

THE  
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**PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL,**

EXHIBITING A VIEW OF  
THE PROGRESS OF DISCOVERY IN NATURAL PHILOSOPHY,  
CHEMISTRY, NATURAL HISTORY, PRACTICAL MECHANICS,  
GEOGRAPHY, NAVIGATION, STATISTICS, AND THE FINE  
AND USEFUL ARTS,

FROM  
APRIL 1. TO OCTOBER 1. 1823.

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CONDUCTED BY  
DR BREWSTER AND PROFESSOR JAMESON.

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*TO BE CONTINUED QUARTERLY.*

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1823.

ART. XXII.—*Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.*  
(Continued from Vol. VIII. p. 386.)

March 17.—**A**T this Meeting, a paper was read by James Smith, Esq. of Jordanhill, giving an account of an undescribed Vitri-fied Fort, in the Burnt Isles of the Kyles of Bute.

At this meeting a paper by Dr Brewster was read, containing *Additional Observations establishing the existence of two New Fluids, possessing remarkable Physical properties, in the Cavities of Topaz, and other minerals.* An abstract of this paper is published in the present Number, p. 94.

A notice by Sir George S. Mackenzie, Bart. was read to the Society, respecting the Vertebra of a Whale, found in a bed of dark-bluish clay, near Dingwall, three miles from high-water mark. The height above the sea where this vertebra was found was 12 feet. The date of its deposition must have been very remote, as the great mass of gravel which the rivers of the country cut through, is a deposition subsequent to the clay which it covers, and in many places peat-mosses have been formed above the gravel. Sir George Mackenzie presented the vertebra to the Society's Museum.

April 7.—A paper, entitled, *Botanical Sketches of the Cleish Hills*, by George Walker Arnott, Esq. was read.

On the same evening, Dr Hibbert read a paper *On the Volcanic Origin of the appearances of Vitri-fication on Finhaven Hill in Angusshire.*

April 21.—A paper by Dr Brewster was read, *On the Properties of the two New Fluids found in Minerals, when taken out of the cavities; and on the existence of an insulated group of Crystals of Calcareous-spar in an Aqueous Cavity in Quartz.*

Specimens of the Fossil Bones found in the Hyæna Cave of Kirkdale, in Yorkshire, were presented to the Society by James Skene, Esq.

At the same Meeting, a notice respecting the White Copper of China, in a letter from John Barker, Esq. to Gilbert Laing Meason, Esq. was read. A specimen of the metal was presented by Mr Meason to the Society, for the purpose of analysis.

Captain J. D. Boswall, R. N. read a notice respecting the possibility of removing one of the Alexandrian Obelisks to England, which had been presented to Geo. IV. by Ali Pacha. Captain Boswall presented to the Society two Lithographic Drawings of both the Obelisks, the original plans and measurements of which were taken when he had the command of one of his Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean, in 1821.

*May 5.*—At this Meeting the following gentlemen were elected Ordinary Members of the Society.

Capt. Thomas David Stewart, of the Hon.  
East India Company's Service.

Andrew Fyfe, M. D.  
Robert Bell, Esq. Advocate.

The Rev. Dr Lee read a continuation of *Observations on the Life and Character of Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh.*

Sir William Hamilton, Bart. read a paper *On the original Identity of the First and Second Aorists in the formation of the Greek Verb.*

*May 19.*—A paper by Dr Yule was read, *On certain Organic Remains, apparently Tropical; and on two varieties of Maize, which have ripened their Seeds in Mid-Lothian last summer, in the open air.*

*June 2.*—The following gentlemen were elected Ordinary Members of the Society.

Capt. Norwich Duff, R. N.

Liscombe John Curtis, Esq.

Warren Hastings Anderson, Esq.

Alexander Thomson, Esq.

At this Meeting Captain Basil Hall gave an account, illustrated by Drawings, of Mr Perkins's recent Discoveries and Inventions respecting the Steam-Engine.

*June 17.*—A paper was read, *On the Comparative Anatomy of the Human Eye, by Robert Knox, M. D.*

At the same Meeting was read an Account of some Electro-Magnetic Experiments made in the University of Utrecht. By Dr Van Beek, Major-General Baron Van Zuylen, Van Nyevelt, and Professor Moll. See this Number, p. 167.

Sir William Hamilton concluded his *Observations on the First and Second Aorists of the Greek Verb.*

A Description of Hopeite, a new Mineral, from Aix-la-Chapelle, by Dr Brewster, was also read.

The Society adjourned its Meetings till Monday, the 3d of November.