

fied or abandoned. Nevertheless, that the doctrine of progressive development may contain in it the germs of a true theory, I am far from denying. The consideration of this question will come before you when the age of the White Sandstone of Elgin is discussed—a rock hitherto referred to the Old Red, or Devonian formation, but now ascertained to contain several reptilian forms, of so high an organisation as to raise a doubt in the minds of many geologists whether so old a place in the series can correctly be assigned to it.

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*The Late Professor George Wilson of Edinburgh.*

We observe with deep regret the announcement of the decease of this excellent and able man. In the great work of wedding science to the useful arts, and in the power of making its hardest truths intelligible and acceptable to the common mind he has left few equals and no superior. We copy the following notice from the "Scottish Press":

THE death of Professor George Wilson is an event with cannot but be deeply and widely felt. By many amongst us it will be deplored as a grievous personal loss, to the interests of science generally, it is great indeed, but to the University of Edinburgh it may almost be said to be irreparable. We have no wish to magnify the acquirements of the dead at the expense of those of the living, nor would we wish it to be thought that we write under a sense of despondency occasioned by the removal of one who was as wise and kind a counsellor; but Dr. George Wilson's connection with the University and the department of science in which he laboured so ardently until the close of his life was in one sense so peculiar as to justify the remark we have made. The Chair of Technology which he was destined to fill for so short a time, was not so much created for him as by him. The foundation of his Professorship was, so to speak, only the recognition of his untiring efforts for the advancement of truth and the application of science to the industrial arts. It was felt not only that he was the best man who could be selected, but that he was the only man who fulfilled all the conditions necessary to render such a professorship as that of Technology permanently effective. The saying that thoroughly original men not only make their own instru-