

George Wilson, Director of the Industrial Museum of Scotland, has been appointed.

The establishment of this chair has excited considerable interest on account of its being new, not only to the University of Edinburgh, but also to all the British Colleges, although it always has its place in the Continental seats of learning. Moreover, the real meaning of the term, and the extent and range of subject embraced by the professorship, were so little understood, as to give rise in the minds of some to apprehensions of interference with already existing chairs. Professor Wilson, in his inaugural and introductory lecture, has defined very clearly the meaning of the term and the extent of the science, and has shown at the same time that his teaching need not in the slightest degree interfere with that of his brother professors.

Technology, the *Science of the Arts*, or, as generally restricted, the *Science of the Useful Arts*, has never heretofore been admitted as a separate branch of study in any of our Universities, although from the practical nature of the subjects treated of, it must be allowed to be one of the greatest importance. Great advantages must undoubtedly be derived from young men, when about to enter on the world, having an opportunity of attending lectures in which the various manufactures are minutely described, the numerous improvements which are constantly taking place elucidated, and the scientific principles on which the varied processes depend, fully explained.

In the instance now referred to, and under the present talented incumbent, we may expect that the usefulness of the chair will be very great, and widely acknowledged, especially from its connection with that exceedingly valuable institution, the National and Industrial Museum of Scotland.

“The Industrial Arts included in the domain of Technology admit of a simple division into mechanical and chemical arts, according as they are mainly related to Physics or to Chemistry.” It is to the latter division that Professor Wilson’s attention will be principally directed, although several of the subjects of which he proposes to treat, belong more strictly to the former; for instance, the process of carding, spinning and weaving; the use of electricity in the electric telegraph; the employment of the same agent in electrotyping, and the action of light in photography. The two latter subjects stand midway, as it were, between the physical and the chemical divisions. Among the subjects which are properly treated of in a course of lectures on Technology, the following may be mentioned: The economy of heat and light, the different means of ventilation, the nature and proper-