

THE HEBRIDES.

A Brief Sketch of the Outer and Inner Hebrides or Western Isles.

On the north-west coast of Scotland and separated from the mainland of Sutherlandshire and Rosshire by the broad strait of water known as the Minsh or Minch, and often "the Greater Minch," lie two groups of islands—the home of a hardy and stalwart race of Scotchmen—called The Hebrides or Western Islands.

The northernmost of these groups is known as the Outer Hebrides, and under this name are embraced the island of Lewis, North and South Uist, Benbecula, Barra and numerous smaller islands.



THE FISHING FLEET AND SEA FRONT AT STORNOWAY.

The island of Lewis is divided into two districts, the northern portion under the name of Lewis, being part of Rosshire, and the southern peninsula as Harris, being part of Invernesshire, so that all the Outer Hebrides belong to Inverness except that part of The Lewis north of Harris.

The southernmost group is named the Inner Hebrides, and comprises the islands of Skye, Canna, Rum, Mull, Iona, Colonsay, Jura, Arran, Bute, and other islands of lesser note.

The middle portion of the outer islands is separated from the inner islands by a narrow channel known as the Little or Lesser Minch, and the inner islands, the largest of which is Skye, are