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J. R. N. MACPHAIL

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## HIGHLAND PAPERS

VOLUME I

Edited by J. R. N. MACPHIAIL, K.C.



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1914

### PREFACE

Ar his early death in 1836 Mr. Donald Gregory, whose History of the Western Highlands and Isles of Scotland still remains the standard work on the subject, left behind him a considerable body of MSS. These contain the results of his researches in the public records and in various private charter chests to which he had access, and also include transcripts of various family histories which had been placed at his disposal. Although utilised for his history, these materials are in themselves of great interest and value.

After Mr, Gregory's death these MS, Collections were acquired by the Society of Antiquaries, by whose kindness they have been made available for the purpose of printing such portions as might seem desirable. The present volume is largely drawn from these Collections, though it also contains documents derived from other sources. Its purpose is the modest one of making available to the Society, and through it to all interested in Highland History, some of the original material and recorded tradition on which knowledge of that history must be largely based; but a certain limited amount of annotation and comment has been found necessary.

It is hoped that further Highland Papers may be issued later.

At various places throughout the volume the Editor has sought to recognise the kind help which he has received in its preparation. But he desires here to

#### HIGHLAND PAPERS

acknowledge also the general assistance which he has received from Mr. Hannay and Mr. Yule of the Historieal Department in the Register House, and from Dr. Maitland Thomson.

To the Society of Antiquaries and the Faculty of Advocates the thanks of the Society are due for the courtesy which has made possible the publication of this volume, and to Mr. Mill for the skill and care which he has bestowed on a somewhat troublesome index.

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