

**WESTERN WORTHIES: A GALLERY  
OF BIOGRAPHICAL AND  
CRITICAL SKETCHES OF  
WEST OF SCOTLAND CELEBRITIES**

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Western Worthies: A Gallery of Biographical and Critical Sketches of West of Scotland  
Celebrities by J. Stephen Jeans

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**J. STEPHEN JEANS**

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WESTERN WORTHIES:

*A GALLERY*

OF

BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL SKETCHES

OF

WEST OF SCOTLAND CELEBRITIES.

*By J. STEPHEN JEANS,*

EDITOR OF THE "EVENING STAR."



Glasgow:

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MDCCLXXII.

TO  
JAMES BAIRD, ESQ. OF CAMBUSDOON.

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ESTEEMED SIR,

To you, as the most prominent representative of the industrial interests of the West of Scotland—as the largest employer of labour in Scotland—and as the sole survivor of a family to whose exertions and achievements—(commercially, morally, socially, and religiously)—Glasgow is very largely indebted for its exceptional progress and prosperity, I desire to dedicate this volume—the record of many lives, not one of which presents greater attractions to the man of business, the man of science, or the philanthropist, than your own.

*J. S. JEANS.*

*Glasgow, 20th June, 1872.*

## PREFACE.

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THE author does not consider that the following pages require any apology for their appearance. They are given to the world with a two-fold object—the first being that of gratifying an increasing and perfectly legitimate anxiety on the part of the public to know more of the antecedents—the struggles, and the triumphs—of the men whom they recognize as leaders; and the other, that of reminding a younger generation, from a contemplation of the lives of great men, that they too, may leave behind them

“Footprints on the sands of Time.”

The scope of the present work renders it impossible to do full justice to any one of the men who have been selected; and on this account the author has made his Sketches more biographical than critical, leaving the reader to reflect on facts rather than on opinions.

To become food for biographers and worms was the two-fold evil of which Rachel spoke shortly before her death. So far as the former terror is concerned, the men who are portrayed in these pages have little to fear. Every care has been taken to secure accuracy of detail, most of the Sketches having been revised by those whom they more directly concern; and the author's aim

has been to be just without severity, and truthful without personality. Humanity is so prone to error that the best men have their failings as well as their virtues; but while it is not desirable to extenuate the former, the biographer is still less warranted in setting them down in malice. Hence the writer has endeavoured to criticise in a kindly and temperate spirit, and to hold up virtues for imitation rather than errors for avoidance.

When these Sketches originally appeared in the columns of the journal with which the writer is connected, it was never intended that they should assume a more permanent form. It was only after witnessing the great amount of interest which they evoked, that he was induced to yield to pressing solicitations by trying to convert what was only a terminable lease into one renewable for ever.

One word more. Since the sketch of Dr. Norman Macleod was in print, that genial, versatile, and accomplished Divine has gone over to the Great Majority. On Sunday forenoon, the 16th of June, he died rather suddenly, although, as he had been ailing for some time previously, his end was not altogether unexpected. In the public prints of both England and Scotland, the tributes paid to his worth and ability have more than justified all that will be found in these pages. From Royalty downwards, his demise has produced a sadness "that passeth show." *Requiescat in pace!*

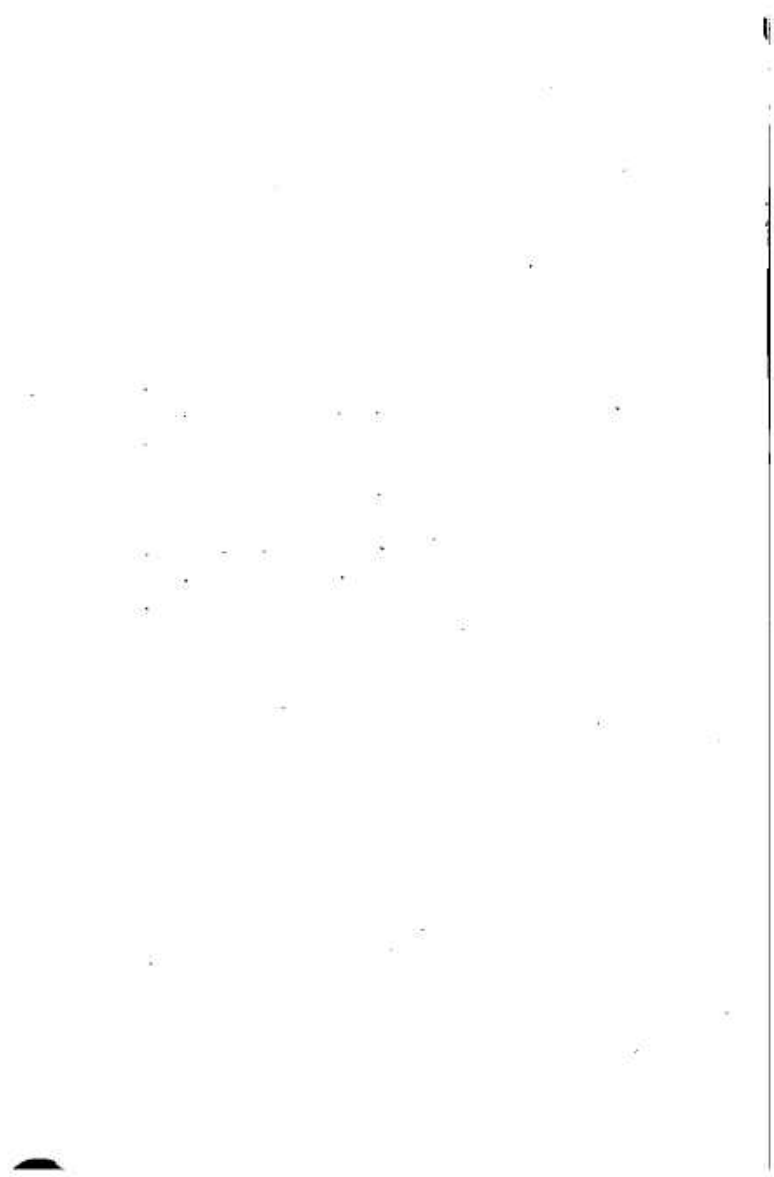
J. S. J.

Glasgow, June 20, 1872.



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## WESTERN WORTHIES.

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### THE DUKE OF ARGYLL.

FOR its size and population Scotland has been remarkably prolific in the rearing of eminent statesmen, soldiers, and *litterateurs*. Viewed with respect to its relative importance as an item in the map of Europe, it has likewise a most chequered and eventful history—a history to which, in various essentials, no counterpart can be found elsewhere. Chiefly, however, has “the land of mountain and of flood” bulked largely in the records of the world, from the stern and heroic character and statesmenlike tendencies of its titled nobility, the lights and shadows of whose characters, as they are developed in the historic page, go a long way towards conferring upon Scotland the distinguishing qualities that have made her famous. As this is not intended to be even a bird’s-eye view of Scottish history, we may have said enough by way of introducing the reader to one of the most noble and illustrious of the hereditary peerage of Scotland. Every schoolboy is more or less familiar with the annals of a race which has been identified through many ages with the interests—political, social, and commercial—of the West of Scotland. The Clan Campbell have been stigmatised as haughty, aggressive, and ambitious. The soft impeachment may be justly merited. Throughout the most exciting and eventful crises of their country’s history, the Campbells have always borne a distinguished and conspicuous part, both in the field of battle and in the Councils