

# THE CANADIAN JOURNAL.

NEW SERIES.

No. LXIV.—JANUARY, 1867.

---

---

## SIR WILLIAM HAMILTON'S PHILOSOPHY: AN EXPOSITION AND CRITICISM.

BY THE REV. J. CLARK MURRAY,

PROFESSOR OF MENTAL AND MORAL PHILOSOPHY, QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON.

---

### I. SCOTTISH PHILOSOPHY.

I propose to present in this Journal a series of articles on Sir William Hamilton and his philosophy. Whatever value one may ascribe to the work which Sir William has performed in the world, it cannot be doubted that he is the representative of a very extensive philosophical school at the present day, and that for some time it will be required by friends and foes alike, that that school shall be estimated as it is represented in his writings. The philosophy, of which Hamilton is the most distinguished exponent, he regards as being identical, in its fundamental positions, with that which is known in our histories of philosophy as the *Scottish School*; and it is consequently of importance, if it be not absolutely necessary, in order to the scientific comprehension of Hamilton's philosophy itself, that it should be studied in its relation to the national philosophy of his country, of which it is ostensibly an exposition and defence. I shall