

**SCOTCH FOLK**

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Scotch Folk by David Douglas

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**DAVID DOUGLAS**

# **SCOTCH FOLK**





The Minister's Story.

*Frontispiece.*

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# SCOTCH FOLK.

*ILLUSTRATED.*



EDINBURGH:  
DAVID DOUGLAS.

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## SCOTCH FOLK.

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### THE DUMBARTON FERRYMAN AND THE COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER.

BEFORE the erection of the new pier at the Castle Rock, passengers from Dumbarton had to be conveyed down the Leven to the Clyde steamers by a ferry-boat, rowed by two sturdy and generally elderly ferrymen. On one occasion an English commercial traveller had seated himself on the gunwale, at the stern. One of the old ferrymen, aware of the danger to any one so placed, when the rope of the steamer should be attached to the bow of the boat, took occasion to warn the man of his danger. "Noo, ma man, come doun aff that, or ye'll coup ower." The bagman only replied by telling him to "mind his own business, and trust him to take care of himself."

"Weel," said the ferryman, "mind I've telt ye; as sure as ye're sittin' there, ye'll coup ower."

No sooner had the rope been attached, and the boat got the inevitable tug from the steamer, than the fellow went heels up over the stern.

"Gowk ; I telt him that." However, being in the water, it behoved that every effort should be made to rescue him. So the ferryman made a grab at what seemed the hair of his head, when a wig came away. Throwing this impatiently into the boat, he made a second grip at the collar of his shirt, when a front came away. Casting this from him with still greater scorn, he shouted to his companion : "Tummas, come here, and help to save as muckle o' this man as ye can, for he's comin' a' awa' in bits."

