

**SALMON-CASTS AND
STRAY SHOTS
BEING FLY-LEAVES
FROM THE NOTE-BOOK**

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Salmon-casts and stray shots being fly-leaves from the note-book by John Colquhoun

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JOHN COLQUHOUN

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OF

JOHN COLQUHOUN

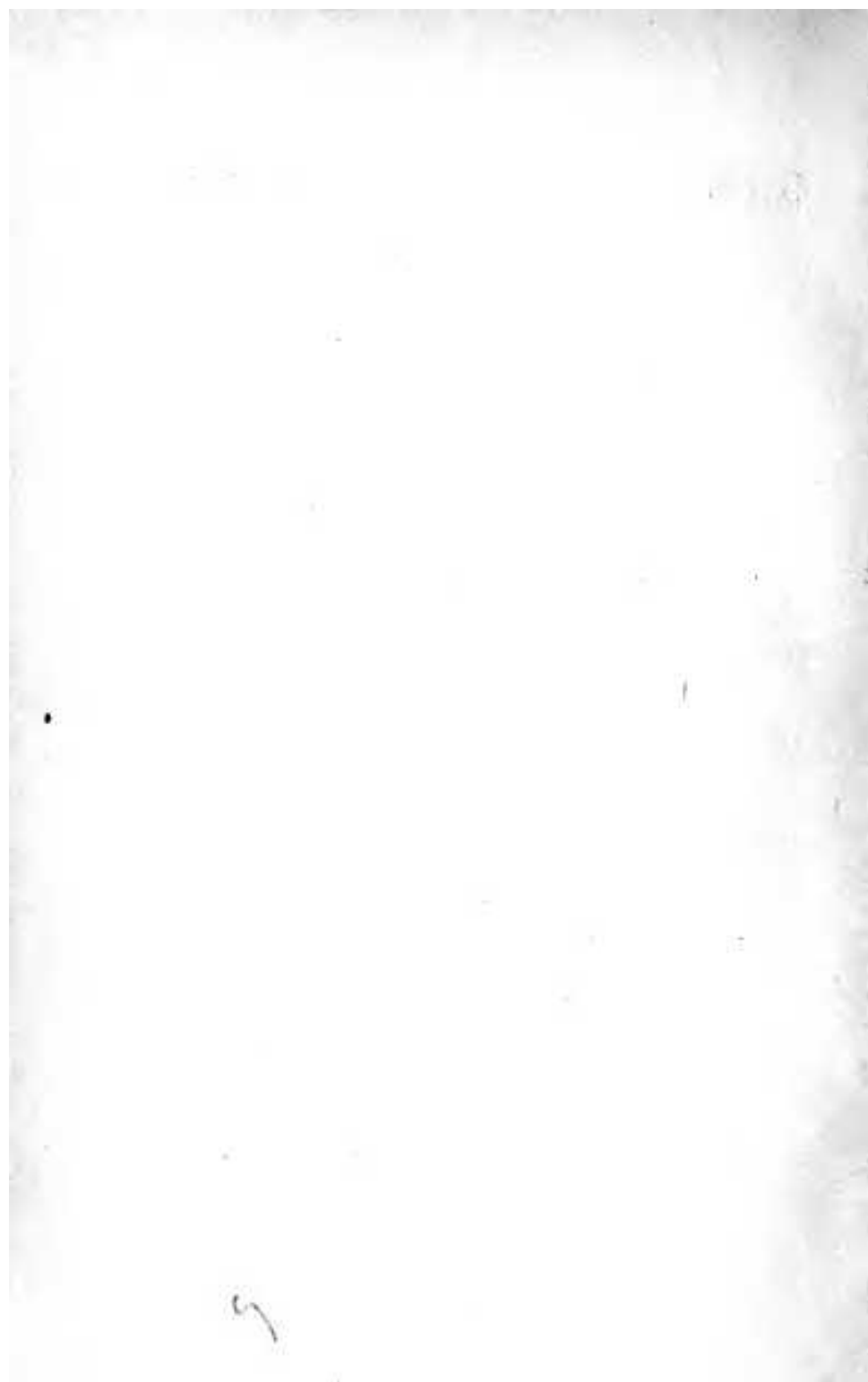
AUTHOR OF THE "MOON AND THE LOCH," ETC.

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P R E F A C E .

THE Author of the following pages has, in a former work, expressed his conviction that the more experienced and successful an Angler becomes, the more likely he is to discover arcana which he has constant opportunity of turning to account. Few first-rate fishers care to proclaim their secrets; and although, when under able guidance, a young enthusiast of the rod may have tolerable sport, he yet remains quite innocent of the means which procured it. He finds this out, vexatiously enough, the first time he trusts to his own resources, especially if change in weather or water should require a difference of tactics which his former guide would at once have foreseen. The

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same may be said of shooting, though in a far more modified sense.

Any hints for the Rod or Gun in this book have been gathered of late years, and never before published. Sporting works are often charged with throwing the long line, and drawing the long bow ; but any such tendency must destroy both the pleasure and profit of reading them. So far as he is aware, no charge of the kind has ever been brought against the author of this treatise ; and although he might easily have made it more interesting and exciting by indulging his fancy, he takes this opportunity of solemnly pledging his word, that neither in this, nor any of his former writings, has he exaggerated one sporting feat, or overcoloured one eccentric trait of human nature. The former are exactly as they happened—the latter as true to life as the Author had power to paint them. The concluding Essay was originally given to the public in form of a Lecture.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I.

CHAPTER I.

SALMON ANGLING,

	PAGE
Trouting streams the schools of the salmon river— Few first-class salmon anglers— Professional anglers— their fame over-estimated— True salmon skill can only be displayed in stately rivers— Spinning the line— its advantages— The wind-over— when to practise it— Angling shrewd guessing— Changing the fly— reasons for change— How to treat a sportive fish— Free-rising fish— Fastidious fish— Practical illustrations— Capricious fish— A patient fisher— Fast miseries— Floating-rafts of Doo— Last day of the season— Length of play often no test of size of fish— Generalship of some fish— Garwhinnie Water— Unexpected success— My first salmon,	3-17

CHAPTER II.

Up-stream salmon-fishing— Up-stream trouting— When river falls rapidly— Dewy mornings— Thin water— Peat-moss brown— Sultry weather— Temperate weather— Cold stormy days— Frosty blue evenings— Mist— Rough wind early in the season— Spring and autumn changes of fly— Larger flies for evening— Boat pool, and stream fishing— Fresh-run salmon— A sagacious grilse— A pair of flies sometimes scarce

	PAGE
fish—Gold and silver fish and salted herring—fry as trolling baits—Net murder—Salmon and grilse runs—Back fish—Potted fish—fine sport they afford—Fishing adventure of an old General—"Back end" salmon pools—Scarcity of harvest fish—Artificial raising of salmon,	18-31
CHAPTER III.	
Sutherland as a fishing beat—Granton to Burchhead—Anecdotes—Landing in the North—The Sutherland Museum—Flight of the cornerake—Start for Tongue—Bean-geese of Loch Layghal—"The Post's" eagle—Lord Reay's coach-house—Old Ross,	32-41
CHAPTER IV.	
"The Men's day,"	42-44
CHAPTER V.	
Loch Slam—A living scarecrow—The osprey—Loch Layghal—Ross's "boy"—Goose and Gull Island—Tame bean-geese,	45-50
CHAPTER VI.	
Hector Gordon—Manse of Ross-shire—Sutherland Inns—Loch Naver—Altnaharra—Drive to Lairg,	51-57
CHAPTER VII.	
Corpulent keeper—Loch Asaynt—Water-shrew—Last Assynt osprey—John Sutherland—Loch Inver smack—Old Neil—Embark for Stornoway,	58-63
CHAPTER VIII.	
Sail across the Minch—Stormy petrels—Porpoises—Our skipper—Stornoway—The "Hottle"—its public table—Hermit of the Lewis—Free Church preacher and minister,	64-72

CONTENTS.

ix

CHAPTER IX.

	PAGE
Glasgow bread-riots—West-coast return—The Abbot of Iona —his grazing islet—Whales in the Sound of Mull—Fiddle and pipes,	73-77

CHAPTER X.

Flooded lochs—North and east wind—Deceitful gales—Gusts and calms—Points and bays—Mouths of burns—When a heavy fish drops off—Trolling hours in small lochs—Calm nights—Rough nights—Calm sunny days—Shallow lochs— Rare red-fishers,	78-84
---	-------

P A R T II.

CHAPTER I.

THE SOUND OF MULL.

Autumn sport of Mull—Its tangled woods—Mull deer—German beat—A wood drive—The Mull weaver—A "lucky" shot, 87-97	87-97
--	-------

CHAPTER II.

Roe-drives—Roe-hounds—Fox run down by a hound—Snow stalking—Fox before beaters—Before a hound,	98-103
---	--------

CHAPTER III.

Ptarmigan—their food—Sick grouse—Winter storms of the Sound—Dundevouch, or the Mountain of the Two Winds, 104-110	104-110
--	---------

CHAPTER IV.

Royston crows—Their numbers in Mull—Few wild animals in the island—Eagles—Hen-harriers—Peregrines of Morven— Poisoning grey crows—Dogfish—Voracity of fish—Mishaps —Island superstition—Rash words,	111-119
--	---------