

**DESCRIPTION OF THE
ISLANDS OF ORKNEY
AND ZETLAND**

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Description of the Islands of Orkney and Zetland by Robert Monteith

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ROBERT MONTEITH

**DESCRIPTION OF THE
ISLANDS OF ORKNEY
AND ZETLAND**

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DESCRIPTION
OF THE
ISLANDS
OF
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BY
ROBERT MONTEITH,
OF EGLISHA AND GAIRSA, 1632.

REPRINTED FROM THE EDITION OF 1711,

PUBLISHED UNDER THE SUPERINTENDENCE OF
SIR ROBERT SIBBALD, KNT. M. D.



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NOTICE.

WHETHER as separate Publications, or in a collective form, the great scarcity of the various Treatises relating to the Topography of Scotland, by SIR ROBERT SIBBALD, is matter of common intelligence. But those descriptive of Orkney and Zetland, when accompanied by the Maps, are of excessive rarity; so much so, indeed, that of the Map of the former Island it may with safety be said, that no one copy in fifty possesses it. This fact, and the attention which these Islands have of late years attracted—both from the charming Novel of THE PIRATE, and other circumstances—has induced the Publisher to issue a limited reprint (restricted to One Hundred and Forty-Five copies), illustrated by an accurate *facsimile* of each Chart. The Tracts were originally printed in folio; but the form of octavo has been adopted, as more generally convenient.

Sir Robert Sibbald, Knight, President of the Royal College of Physicians in Scotland, was of the family of Rankeillor, in Fife; his Portrait is preserved in the Hall of the College of Physicians, and has been engraved by Mr Lizars for a volume of the Naturalists' Library. His

remarkably interesting Autobiography, (of which the original MS. is in the Library at Auchinleck)—although proposed for publication by the gossiping Boswell, and his design approved of by his “*Ursa Major*”—remained unheeded until 1834, when it was printed in the *Analecta Scotica* (I. p. 126) edited by Mr MAIDMENT for the present Publisher. THIRTY-FIVE copies were struck off separately.*

The Publisher at first intended to have added a Bibliographical list of Books and MSS. relating to the Islands. But the “Thoughts on Orkney and Zetland,” printed by Mr GROAT, appeared to render this somewhat unnecessary.

EDINBURGH, 87, PRINCES STREET,
10th July 1845.

* Remains of Sir Robert Sibbald, Knt. M. D., containing His Autobiography, Memoirs of the Royal College of Physicians, Portions of his Literary Correspondence, and An Account of his MSS. Edinburgh, *T. G. Stevenson*, 1837, 8vo.

THE
DESCRIPTION
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WITH THE MAPPS OF THEM, DONE FROM THE ACCURAT
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