,
And siller hae to spare,
Gin ye'll consent to be his bride,
Nor think o' Donald mair.
O wha wad buy a silken goun
Wi' a poor broken heart !
Or what's to me a siller croun,
Gin frae my love I part !

The mind wha's every wish is pure
Far dearer is to me ;
And ere I'm forc'd to break my faith
I'll lay me doun an' dee !
For I hae pledg'd my virgin troth
Brave Donald's fate to share ;
And he has gi'en to me his heart,
Wi' a' its virtues rare.

It may be worth while to remark that, on the paper in which the above is written, there is a song entitled "Song for the Carrisle Hunt, November, 1788," which date may probably indicate the year in which "The Nabob" was composed. It is to be found in R. A. Smith's "Scottish Minstrel," vol. vi. p. 41, beautifully arranged.

His gentle manners wan my heart,
He gratefu' took the gift ;
Could I but think to seek it back
It wad be waur than theft !
For langest life can ne'er repay
The love he bears to me ;
And ere I'm fore'd to break my troth
I'll lay me doun an' dee !

¹ The above exquisite lyric forms the 240th song in Johnston's "Scots Musical Museum," vol. iii. p. 249, first published in Edinburgh in 1790. Mr Stenhouse, in his notes to that work, which was republished in 1839, by Mr Blackwood, enriched with a preface, introduction, and additional illustrations, by David Laing, Esq., Keeper of the Signet Library,—says : " This fine song was originally published by Napier as a single sheet song, from which it was copied into the Museum ; but neither the author nor the composer are yet known." Mr Stenhouse wrote this note more than twenty years ago. In the additional illustrations, written by Mr Laing, in vol. vi. p. 522 of the Museum, I have most unintentionally led that gentleman into error concerning Miss Blamire, which information he politely requested me to furnish him ; it was the best I had at the time to give, but unfortunately many of the statements I have since found to be very incorrect. The song may be found beautifully set in R. A. Smith's " Scottish Minstrel," vol. ii. p. 25.