

SERMON.

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"Righteousness exalteth a nation."—PROVERBS XIV; 34.  
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There are three reasons which may justify, and may sometimes demand, the formation of "national" societies in a colony, or indeed in any foreign country. These are: first, that the men who are far from the land of their birth may meet for the mere pleasure of mutual encouragement and fellowship; second, that they may unite for the relief of their distressed fellow-countrymen; third, that they may strive to foster in the land of their adoption the principles which may have given greatness to the land of their birth. Upon Scotchmen each of these motives may rightly exert an influence. With keen enthusiasm they may recall scenes in the land they have left, and enjoy a pure pleasure in the fellowship caused by their common love of country; ever ready to relieve distress, they may lighten the burden of life for that small portion of their fellow-countrymen that are forced to ask the aid of charity; while from Scottish history they may learn what those principles are which give true greatness to a nation, and which they should seek to foster in the land of their adoption. It is to some thoughts connected with this last consideration that, for a little, I ask your attention. No truth seems to be more clearly illustrated by Scottish history than that which we have selected from the words of the wise monarch of Israel as the subject of our present remarks; and the Scotchmen, or descendants of Scotchmen, who are true to the teaching of Scotland's history, and who love the land they live in, will seek to promote in that land the righteousness that exalteth a nation. Time will only permit me to indicate very roughly and briefly some lines of thought which may tend to illustrate the truth before us.