

Influenced by many patriotic motives, the Society recently decided to publish, on a more elaborate scale than heretofore, a third Volume of Records, which would not only cover the intervening ten years since last publication, but would include portraits and short historical notes of our most distinguished Presidents, orators and benefactors, and also of a few conspicuous members, not always office-holders, who had served faithfully the Institution, keeping to this aim—that a history of a body, and not a number of individuals, was the end in view. This very praiseworthy commission was again committed to me to carry out, and in the volume now submitted, I have endeavoured to meet the well-understood wishes of the Society.

Thus, portraits have been inserted of many leading members who, from the foundation in 1768, have in their generation been among the brightest and best of the citizens of Halifax—men whose features and careers are worthy of preservation, and whose names are associated with all that tends to advance the interests of our Society, as well as the intellectual and mercantile progress of our community.

I have to acknowledge the kindness of many friends who so willingly loaned for copy, photos and portraits of valued members which appear in this volume, and also to those who furthered the work by placing at my disposal documents and letters necessary to the framing of the historical notes, which have all greatly facilitated the production of this volume, bringing a connected history of THE NORTH BRITISH SOCIETY of Halifax down to date—one hundred and thirty-five years since its formation, 26th March, 1768.

JAMES S. MACDONALD,

*Historian.*

Saint Andrew's Day, 1903.