

been long an eminent medical practitioner in Kirkwall. His son-in-law, Mr. Baikie, went back to his native island in bad health, and a fatal affection of the lungs soon cut him off; but he departed in peace, and his affectionate widow and fatherless children have been spared and blest by their common Father in Heaven.

In the end of October, 1801, I left the Grammar School for Edinburgh College, being twelve years and a-half old, certainly too young, and yet I was reading Juvenal and Livy, and was able to read and construe through the Greek New Testament, at least the Gospels. Our Humanity Professor was Dr. John Hill, author of the quarto volume of "Synonymes of the Latin Language," and the life of Dr. Hugh Blair. He was a man of eccentric character, and withal very narrow in his habits, but of great acuteness, ready wit, and admirable skill in clothing conceptions, often original, in English words, always pure and racy. To the young men of the second year, he gave weekly lectures on three subjects—Roman Antiquities, Universal Grammar, and the principles of Natural and Commercial Policy. Of these he put a scanty synopsis into our hands, but what would I not give, even yet, for the originals themselves, as they came from his lips! Our class-room in the old college was dark and glum, and he had a slender and cheaply-constructed lamp to assist his vision, even at broad day, and it was a great amusement to the boys to see it occasionally blinking.

Our Greek Professor was Andrew Dalzel, A.M., who had studied for the church, but who, being an apt and elegant scholar, and having interest with the patrons of the Edinburgh chairs, turned aside—in the professional sense I mean—from the pathways of Zion, to the heights of Parnassus and of Helicon. He was a most amiable and worthy man, and he kept his class always in good order, which Dr. Hill never did nor could do.

But of all the Professors in the Arts Department in those days, Dr. James Finlayson, the occupant of the chair of Logic and Metaphysics, was by far the best. He was comparatively young when called to succeed John Bruce,