

*Committee of Science.*

Sir William R. Hamilton, LL. D. ; Rev. Humphrey Lloyd, D. D. ; James Apjohn, M. D. ; Robert Ball, LL. D. ; Sir Robert Kane, M. D. ; George J. Allman, M. D. ; Rev. Samuel Haughton, A. M.

*Committee of Polite Literature.*

Rev. William H. Drummond, D. D. ; Rev. Charles W. Wall, D. D. ; John Anster, LL. D. ; Rev. Charles Graves, D. D. ; Rev. Samuel Butcher, D. D. ; Digby P. Starkey, Esq. ; Rev. John H. Jellett, A. M.

*Committee of Antiquities.*

George Petrie, LL. D. ; Rev. James H. Todd, D. D. ; J. Huband Smith, Esq., A. M. ; Frederick W. Burton, Esq. ; Samuel Ferguson, Esq. ; Aquilla Smith, M. D. ; the Earl of Dunraven.

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The Rev. Humphrey Lloyd, D. D., having left the Chair, and John Anster, LL. D., V. P., having been called thereto,

IT WAS RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,—That the most sincere and affectionate thanks of the Royal Irish Academy be, and that they are hereby presented, to their late President, the Rev. Humphrey Lloyd, D. D., for the dignity, diligence, and zeal, with which he has filled their chair, and otherwise attended to the interests of their body, during the last five years.

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Sir William R. Hamilton communicated to the Academy a generalization of Pascal's theorem, to which he had been led by the method of quaternions.

Equation of Homodeuterism :  $\Sigma (\pm ABCDEF.GHIK) = 0$  ;

ABCDEF = *aconic* function of a hexagon ;

GHIK = volume of a pyramid.

Sir Wm. R. Hamilton proposes to give a more full explanation of the nature of this equation of *homodeuterism*, and of

what he calls the *aconic* function of a hexagon, at a future meeting of the Academy. The equation itself was exhibited by him to some scientific friends so long ago as the August and September of 1849; and also at the Meeting of the British Association, at Edinburgh, in 1850.

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APRIL 14TH, 1851.

THOMAS ROMNEY ROBINSON, D. D., PRESIDENT,  
in the Chair.

JOHN BARKER, M. B., and William Kelly, M. D., were elected Members of the Academy.

George Petrie, LL. D., presented a specimen of a vitrified font in the County of Derry.

The President delivered an inaugural Address.

IT WAS RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,—That the President be requested to allow his Address to be printed in the Proceedings.

The President's Address was as follows :

GENTLEMEN,—It is my first duty to express my grateful acknowledgment of the honour which you have conferred on me; an honour high in the estimation of mankind, highest in mine. Other titles are attained most frequently by the accidents of position or birth; are even sometimes acquired by means which are positively degrading: they are occasionally the prizes of successful intrigue; sometimes even the reward of crime. They are, therefore, no accurate exponents of an individual's superiority in that which constitutes the real nobility of man; their value is conventional, rated highest by the meanest minds, and negative, an actual dishonour, unless they be accompanied by the more sterling decorations of wisdom and virtue. But it is far otherwise with this. In naming me your chief, you have given me the first rank in a Society where all are noble; a Society whose franchise is based on personal excellence, on moral worth, on intellectual superiority; whose