SCOTTISH STORIES FROM THE FAMILY TREASURE

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Scottish Stories from the Family Treasure by Various

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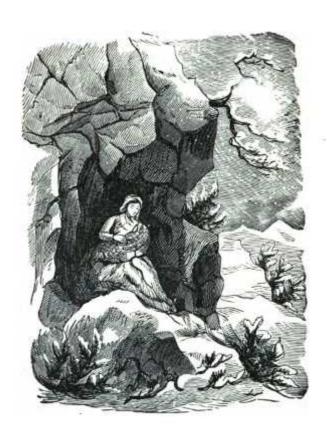
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COTTISH STORIES.

The Family Treasure.

"Their works do follow them."-Rav. xiv: 13.



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Andy McLeod

A TALE OF THE SCOTTISH PERSECUTIONS.

I

HE events I am about to relate occurred in Scotland during the year known in her annals of covenanting persecution as "the black year," of 1665, on account of the number of godly men who then sealed their testimony with their blood, and the unoffending women and children who

Alexander, or, as he was usually called, Andy McLeod, was at that time barely ten years of age. He had been left an orphan too young to remember either of his parents, but the child

proved steadfast to the death.

found a home and protector in his grandfather, Adam McLeod, who, in little better circumstances than the peasant class around him, farmed some land and owned a decent dwellinghouse. Adam was a man of sterling worth and rigid principles, and was likewise strongly attached to the righteous cause for which numbers of his countrymen were then suffering, by their own martyr experience, literally fulfilling the words of the apostle concerning the early Christian Church, "They wandered in deserts and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth." This cottage, situated on the edge of a deep glen or valley, and surrounded by lofty hills, was often resorted to by the persecuted men who, amid the howling of a hurricane or the wildness of a snow-storm, ventured to enjoy a brief communion with each other before the blazing ingle under Adam McLeod's thatched roof. On many of these occasions young Andy was permitted to be present, scated, according to the deferential habits of those times, on a three-legged stool,