

HISTORY OF THE SCOTTISH EXPEDITION TO NORWAY IN 1612

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History of the Scottish expedition to Norway in 1612 by Thomas Michell

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THOMAS MICHELL

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SCOTTISH EXPEDITION
TO NORWAY IN 1612**

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SCOTTISH EXPEDITION
TO NORWAY IN 1612.

By

THOMAS MICHELL, C.B.,
Her Majesty's Consul General for Norway.

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1886.

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Dedicated,
BY GRACIOUS PERMISSION,
TO
HIS MAJESTY OSCAR II.
KING OF SWEDEN AND NORWAY,
Sec. Sec. &c.

WITH THE DEEPEST GRATITUDE
AND THE MOST PROFOUND RESPECT OF
THE AUTHOR.

Preface.

THE idea of investigating the story of the Scottish Expedition to Norway in 1612 occurred to the author on a trip through the beautiful valleys of Romsdal and Gudbrandsdal in the autumn of 1884—many of the statements made on that subject in guide-books, and in almost every work on Norway, having appeared incredible when he left the highway and explored the old bridle-path along which the Scots marched on their way to Sweden.

Subsequent researches in State Archives, made with the kind assistance which has been heartily acknowledged in the pages that follow, resulted in the discovery of official documents hitherto unavailable, and with their aid the traditional account of the "Skotte-tog" has, in its chief outlines, been reduced to strict historical proportions.

The information thus acquired was utilized by the

author in a lecture delivered in 1885 at the University of Christiania, in the gracious presence of His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway, for the benefit of the Building Fund of the Anglican Church in that city.

It is with the same practical object that, with the generous co-operation of the publishers, the lecture has been embodied in the little book now commended to the attention of those who take an interest in Scottish history, as well as to that of the British and American travellers who visit in such largely increasing numbers the beautiful and hospitable valleys and highlands of Norway, in which they find so much sympathetic evidence of a common origin of both race and language.

LONDON, March 1886.

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Part I.

Historical.