

which I purchased, among some odds and ends, at the Tefft sale of autographs, in March, 1867; and were of much larger size, and of older date, but evidently from the same source as the woodcuts in the Hunt book—from some older work from which they were copied. The authenticity of these likenesses, however, must remain in doubt. I was surprised to find, that the Tefft woodcuts of Smith and Taylor, and the likenesses in Hunt's book were evidently from the same source, though the Hunt ones were only about half the size of the Tefft cuts. While this was on my mind, Dr. B. J. Lossing paid me a visit; and as he had been an engraver, I showed him one of the Tefft woodcuts, and asked him if he knew anything about them. He pointed to the engraver's name on the block, showing that the period when these cuts were made ante-dated Hunt's work—the engraver dying about 1820. These two woodcuts have since been lost.

"The Rodney was the only 'make-up' of the whole set issued by Burns. It was done by St. Memin, from the portrait of the signer's nephew, Cæsar A. Rodney, whose profile bore a remarkable resemblance to his uncle, as I had been informed by different members of his family.

"Regarding Hunt's *Panorama*, so often referred to in connection with the Burns engravings, I may add, that it was evidently written for the purpose of using a number of odd plates and wood-blocks of different styles, originally gotten up for other purposes. Munsell told me, that he knew nothing of the origin of the portraits, beyond the fact that he had to take a lot of old plates for a bad debt, and these were among the collection—and the book was written to utilize them.

"And yet Mr. Munsell has, in a playful way, stated in the catalogue of his imprints, that these engravings were the result of the imagination of a young English artist, closeted in a room, and inspired by beer and tobacco. I never saw a man laugh more heartily than Munsell did, when telling the late F. S. Hoffman and myself how easily he gulled a friend of his with the story of shutting up an English engraver to prepare a set of the signers for him; that this friend seemed to want something of the kind, so he gave him a tough yarn.