

**THE PLATFORM SAYINGS,
ANECDOTES, AND STORIES OF
THOMAS GUTHRIE, D. D., MINISTER
OF FREE ST JOHN'S CHURCH,
EDINBURGH. FOURTH THOUSAND**

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REV. DR GUTHRIE'S
ANECDOTES AND STORIES.

THE
PLATFORM SAYINGS,

ANECDOTES, AND STORIES

OF

THOMAS GUTHRIE, D.D.,

MINISTER OF FREE ST JOHN'S CHURCH, EDINBURGH.

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PREFACE.



THE contents of this little book are the result of the industrious work of one who has been long inspired with a high admiration of the reverend and amiable author. Scattered amongst reported speeches, extending back through twenty or thirty years, they were, in many instances, difficult to find, and even when found, justice to the high reputation of the speaker demanded attention to the best and truest report. It may, therefore, truly be said, that while the product as to size bears but a small proportion to the labour expended upon it, its real value may safely be left to

be estimated by its intrinsic merit as a *recueil* of the characteristic sayings of one of the most eloquent orators of our time.

The task of the Editor into whose hands the collection was placed, has been comparatively easy, limited as it was to the supplying of titles to the extracts, and to the application of all due care that nothing should appear which might either amount to the slightest interference with the right of literary property, or militate against the *amour propre* of an author. In regard to these latter objects, the Editor did not require the well-known authority of Lord Macaulay, whose opinion on the subject is contained in the preface to his Speeches; because the right of the public to *spoken* words has been long recognised; and while his Lordship complained of being incorrectly reported, no objection on this score is applicable to these *bons mots* which appeared in all the public prints of the day.

The Editor had also to keep in view the rights of the public to whom these spoken words belong. As to the industrious collector, whose work, from its small price, can scarcely be expected to remunerate her, she may be consoled by the remark of Mr Carlyle, that every one who gives a book to the public is a benefactor of mankind; and, finally, as to the ingenious speaker himself, he cannot but feel pleased that the philanthropical schemes which he has so nobly advocated, are thus benefited by a reproduction of what may be styled the spirit of his advocacy in favour of the rights and interests of the poor and unprotected.

EDINBURGH, *Jan.* 1864.

REV. DR GUTHRIE'S
ANECDOTES AND STORIES.

The Charm for Conjugal Disagreements.

WELL, now, I don't blame either Free Church people or Established Church people. We all know there were some differences at first. We were not angels. If we had been, of course there would have been no disagreement; but we were poor and fallible human beings; and there was a row, you know, and a row always raises a sea. The storm, however, has calmed down. There were faults on both sides; they gave us hard knocks sometimes, and we gave back hard words, when, I believe, we should have held our tongues. We did not go upon that plan the woman adopted, though it was an eminently successful one. There was a woman who went to her minister for advice, and she said, "Dear sir, my life is very miserable."