

stone in the churchyard, and was subscribed by such numbers that space failed, so that many could affix only their initials; and many of the signatures were written in blood. Never did nation before make more solemn and awful engagement to God than this. It was received as a sacred oath and was defended with the heart's

victories, carrying terror and bloodshed into many a peaceful vale. He was at length defeated and exiled; but returning in arms, was apprehended, beheaded, and quartered, with the utmost indignities of that stern age, at Edinburgh.

After the Restoration the Covenants were torn by the hands of the



BURNS' MONUMENT AND SALISBURY CRAIGS.

blood of Scotland's bravest sons. The Covenanting host rallied round the blue and crimson flag, then first flung to the winds, emblazoned with the words, "For Christ's Crown and Covenant."

The Earl of Montrose, originally a Covenanter, changed sides and raised the white flag for the King. He blazed like a meteor through the Highlands, winning brilliant

common hangman, and burned with drunken mockery. Rather than submit to the "black prelacy" four hundred ministers resigned their livings and were driven out in the depth of winter upon the snowy wolds. Their places were filled by a mob of illiterate hirelings, so that it was said, "the cows were in jeopardy because the herd boys were all made parsons."