

**THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN AMERICA:  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
SCOTCH-IRISH CONGRESS, AT  
COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE MAY 8-  
11, 1889, PP. 1-207**

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**SCOTCH-IRISH SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

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THOMAS T. WRIGHT.

THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN AMERICA

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Proceedings of the Scotch-Irish Congress

AT

COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

MAY 8-11, 1889

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF  
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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SCOTCH-IRISH SOCIETY OF AMERICA:

In offering this compilation to the Society, and the general public, we do not pretend that it is a complete history of the Scotch-Irish people. That will require the systematic effort of years. As the initial volume of distinctive Scotch-Irish records, however, we believe that it will prove interesting and satisfactory. In the selection and arrangement of the matter contained, we have acted with the advice of the Executive Committee. For the convenience of the reader, the formal addresses, bearing directly upon the race, have been taken from their regular order in the minutes and arranged separately in Part Second.

The addresses are published as they were delivered, and we do not assume any responsibility for the views of the speakers. We bespeak for the volume kindly reception and consideration.

A. C. FLOYD,

LUCIUS FRIERSON,

ROBERT PILLOW,

*Publishing Committee.*

# THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN AMERICA.

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## PART I.

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### INTRODUCTION.

BY ROBERT BONNER

To Mr. Thomas T. Wright, a prominent citizen of Florida, belongs the credit of having suggested the formation of an organization to preserve the history and perpetuate the achievements of the Scotch-Irish race in America. Owing to the efforts of Mr. Wright, who was ably assisted by Mr. A. C. Floyd and other gentlemen, the movement was started which resulted in the grand and successful meeting of the Scotch-Irish Congress at Columbia, Tennessee, in May last, and which led to the permanent organization of the Scotch-Irish Society of America.

It does not come within the purpose, scope or object of this Society to cultivate or in any way encourage sectarian feeling, for people of all denominations are eligible to membership; nor is it the purpose of the Society to stimulate undue pride of race, although it is impossible to ignore the historical fact, so eloquently stated by William Wirt Henry, Esq., a grandson of the great revolutionary orator, that the Scotch-Irish in America have given five Presidents to the United States.

I have been requested to write an introduction to this volume, which gives a carefully prepared report of the action of the late Con-

gress; but it appears to me that a formal or lengthy introduction would be superfluous. The eloquent speeches made during the session of the Congress, and the other proceedings of that body, tell their own story. They exhibit the cordial good will, the patriotic fervor, the indomitable spirit, the tenacity of purpose, and the stern integrity which have always characterized the Scotch-Irish; and it is to be hoped that the Society so auspiciously inaugurated at Columbia will develop, as the years go on, into an organization of the highest usefulness.