ECCLESIASTICAL RECORDS; SELECTIONS FROM THE REGISTERS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF LANARK. M.DC.XXIII.-M.DCC.IX

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Ecclesiastical Records; Selections from the Registers of the Presbytery of Lanark. M.DC.XXIII.-M.DCC.IX by Various

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Trieste

ECCLESIASTICAL RECORDS.

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YOUR ORDERS SEPARATE, AND SET YOU APART TO MINISTRE, THAT IS, TO SERVE IN CHURCHES, AND NOT TO DOMINEER IN FAMILIES.

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Lancashire Witches.

ECCLESIASTICAL RECORDS.

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SELECTIONS FROM THE REGISTERS

OF THE

PRESBYTERY OF LANARK.

M.DC.XXIII.-M.DCC.IX.

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PRINTED FOR THE ABBOTSFORD CLUB.

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TO

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BY

JOHN ROBERTSON.

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PREFATORY OBSERVATIONS.

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HAVING, through the kindness of Mr KINLOCH, obtained a Selection of Extracts made by him from the Records of the Presbytery of Lanark, I have found it so curious, and so illustrative of that much lauded period when the Solemn League and Covenant was in the zenith of its power, that I conceive I may throw additional light on a very interesting portion of Scotish History, and perhaps moderate the zeal of such as have expressed a wish to see the discipline of those days re-established, by presenting it to the ABBOTSFORD CLUB.

These Extracts commence on 10th July 1623, and terminate on 7th September 1709. From the period of the overthrow of Episcopacy, in the year 1638, to the defeat of the Scotish army at Dunbar, the meetings seem to have been frequent and well attended. The formidable and anomalous authority assumed by this Presbytery, in common with the other Church Courts, often in open and direct opposition to the law of the land, and the inquisitorial power exercised over individuals, is a remarkable feature of those times, and shows how