TRANSLATIONS OF THE NAMES OF PLACES CONTAINED IN THE DEEDS OF ENTAIL OF THE BREADALBANE ESTATES

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Translations of the Names of Places Contained in the Deeds of Entail of the Breadalbane estates by Alexander Laing

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ALEXANDER LAING

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TRANSLATIONS

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OF

THE NAMES OF PLACES CONTAINED IN
THE DEEDS OF ENTAIL

OF

THE BREADALBANE ESTATES

BY THE REV. JOHN M'LEAN
MINISTER OF GRANTULLY

WITH

PREFACE BY J. W. YOUNG, W.S.

INTRODUCTION BY ALEXE. LAING, LL.D., NEWBURGH
Containing Historical References to many of the Names

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION
1887

THIS WORK

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

TO

THE MOST HONOURABLE

The Marquess and Marchioness of Breabalbane

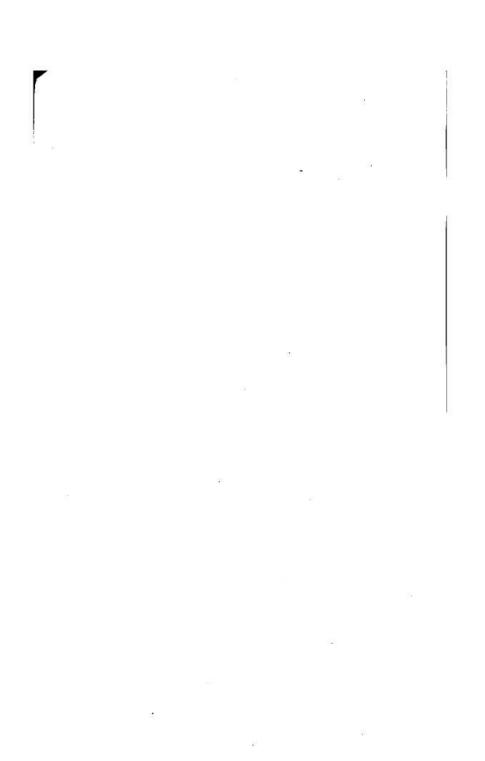
OUT OF REGARD FOR WHOM IT HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT AND FOR WHOSE INFORMATION IT IS MORE

ESPECIALLY INTENDED

BY

THEIR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT

J. W. YOUNG



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PREFACE



Having the pleasure of Dr. Laing's acquaintance, I fancy I must have picked up some of his antiquarian spirit, for when it was

suggested that English renderings of the Gaelic names in the Deeds of Entail of the Breadalbane Estates might be of public interest, I at once undertook to furnish the sinews of war, if he and his friends would provide the brains and industry. I have therefore no claim to any credit that may attach to the work. It appeared to me that it would be interesting to ascertain why these places had received their names. I expected that the process of translation would bring to light local legends and account for their origin, show how the memory and acts of the early Christian Fathers were embalmed in the names of the places or districts they had frequented, disinter old feudal rights or identify names given from local peculiarities, but I am not a Gaelic scholar and I could only carry out my idea by deputy. The names selected for translation have been taken from the Deeds of Entail of the Breadalbane Estates. They do not by any means exhaust the names of interest on these estates. Probably a much more exhaustive list could have been got from the Ordnance Survey. The work, however, was undertaken entirely from my connection with the estates and

their noble owner. It is now only published for private use, though in the hope that it may lead proprietors of other Highland estates to do a similar work for the proper names on them, before all recollection of their origin has been lost or the spelling become so Anglicised as to render recognition of the Gaelic roots hopeless. Throughout, the work has been a labour of love. Time and thought and hard work have been freely bestowed by Dr. Laing, Newburgh, the Rev. John M'Lean, Grantully, Mr. Campbell, formerly schoolmaster of Lesmahagow, and Mr. Cameron, formerly schoolmaster of Killin. To them my best thanks are due, and are now heartily tendered. So far as I am aware, the only similar translations in Scotland are of names in the parish of Balquhidder, published for Mr. Carnegie of Stronvar, and Sir Herbert Eustace Maxwell's Studies in the Topography of Galloway.

A glossary of the Gaelic proper names in Scotland would be a most interesting and instructive work. I hope it may yet be undertaken.

J. WM. YOUNG.

22 Castle Street, Edinburgh, July 1887.