



ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF PARLIAMENT OF CANADA IN THE YEAR 1892, AT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

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THE LATE SIR DANIEL WILSON, LL.D.



WITH the life and career of the President of Toronto University, the public of Canada, are familiar, for at the time of his death, on the 6th of August last, the daily press of the country, published very full accounts. Sir Daniel Wilson was born in Edinburgh, on the 5th of January, 1816, and was the second son of Mr. Archibald Wilson, a prominent merchant of Auld Reekie. He received his education at the famous High School of that city, and in due time proceeded to the more famous University, where he greatly distinguished himself. Like his brother George, the chemist and professor, he early evinced a taste for science and letters. At the age of twenty-one, he went to London, taking up archæology as a favorite pursuit, and performing literary work for the newspapers, magazines and reviews. Having a natural fondness for art, he devoted much of his time to drawing and engraving, becoming proficient in both departments, in a very short time. He returned to Edinburgh, continued his contributions to the press, assisted the Messrs. Black by writing many of the leading articles in the Encyclopædia Britannica, 8th edition, and edited, with conspicuous ability, the proceedings of the Scottish Antiquary. He loved to wander about the streets of old Edinburgh, and with all the enthusiasm of an

antiquarian, investigated every object of interest, with which he came in contact. The result of his labors found expression in 1847, in his remarkable volume, "Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time," which he illustrated himself, many of his sketches being drawn on wood by his own hand, an art which he had acquired in England. A quarter of a century later, a second edition appeared, and in 1890, the revised edition, sumptuously illustrated, was issued. This work instantly gave him fame, but it was his Pre-historic Annals of Scotland, 1851, which drew the plaudits and encomiums of men high in the field of scientific research, and gave to him a name and a character, which remained with him to the last. In 1863, this able book appeared again, revised and enlarged. Hallam the historian declared it to be the most scientific treatment of the archæological evidences of primitive history which had ever been written, an opinion which was shared by the most eminent scientists of the day. Among such leaders in the field of investigation, Dr. Wilson enjoyed an enviable place, while his position in all literary and educational circles was not less exalted. In 1853, through the good offices of Lord Elgin, influenced, it is said, by Hallam's statement, he was appointed professor of History and English Literature at University College, Toronto. From that date until his death, he has been identified with the growth