

not permit him to conceal, that this task, undertaken amidst accumulated and oppressive engagements, was performed with a disinterestedness which was worthy of the fine sensibility and ample benevolence of his nature. A memoir of Mr. Hall was prefixed to the sixth volume of his works, from the pen of Dr. Gregory, which is certainly one of the happiest of his published productions. It evinces the most thorough knowledge of Mr. Hall's character, and is so full of tenderness, mingled with admiration, that none who had the intellect to appreciate the subject, or the heart to sympathize with the biographer, can peruse it without deep emotion.

But the scantiness of the space which can be afforded to these memoirs, compels the writer to hurry from a part of his narrative which he could enrich with anecdote, and on which he would dwell with delight, to a brief sketch of Dr. Gregory's literary and scientific career. In the year 1801, he wrote his admirable treatise on astronomy, which he dedicated to his friend Dr. Hutton; and in the following year commenced his connexion with the Stationers' Company, all whose almanacs, we believe, he subsequently edited. About the same time he undertook the editorship of an Encyclopædia of arts and sciences, known by the name of the *Pantologia*. This work was published in twelve thick and closely printed volumes, and more than half the articles it contains were written by Dr. Gregory himself. Its publication commenced in the year 1808, and closed in 1813. In the midst of the preparation of this voluminous work, Dr. Gregory composed his celebrated treatise on *Mechanics*, in three octavo volumes, the first edition of which appeared in 1806. This work has passed through numerous editions; it is extensively used in England and America, and, through a German translation, has been introduced to the continental universities.

It is necessary here to notice one most important incident in Dr. Gregory's history. The enlargement of the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, occasioned the creation of a new mathematical mastership, to which, through the influence of Dr. Hutton, Mr. Gregory was

appointed. From that period, his great abilities as a mathematician had a wider theatre for their development. And, in 1821, he was promoted to the professor's chair. This position he filled for many years with the most distinguished success, and had the happiness of ranking among his pupils and his friends, many whose subsequent distinction has fully attested the value of his instructions. Shortly after his removal to Woolwich, he received from Mareschal College, Aberdeen, the degree of M.A.; and subsequently was presented from the same quarter with the diploma of Doctor of laws.

In the midst, however, of the multifarious scientific engagements of Dr. Gregory, he was not unmindful of higher and more important subjects. And, in the year 1811, he published his justly celebrated *Letters on the evidences, doctrines, and duties of the Christian religion*. It is not too much to say, that this is one of the soundest and most valuable works upon the subject that English literature can boast. Its circulation in Great Britain, India, and America, has been very extensive; and the letter on mysteries, and that on the divinity of the Saviour, have been translated into the French language, and widely circulated in France. The usefulness of this admirable book, in the reclamation of infidels, and the conversion of persons previously indifferent to the great truths of the Christian religion, doubtless afforded to its author more real happiness than his high and well-earned fame could bestow. It was elaborately reviewed at its first appearance in many of the periodical works of the day, but in none with more fidelity, and power, and beauty, than in the *Eclectic Review*, by his friend Mr. Hall. In 1816, Dr. Gregory gave to the world his work on plane and spherical trigonometry; and in the following year accompanied M. Biot and Captain Colby to the Shetland Islands, in order to make some astronomical observations, and experiments with pendulums, for the purpose of determining the figure of the earth. In the further prosecution of these efforts of scientific enterprise, Dr. Gregory united himself with eleven other gentlemen, in the foundation of the Royal Astronomical Society of London, to which he filled the office of