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## INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

By M. D. MORRISON, M. D.

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The author of this little book has flattered me by requesting permission to publish as an introduction, an extract from an article that I prepared a short time ago, entitled "The Early Scotch Presbyterian Settlers of Cape Breton." As the extract in question deals with a phase of life in which the "Worthies" were much in evidence, the appropriateness of such a preface may not be called in question. The Reverend Gentleman in issuing this pamphlet has undoubtedly merited the unspeakable gratitude of all who admire the physical courage, the moral worth and the spiritual devotion exemplified in the "Cape Breton Worthies."

M. D. MORRISON, M. D.

Dominion, N. S., March, 1913.

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"I will not attempt, as it would be utterly impossible within the compass of a short paper like this, to narrate all the characteristics of these people. But as it was the religious propensities that marked them pre-eminently I shall now devote a few minutes to a description of their religious customs and practices. At all times they seemed to regard themselves as being under the direct observation of God and as liable to immediate punishment if engaged in wrongdoing. Deprived for the most part of spiritual teaching at the hands of an ordained minister, they found themselves gradually coming under the spiritual influence of a number of talented old men whose names, even to-day, are revered in many a household in our land, and whose work is memorialized on the minutes and records of our Church courts. Mira, in Cape Breton County, and Boulardarie and Middle River, in Victoria County, were the homes of a number of these