

ANNALS
OF THE
NORTH BRITISH SOCIETY
OF
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

THE NORTH BRITISH SOCIETY was the first of those national and patriotic Associations which have been formed in Halifax, having been instituted on the 26th day of March, 1768, in the nineteenth year of the settlement of the City. On the same day Saint Andrew's Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was organized and chartered, having been founded by John Taylor and several others of those who were founders of the Society.

Of the founders, few traces remain, except in the records of these two kindred Associations. A portrait of John Gillespie, the first Moderator of the Society; four letters of John Taylor; several transfers of property by John Geddes, is about all extant; and were it not for their connection with the Society and Lodge their names would have long since been forgotten. The changes which necessarily occur in the lapse of a century have not only affected the membership of the Society, but have effaced some of its prominent characteristics as well. The circumstances connected with the settlement of the Capital, fostered among those of its population who shared not only the same privations and dangers in their new abode, but the same fondness and recollections of the Old Country, a union of feeling and conviviality of spirit, which