

me to pursue the examination of the evidence into the nooks and corners of almost every parish in Scotland. I have carried the investigation into many parts of Europe from the north of Norway to the plains of the Danube. But above all, it has been my good fortune to have been able to extend the research into Western America, and to have learned more during my months of sojourn there than during the same number of years in the Old Country.

The result of this accumulated experience has been to convince me, if possible, more firmly than ever, of the soundness of the principles for which I contended in the first edition of this book. Many years ago the volume was out of print, and I have been repeatedly urged to allow it to be reprinted in its original form. But though the principles remained unchanged, my knowledge of the country had become so very much wider and more detailed that it seemed best to wait until such leisure came as would allow the fruits of this enlarged experience to be made use of in the book. I have now at last been able thoroughly to revise, and in large measure to rewrite the old chapters, adding greatly to them, but retaining the descriptive passages, which still remain, I hope, faithful pictures of the scenery they attempt to portray. With the exception of a few reductions from photographs, which will at once be recognised, the woodcuts are taken from my own sketch-books, and I have to thank Mr. J. D. Cooper and Mr. O. Lacour