

Preface to the Second Edition

UPWARDS of half a century has elapsed since the work was begun with pen and pencil which finally assumed form as the *Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time*. Buildings which had survived from elder centuries, and perpetuated associations of the Scottish capital with national history, were being rapidly effaced in the progress of civic improvements; and thus a collection of drawings of its picturesque features acquired ere long a factitious value as memorials of a vanished past. From those, accordingly, the illustrations were selected; and additions have been made to them in the present edition from the same source, with the aid of some of the novel processes introduced in recent years.

When the plans were matured for thus preserving some record of Old Edinburgh in this its latest transitional stage, a publisher was found who undertook to carry them out on the terms of sharing with the author profit or loss. The work was published accordingly; accounts were rendered, and I paid my share of the reported deficit, interleaved a copy, and from time to time made notes with a view to a second edition. As I had furnished the text, supplied all the drawings—the originals of which are still in my possession,—and also drawn nearly the whole of the vignette illustrations on the wood, not only without receiving any remuneration, but had also borne my share of the loss on the first edition, it never occurred to me to doubt that the copyright remained under my control. It was therefore with no less surprise than mortification that I learned, in 1872,