CHISOLM GENEALOGY, BEING A RECORD OF THE NAME FROM A. D. 1254; WITH SHORT SKETCHES OF ALLIED FAMILIES

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WILLIAM GARNETT CHISOLM

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BY

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INTRODUCTION

The compilation of the accompanying data is the result of several years of research and effort on the part of the writer, and while it is by no means complete in all details, he trusts it will serve as a foundation for a more comprehensive and exhaustive work on the subject, embracing not only the descendants of Alexander and Christina Chisolm, but also the other branches of the name in America, all of whom have a common Scottish ancestor. In treating of the generations preceding the advent of the family into the Colonies, the writer has drawn freely from Alexander Mackenzie's History of the Chisholms. The record of the name in South Carolina has been compiled from sources believed to be authentic, including family bibles, parish registers, wills, public documents, inscriptions on gravestones, etc. The same method has been followed, when available, in connection with the accounts of the allied families appearing throughout the work. A bibliography of the principal authorities consulted will be found at the end of the book. If, through any mistake, errors have been made, the writer will appreciate being corrected, and will cheerfully make addenda to rectify data which he is convinced is wrong.

The writer wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness

and desires to express his appreciation to the various persons who have so kindly contributed data in their possession. In conclusion he feels that his efforts will not have been in vain if there be awakened a deeper interest in the past and a greater veneration for the deeds and memories of those who, in periods of stress and oppression, endured loss, suffering, expatriation, and even death in their attempts to secure for themselves and their posterity the inestimable blessings of liberty.

WILLIAM GARNETT CHISOLM.

925 CATHEDRAL ST., BALTIMORE, Md., June, 1914.

COAT-OF-ARMS

The Arms borne by the Chisolms of South Carolina, described in Crozier's General Armory, page 28, are the same as those given by Burke for the Chisholms of Strathglass in his Encyclopædia of Heraldry, viz.:

Arms: Gules a boar's head erased argent.

Crest: A dexter hand holding a dagger erect ppr., on the point a boar's head couped gules.

Supporters: Two savages wreathed with laurel about the head and loins, with clubs over their shoulders, ppr.

Mottoes: Vi aut virtute; over crest, Feros ferio.



CHISOLM GENEALOGY

The Chisolms of South Carolina are descended from the cadet house of Knockfin, a branch of the Clan Chisholm, which has been established in Inverness-shire and neighboring counties for nearly six hundred years, being one of the smaller but independent members of that great system peculiar to Scottish Gael. In earlier days the chiefs of the Clan owned vast estates in the Highlands, now decreased through marriage portions and alienation; but as late as 1882 Bateman, in his Great Landowners of Great Britain and Ireland, placed the Chisholm in the first group of forty-four persons holding over 100,000 acres. The principal seat of the family is Erchless Castle, a stately and picturesque old fortalice, situated near the confluence of the Glass and Farrar, in a region unsurpassed for its combination of sylvan beauty and mountain grandeur—about ten miles from the town of Beauly, where, in the midst of a group of old trees, stands the ancient Priory, roofless and neglected-the burial-place of the Lords of Lovat and the Knights of the families of Chisholm and Mackenzie. A report of the Clans furnished the Government by Duncan Forbes in 1745 states that the Chisholms could then place two hundred fighting men in the field. These were mustered from the main house, known as Strath-