

**JOURNAL OF A
RAMBLE IN
SCOTLAND**

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Journal of a Ramble in Scotland by Charles Lesingham Smith

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CHARLES LESINGHAM SMITH

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Henrietta Caldwell

JOURNAL

OF

A RAMBLE

IN

SCOTLAND.

"O NATURE! A' THY SNEWS AN' FORMS
" TO FEELING, PENSIVE HEARTS HAE CHARMS!
" WHETHER THE SUMMER KINDLY WARMS
" WI' LIFE AN' LIGHT,
" OR WINTER HOWLS, IN GUSTY STORMS,
" THE LANG DARK NIGHT!"

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1816

PREFACE.

Whenever my good fortune has led me to travel, for the first time, through an interesting country, I have generally contrived to record at night the principal reflections which I have made, and the information which I have acquired, in the course of the day. This is a task, which, if executed faithfully, demands more perseverance than can readily be imagined by one who has never attempted it: fatigue, want of time, and a certain disinclination for exerting the mental

A Riverdale - 27 Aug 1848

energies, crying often and loudly for delay. The pleasure, however, of reading over these rough notes at some distant period, and of thus re-painting upon the tablet of the mind the scenes and transactions which they delineate, has far more than repaid me for my persevering industry. I cannot, of course, hope that a perusal of them will impart to others the distinct conceptions, and agreeable associations, which I myself derive from them; yet I am flattered into the belief that they will not be destitute of interest, nor altogether devoid of instruction, to many of my friends, for whom alone I commit them to the press. They were written generally within a few hours, and (with the ex-

ception of the portion which relates to Edinburgh,) always within a day or two, of the occurrences which they describe; so that in the hurry of writing many inaccuracies or inelegances of language, and many crude or trivial ideas may have crept in; but some atonement for these may, perhaps be found in the superior boldness and truth attendant on this rapid mode of composition. I have resolved, therefore, to give them to the reader precisely as they were written, without any further curtailment, addition, or alteration, than a respect for the feelings of individuals necessarily demands.

The reader should be informed that,