

## APPENDIX E

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### AN APPRECIATION

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Extract from a brief biographical sketch of Rev. David Livingstone, L.L.D., D.C.L., the great African explorer, 1858 :

His apology, if one be necessary for giving a genealogy, he finds in the fact that it is not very long, and contains only one incident, of which he has reason to be proud.

He writes as follows :

“Grandfather could give particulars of the lives of his ancestors for six generations of the family before him, and the only point of the tradition I feel proud of is this: One of these poor, hardy islanders was renowned in the district for great wisdom and prudence, and it is related that when he was on his death-bed he called all his children around him and said: ‘Now, in my lifetime, I have searched most carefully through all the traditions I could find of our family, and I never could discover that there was a dishonest man among our forefathers. If, therefore, any of you or any of your children should take to dishonest ways, it will not be because it runs in our blood; it does not belong to you. I leave this precept with you: Be honest.’ If, therefore, in the following pages I fall into any errors, I hope they will be dealt with as honest mistakes, and not as indicating that I have forgotten our ancient motto. This event took place at a time when the Highlanders, according to Macaulay, were much like the Cape Caffres, and anyone, it was said, could escape punishment for cattle-stealing, by presenting a share of the plunder to his chieftain. Our ancestors were Roman Catholics; they were made Protestant by the laird coming round with a man having a yellow staff, which would seem to have attracted more attention than his teaching, for the new religion went long afterwards,