



I.

SHETLAND AND ITS PEOPLE.



HE scene of the following narrative is the Shetland Islands, the remote and rocky cluster seen upon the map, at the north of Scotland. The individual with whom the narrative is principally concerned, born upon one of those islands, was, in many of his characteristics, not unlike them: a plain man, content with a comparatively humble sphere, unadorned by worldly polish, yet sustaining through life a manly battle with adverse circumstances, resembling that which his native islands forever maintain against the encroaching sea, and, like them, proving that the best qualities, whether of things or men, in this world, are by no means those most showy. The circumstances of his early life, his conversion, and of his ministry,