

the Ministry of the time, including the late Lord Melbourne, who at first regarded it, as I have been informed, as the composition, under the popular form and a *nomme de guerre*, of some of the Non-Intrusion leaders in Edinburgh ; and by the late Mr O'Connell, who had no such suspicions, and who, though he lacked sympathy, as he said, with the ecclesiastical views which it advocated, enjoyed what he termed its "racy English," and the position in which it placed the Noble Lord to whom it was addressed. It was favorably noticed, too, by Mr. Gladstone, in his elaborate work on Church Principles ; and was, in short, both in the extent of its circulation, and the circles into which it found its way, a very successful pamphlet.

So filled was my mind with our ecclesiastical controversy, that while yet unacquainted with the fate of my first *brochure*, I was busily engaged with a second. A remarkable cause of intrusion had occurred in the district rather more than twenty years before ; and after closing my week's labors in the bank, I set out for the house of a friend in a neighboring parish on a Saturday evening, that I might attend the deserted church on the following Sabbath, and glean from actual observation the materials of a truthful description, which would, I trusted, tell in the controversy. And as the case was one of those in which truth proves stranger than fiction, what I had to describe was really very curious ; and my description received an extensive circulation. I insert the passage entire, as properly a part of my story.

"There were associations of a peculiarly high character connected with this northern parish. For more than a thousand years it had formed part of the patrimony of a truly noble family, celebrated by Philip Doddridge for its great moral worth, and by Sir Walter Scott for its high military genius ; and through whose influence the light of the Reformation had been introduced into this remote corner, at a period when the neighboring districts were enveloped in the original darkness. In a later age it had been honored by the fines and proscriptions of Charles II. ; and its minister,—one of those men of God whose names still live in the memory of the country, and whose biography occupies no small space in the recorded history of her 'worthies,'—had rendered himself so obnoxious to the tyranny and irreligion of the time, that he was ejected from his charge more than a year before any of the other non-conforming clergymen of the