

splendid rooms in the "Royal Mc Gregor" situated in the New Town on Princess Street, opposite the Walter Scott monument. The city is divided by a deep valley into two parts, the old part lying south of the valley, and the new city on the north. On the summit of a tremendous precipice on the south side at the west end of the old city stands the grand old "Edinburg Castle, whose origin is clouded in obscurity." The valley extending eastward expands into a wide plain and on this plan is located the historic old Palace of "Holyrood." The plain is bounded on the south by a mountain called "Talisburg Craig," and on the north by "Calton hill." There is an observatory and several imposing monuments on this hill. One, in memory of the Heros of Waterloo, was designed to represent the "Parthenon." The colonnade was set up and the frieze of the cornice placed on the columns when the funds gave out, and the work was never completed. The cols are 6 or 7 feet diameter of granite. The colonnade is very imposing and in my judgement has a better effect as a monument than the original plan could have had. The public buildings are very fine, generally of classic architecture. We hired a guide to show us through the city, visiting Holy Rood, the castle, the cathedral, university, botanical gardens, and many other places of interest, and were amply repaid for our time and fatigue.

June 9th. Hired a carriage and guide for an excursion to Roslin Castle 6 or 8 miles from the city. Stopped on our way to examine the ruins of Craig Millar Castle [Craigmillar], a large portion of the originally immense structure had crumbled down, but enough remains to make it an object of great interest. We were shown the dungeons where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned, also dungeons where other celebrities had close and very uncomfortable quarters. It was in this castle that Bothwell conspired with his fellows to take the life of Darnley (Marys sick husband). From this place drove to the Palace of the "Duke of Buccleuch." The family being absent, we were shown through the Palace, a magnificent building abounding in pictures & statuary. The grand hall and stairway finished in costly marbles had a stunning effect on our republican simplicity. Leaving, we drove to Hawthornden Glen, a small old castle built upon the rocky cliffs of the Glen, was a place of refuge for Bruce when pursued by his enemies. We were shown several caves and hiding places cut in the rocks under the castle with galleries and stairways leading down to them from the castle. We left our carriage at this point to walk up the gorge, or Glen, some 2 miles to Roslin Castle. We found a good foot path in a wild & romantic rock walled valley and soon came to the world renowned Castle of Roslin. It was in pretty good order for a neglected building 6 or 800 years old. After thorough exploration, walked $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile to Roslin Chapel. This is a small Gothic church erected ____ with the castle, but has been kept in good preservation. The capitals of the columns and many other parts of the original sculpturing is as perfect as the day it was finished. Casts were taken of many of the ornamental parts of this building to serve as models in the ornamentation of the new houses of parliament. There is a village near this church where we refreshed ourselves, and our carriage having passed around the glen, awaited us. We were soon returned to our hotel at Edinburg after a day of unmitigated pleasure and enjoyment.

Left Edinburg June 10th for Melrose, where we arrived about 11 o'clock a.m. Found a good hotel. After dinner took carriage and drove 3 m. to Abottsford, the home of Walter Scott, now