

**EARLY RECOLLECTIONS
OF A JOURNALIST,
1832-1859**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649519262

Early Recollections of a Journalist, 1832-1859 by D. Croal

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D. CROAL

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PRINTED BY D. AND J. CROAL, HADDINGTON.

EARLY
RECOLLECTIONS
OF A
JOURNALIST.

D. Croal
1832-1859.

EDINBURGH: ANDREW ELLIOT.
HADDINGTON: D. & J. CROAL.

1888.

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NEW YORK
PUBLIC
LIBRARY



ERRATA.

Page 17—"First Impressions of England."

Page 23—*Qui vive.*

Page 44—"Liars you can never trust,
Though *they* should speak," etc.

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PREFACE.

MORE than sixty years have passed since the writer of the accompanying "Early Recollections" first made his acquaintance with newspaper life. This is a long vista to look back upon, and yet the impressions of youth remain vividly on his memory as if they had been of yesterday. Not many of his contemporaries are now in the land of the living, and few there be who can personally know of the enormous changes that have taken place in the newspaper press of Scotland within the last six decades. In the following chapters the writer has endeavoured to give his recollections of the press as it flourished in the earlier years of the century, and of the more prominent incidents that came under his observation as a journalist in times so far removed from the present. It will be noticed that he closes his "Recollections" just at the period when the Scottish press entered on its modern career with a vigour and ability that have placed it in the very vanguard of journalistic enterprise. With that advent ceased his connection with the metropolitan press. His subsequent years have been passed in the comparatively quiet and uneventful vocation of

Thin 22 Mar. 1923

a country journalist, where local politics and the chronicling of village life hardly furnish pabulum of sufficient importance to make them matter for permanent preservation in any other form than in the files of the country newspaper. He is, however, hopeful that to the members of the journalistic profession, and, it maybe, to the general public, these unpretending records of the past will not prove altogether unworthy of their perusal.

D. CROAL.

"Haddingtonshire Courier," November 1898.

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