

Robert Surtees (1779-1834)

3 *Lord Ewrie*

Lord Ewrie was as brave a man
As ever stood in his degree;
The King has sent him a broad letter,
All for his courage and loyalty.

Lord Ewrie is of gentill blode, 5
A knight's son sooth to say;
He is kin to the Nevill and to the Percy,
And is married upon a Willowbé.

A noble Knight him trained upp,
Sir Rafe Bulmer is the man I mean; 10
At Flodden field, as men do say,
No better capten there was seen.

He led the men of Bishopricke,
When Thomas Ruthal bore the sway:
Though the Scottish Habs were stout and true, 15
The English bowmen wan that day.

And since he has kepte Berwick upon Tweed,
The town was never better kept I wot;
He maintained leal and order along the Border,
And still was ready to prick the Scot. 20

The country then lay in great peace,
And grain and grass was sown and won;
Then plenty fill'd the market crosse,
When Lord Ewrie kept Berwick town.

With our Queene's brother he hath been, 25
And rode rough shod through Scotland of late;
They have burn'd the Mers and Tiviotdale,
And knocked full loud at Edinburgh gate.

Now the King hath sent him a broad letter,
A Lord of Parliament to be:
It were well if every nobleman
Stood like Lord Ewrie in his degree.

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1802-03

(From *The Poetical Works of Sir Walter Scott: First Series, Containing Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border, Sir Tristrem, and Dramatic Pieces.* Paris, 1838)