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## Miscellaneous Articles.

### MEMORIES OF SCOTTISH SCENES AND SABBATHS MORE THAN FORTY YEARS AGO.

The little town of C—— is reached, and great numbers are pouring in from all directions to engage in the public solemnities of the Sabbath, in their respective places of worship. At that time there were only two churches in the town, viz., the Parish Church and the Meeting House, as the latter was called; now there are, I believe, at least five Churches, —the effect of sectarianism, rather than of increased population. The congregation assembling in the plain unpretentious Meeting House was far larger, and more influential, in every desirable sense, than that which met in the capacious and dingy Kirk. The blight of *moderatism* lay on many a parish Kirk in that part of the country in those days, and that of C—— was one of the many. Its pulpit was then, and had been for a long time previously, occupied by Dr. M——, a moral, amiable but feeble-minded man, though learned withal, as report had it. But his theological tenets were said to have a tinge of Socinianism—to man the most dreary, and to God the most dishonouring, of all Christian creeds. Whether he was justly chargeable with such fatal heterodoxy I cannot affirm. Certain it is, he was no great preacher, and piety was by no means rife among his people. However, he was not wanting in tenderness. At times he was melted to tears while delivering his sermons, which was inferentially accounted for, as follows, by the *laird* of L—— (one of his parishioners) whose witticisms and waggeries have long had a national notoriety. Some simple countryman, unskilled in tracing effect to its cause, asked the *laird* why it was that *the Doctor aye grat when he preach't.* “*Hoot man,*” said the *laird*, “*put you into the pu'pit and gie ye as little to say, and ye wud greet too.*” The parish was rather populous and the Doctor's Kirk had a goodly number of retainers, as established Churches will generally have, irrespective of the character of their