

**THE BURNS SCRAP BOOK:
OR ODD MOMENTS
WITH THE LOVERS OF
SCOTIA'S DARLING POET**

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The Burns Scrap Book: Or Odd Moments with the Lovers of Scotia's Darling Poet by John D. Ross

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JOHN D. ROSS

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©

THE
BURNS SCRAP BOOK

OR

ODD MOMENTS WITH THE LOVERS OF
SCOTIA'S DARLING POET

EDITED BY
JOHN D. ROSS

AUTHOR OF "SCOTTISH PORTS IN AMERICA,"
AND EDITOR OF "CELEBRATED SONGS OF SCOTLAND," "ROUND BURNS'
GRAVE," "BURNSIANA," ETC., ETC.



"He'll be a credit to us a';
We'll a' be proud o' Robin."

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Time money

"Why is it that Scotland, when the roll of Nations is called, can stand up and proudly cry 'Here?' It is because ROBERT BURNS has lived. It is ROBERT BURNS that puts your well loved Scotland in the front rank of Nations."

ROBERT G. INGERSOLL.

DEDICATED TO MY BROTHER,

PETER ROSS,

AN ENTHUSIASTIC BURNS SCHOLAR.

AND AUTHOR OF

"SCOTLAND AND THE SCOTS," "LINK OF ST. ANDREW," ETC., ETC.

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THE BURNS SCRAP BOOK.

Biographical Sketch of Robert Burns.

BY JOHN D. ROSS.

ROBERT BURNS was born near Ayr, Scotland, Jan. 25th, 1759, in a small roadside cottage, which his father had built, with his own hands, of clay and straw; but so frail was this structure that, when the poet was only ten days old, a part of the gable gave way in a storm, and he had to be carried, with his mother, to the house of a neighbor, where they remained until their own house was repaired. This primitive dwelling still stands, situated two miles south of Ayr, and is visited each year by thousands of tourists, many of whom come from distant countries to pay their homage to the place where the wonderful ploughman bard first saw the light.

His father was a man of humble, although not obscure origin, and was noted among his neighbors for his strict integrity and stern religious principles. His whole ambition was for the welfare of his children,—to bring them up in the fear of the Lord, and to give them a better education than it had been his own lot to receive. The poet in after years drew a