

PREFATORY NOTE

No introduction is required to the "autobiographical notes," comprising this little volume, nor will one be attempted. Whilst it has been a labour of love to us, his sons, to read over, and arrange, the somewhat hastily compiled notes left by our father, we desire neither to take credit, nor to assume responsibility, for the result,—as now placed before the public. This book, is Sir William Dawson's own account of his life and work, and is, by his express wish, presented in his own words. From beginning to end, it is his, and his alone! That it does not claim to be a biography, in any proper sense, it is needless to state; nor, is it necessary to apologise, for omissions, and lack of continuity. It was never