

SCOTTISH AUTHORS IN WESTERN CANADA

SCOTLAND has accomplished her full share in the world of authorship. A nation which has produced the world's greatest lyric singer, Robert Burns ; the world's greatest novelist, Sir Walter Scott ; the two greatest historians, Macaulay and Carlyle ; and the two great magazines, *Edinburgh Review* and *Blackwood*, need take a second place to none. Canada is yet young in the field of literary production, but even the Canadian West has done something in the realm of letters. As is natural, narrative writing has been the chief form of intellectual effort, although fiction and even poetry have had their devotees in the Canadian Occident, and these have been followed by writers of Scottish origin. The "ancient" on this field is Sir Alexander Mackenzie, to whom we have already devoted a chapter. He in 1801 published in London his "Voyages." This book was smuggled into France and was translated into French for the great Napoleon when he was contemplating an attack on the rear of Canada by way of the Mackenzie River from the Arctic.

