

Very few people know to what extent the civilized world is indebted to Scotland for all that we include in the term civilization. A glance at the contents and press notices of this publication may afford some idea of Scotland's share in promoting the world's welfare; and that far more can be said to her credit than is usually ascribed to her in Scottish literature, or mentioned in speeches at the anniversary meetings of Scottish societies. As the work was too large to be all given as a public lecture, only about a third of it has been used for that purpose.