# SCOTTISH LAND-NAMES; THEIR ORIGIN AND MEANING

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Scottish land-names; their origin and meaning by Sir Herbert Maxwell

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# SIR HERBERT MAXWELL

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THEIR ORIGIN AND MEANING

BY

### SIR HERBERT MAXWELL, BART., M.P.

RHIND LECTURER IN 1895; AUTHOR OF "STUDIES IN THE TOPOGRAPHY OF GALLOWAY," "MERIDIANA," "LIFE AND TIMES OF THE RIGHT HON, W. H. SMITH," ETC. ETC.



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# PREFACE.

These lectures are offered as a contribution to a study conducted until lately on lines the reverse of scientific. What the late Dr Reeves and Dr Joyce have done for the place-names of Ireland, Canon Isaac Taylor has done for those of England, and Mr A. W. Moore for those of the Isle of Man, has never been adequately performed for Scotland. It was my original intention to expand these lectures, condensed from material collected during many years, into a tolerably exhaustive treatise on the subject; but I am advised to publish them at once, just as they were delivered; and I am encouraged by the numbers and attention of those who listened to them in the belief that there are plenty of students ready to apply sound principles and cautious analysis to a branch of archeology and philology at present in a very backward state.

I have, it is needless to say, derived much assistance from the writings of the scholars above mentioned, as well as from those of Professors Rhys and W. W. Skeat, and the late Dr Skene. I have also availed myself largely of the volume on Scottish Place-Names lately published by the Rev. J. Johnston, of Falkirk, who has rendered good service to students by the extensive list which he has compiled.

I regret that the pressure of other occupations has not allowed me to supply what undoubtedly ought to have been given—viz., exact reference to authorities quoted, and the different manuscripts from which old spellings have been collected. I can but offer an apology to my readers for this omission, with the assurance that they may rely on the care with which such extracts have been made.

# HERBERT MAXWELL.

Monbeith, January 1894.

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