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Account of his Writings: Volume 1
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Frontmatter
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William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge

William Whewell (1794–1866) was born the son of a Lancaster carpenter, but his precocious intellect soon delivered him into a different social sphere. Educated at a local grammar school, he won a scholarship to Cambridge, and began his career at Trinity College in 1812; he went on to be elected a fellow of Trinity in 1817 and Master in 1841. An acquaintance of William Wordsworth and a friend of Adam Sedgwick, his professional interests reflected a typically nineteenth-century fusion of religion and science, ethics and empiricism. Published in 1876, and written by the mathematician and fellow of St John's College, Isaac Todhunter (1820–84), this biography combines a narrative account of Whewell's life and achievements with extracts taken from his personal correspondence. Volume 1 covers his sermons and early poetry, as well as his work on tides, moral philosophy and mechanics, and his celebrated study of the inductive sciences.

Cambridge University Press

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Cambridge University Press

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge

An Account of his Writings

VOLUME 1

EDITED BY ISAAC TODHUNTER



Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Cambridge University Press

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Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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MASTER OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

AN ACCOUNT OF HIS WRITINGS.

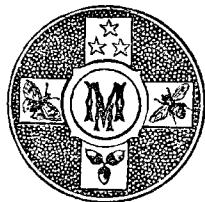
Cambridge University Press

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)



Cambridge University Press

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Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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MASTER OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

AN ACCOUNT OF HIS WRITINGS

WITH SELECTIONS FROM HIS LITERARY AND
SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

BY I. TODHUNTER, M.A. F.R.S.

HONORARY FELLOW OF ST JOHN'S COLLEGE.

VOL. I.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
Account of his Writings: Volume 1
Edited by Isaac Todhunter
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

P R E F A C E.

THE late Dr Whewell died on March 6th, 1866. He had appointed as executors of his will two Fellows of Trinity College, Mr Mathison, then Senior Tutor, and Mr J. L. Hammond, then Senior Bursar of the College; but no person was specially charged with the duty of attending to the literary and scientific correspondence and manuscripts. It was at one time supposed that Mr Mathison would have examined these papers with a view to the publication of some of them; but he left college for the living of Dickleburgh in Norfolk, in 1868, and died on October 11th, 1870. Some attempts were made to obtain an editor, who would arrange the materials and write a biography of Dr Whewell, but without success. In the course of these attempts application was made to two distinguished members of Trinity College; but want of sufficient leisure in one case, and failing health in the other, constituted insuperable obstacles.

In October, 1872, I was requested to undertake the work by Dr Whewell's nearest surviving relative, through the Bishop of Carlisle, and I accepted the honourable though difficult task. The correspondence and literary remains were to be placed at my disposal, and a short memoir of Dr Whewell's life was to be drawn up by a member of his family. It was afterwards suggested that a part of the work should be devoted to the College and University career of Dr Whewell. Two members of Trinity College, to whom this was successively entrusted,

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi

PREFACE.

were unable to carry it on; but it has been recently arranged that this part shall find a place in the forthcoming memoir of Dr Whewell's life.

I need scarcely say that I engaged in the work without any presumptuous hope that I was competent to appreciate the wide extent of learning for which Dr Whewell was so justly famous; I simply resolved to do the best which my ability and application would allow. On some of the subjects which would necessarily come before me I had expended considerable time; with others I was moderately acquainted; and where I was almost entirely unprepared I enjoyed the great advantage which accompanies a long residence at Cambridge, namely the facility of appeal to those who possess the requisite knowledge, and are most liberal in communicating it.

It was obviously impossible for me to undertake the duty of editor without the concurrence of all who had the right and the privilege to feel interested in the great reputation of the late Master of Trinity College; and my first care was to ascertain that my engaging in it would not be unwelcome to the members of that great foundation. I received from the present Master, and from Fellows of the College, such kind assurance of interest as effectually relieved me from all anxiety with respect to the apparent intrusion of a stranger into a field which might have been supposed closed against him. Mr Hammond, the surviving executor of Dr Whewell's will, entered most cordially into the design; and during the whole time which has been occupied in the work his services have been promptly and skilfully given. The assistance of his successor in the office of Senior Bursar of Trinity College, Mr Aldis Wright, has always been immediately rendered to my application. Nor must I fail to record my obligations to Sir G. B. Airy for the benefit I have obtained from correspondence and long conversations with

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
Account of his Writings: Volume 1
Edited by Isaac Todhunter
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

PREFACE.

vii

him, and for access to his large and well-arranged collection of papers. To Mr Bushby of St John's College, a contemporary of Dr Whewell, I am deeply indebted; the treasures of information amassed during a long and observant career, and preserved in a singularly tenacious memory, have always been accessible to me, and have immediately solved many questions which it would have required much time and labour, perhaps after all spent in vain, in order to investigate.

The materials submitted to my attention consisted of two sets, namely those which had been left by Dr Whewell himself, and those which were lent to me by his friends and correspondents. I will speak first of the former set. These constituted a mass formidable on account of its extent and the confusion into which it was thrown; and if the whole of it had come into my hands at once, I should scarcely have felt sufficient energy to undertake the labour of disentangling and studying the manuscripts and letters. But the papers reached me by instalments, and at intervals, and thus I never quite lost my resolution in dealing with them. It would be difficult to convey an idea of the hopeless disorder in which the papers were involved; for though Dr Whewell was fond of Bacon's remark, that truth emerges more easily from error than from confusion, he did not conform to it in his own practice. It is scarcely too much to say that the letters and manuscripts of a long life of incessant literary activity were thrown into one promiscuous heap.

It has been my main business to reduce this chaos into a condition of intelligible arrangement, and I venture to hope that this has been accomplished with as much success as the efforts of one person were likely to secure. The manuscripts are now carefully sorted and catalogued; so that it will be easy henceforward for any specialist, if necessary, to consult

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
Account of his Writings: Volume 1
Edited by Isaac Todhunter
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

all those belonging to the matter in which he may be interested. It had been a constant habit with Dr Whewell to fasten together rudely by pins leaves of manuscripts relating to the same subject; this insecure process in the course of time had generally failed, for the pins had sadly mangled the leaves, and had allowed many to escape: a neater and safer mode of connexion has been substituted for this rough treatment. With respect to the nature of the principal manuscripts I may refer to pages 147, 277, 339, and 345 of the first volume of the present work.

A large collection of letters written to Dr Whewell exists; but there is something capricious as to the rule of preservation. It certainly was not entirely a case of the survival of the fittest; for many communications remain of almost imperceptible interest, while on the other hand it becomes evident on close examination that some of considerable importance have disappeared. But on the whole the collection is remarkable both for extent and value. The number is about 3,500; without naming writers who are still living, many of them are from such men as Brewster, De Morgan, Faraday, Forbes, Hallam, Hare, Herschel, Jones, Lubbock, Lyell, Macaulay, Malthus, Murchison, Quetelet, Sedgwick, Sheepshanks, Stephen, Thirlwall. These letters are now disposed in alphabetical order and catalogued. The *envelopes* had not been preserved by Dr Whewell, so that the destruction of them is not to be attributed to those who have had the care of his papers since his decease. Dr Whewell occasionally fastened letters into printed books with which they were in some measure connected; his large library was sold at his death, except about 2,000 volumes, which by his will, and by the gift of his sister, Trinity College was allowed to select. It is possible that among the volumes thus dispersed some letters of importance may exist, and hereafter be printed.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
Account of his Writings: Volume 1
Edited by Isaac Todhunter
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

PREFACE.

ix

Among Dr Whewell's own papers were two sets of letters written by himself, namely those to Mr Jones and those to Mr Hare. The former were returned by Mr Jones as may be seen from page 370 of the second volume of this work; the latter were, I believe, returned by the widow of Mr Hare, but I have seen no record of the fact.

The second set of materials submitted to my attention consisted of letters written by Dr Whewell and lent to me by his correspondents, or by their representatives. For these applications was made in some cases by myself personally, but in most cases through a letter written by Mr Hammond and printed in various newspapers. My most sincere thanks are due for the kindness with which these requests for the loan of letters were received and answered, though they must frequently have caused much trouble by requiring the examination of old collections of papers. I have returned to their owners all the letters lent to me. On the whole I have examined more than 1000 letters written by Dr Whewell, including those to Mr Jones and to Mr Hare.

When all the materials were brought into an accessible state, it remained to discover the best mode of dealing with them; and this was a matter of great difficulty. A life devoted to literature and science, and unconnected with public events, cannot be made so widely interesting as to justify considerable bulk and consequent expense in printing; thus economy of space became necessary. Of letters written to Dr Whewell it seemed on various grounds that only an extremely sparing use could be made. The *right* to publish such letters could be obtained only from the correspondents themselves, or their legal representatives; and it became evident on enquiry that in some cases these letters would appear, if published at all, in biographies of the writers. Moreover such letters, however interesting,

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

PREFACE.

illustrate the character and attainments of the writers themselves rather than of the person to whom they may be addressed; and Dr Whewell was to be the prominent object of the present work. After much consideration it was finally arranged that two volumes should be published, one containing a full account of the literary and scientific career of Dr. Whewell, with a few extracts from his unpublished manuscripts, and the other consisting of a selection from his own letters; and this design has been carried out in the work now produced.

In the first volume it has been my intention to record every edition of every book, and also to notice, at least briefly, every article or memoir, of which Dr Whewell was the author. I trust it will not be considered that I have gone into too much detail; if so, I must solicit indulgence on the ground that a taste for the history of science not unfrequently involves some fondness for bibliographical minuteness and accuracy. I hope that in any future publication connected with the subject, even if additions are necessary to supply accidental omissions, there will be but few errors to correct. I have been solicitous to guard against the obtrusion of my own opinions and judgment, being desirous of making known Dr Whewell himself, his pursuits and attainments, and not of obscuring them by any interpretation of mine. Accordingly I have confined myself to a few remarks in connexion with those subjects which the course of my studies had brought specially under my attention; and as to these I have not hesitated to record occasionally my dissent from the conclusions at which Dr Whewell arrived: but I have in general merely indicated this without attempting to enforce my own opinion. The range of subjects which had to be included is so wide, that I fear I shall seem in many cases to touch too lightly, and dismiss too hastily, what required more elaborate discussion, if I had been capable of

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE.

xi

supplying it. In fact the variety of studies to which Dr Whewell turned his inexhaustible energy forms the obstacle which prevents the general reader from retaining his interest throughout volumes like the present.

It will be observed that chronological order has been followed, with certain slight deviations, which are however rather nominal than real. I have usually, when giving an account of a work, anticipated so far as to include the subsequent editions in the Chapter which discusses the first; I have grouped together all the publications which relate to a single well-defined subject, as Mechanics, the Tides, Moral Philosophy, and Poetry; and I have collected in one Chapter notices of all the scientific memoirs except those on the Tides. Thus if a reader wishes to determine the exact employment of any specified year of Dr Whewell's life, it will be necessary to consider, besides what may be explicitly assigned to that year, reprints of works already in circulation, scientific memoirs, and publications included in the Chapters which are devoted to single subjects.

Sketches of Dr Whewell's life have already appeared in various publications, which were useful to me in the early stages of my engagement on the present work: these I will now mention. An article in *Macmillan's Magazine* for April, 1866, by W. G. Clark, Public Orator in the University of Cambridge. An account in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, Vol. xvi. by Sir J. Herschel. An account in the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, Vol. xxvii. The article in Allibone's *Dictionary of British and American Authors* is valuable, as it records the periodicals in which reviews are given of various books written by Dr Whewell: I have however in adverting to reviews confined myself to those with which I became acquainted by independent study, and by the

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xii

PREFACE.

aid of a large collection preserved among Dr Whewell's papers. A correspondent, who was well acquainted with Dr Whewell, informs me that a very good account of him appeared soon after his death in a German periodical entitled *Unsere Zeit*. Sir H. Holland in his *Recollections of Past Life*, and Mr De Morgan in his *Budget of Paradoxes* give interesting notices of Dr Whewell. I did not see, until after my first volume was printed, a brief memoir drawn up by Sir D. Brewster, as President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and published in the *Proceedings* of that body, Vol. VI. It is pleasing to observe that the aged philosopher speaks in gentle and respectful language over the tomb of one with whom he had been so often in controversy. Twelve years had elapsed since the last contest, which related to the *Plurality of Worlds*, and Sir D. Brewster devotes a third of his space to this book. He again records his protest against it; but he allows that, notwithstanding all the paradoxes of Dr Whewell's *Essay*, posterity "will forgive its author on account of the noble sentiments, the lofty aspirations, and the suggestions almost divine, which mark his closing chapter on the future of the universe."

Two small errors as to time run through most of the accounts which I have seen of Dr Whewell's life: it is generally stated that he was ordained *soon* after taking his M.A. degree, whereas some years intervened between the two dates; and that a few *months*, instead of only a few *days*, intervened between his marriage and his appointment to the Mastership of his College.

In the strictly chronological part of my first volume, which reaches to the end of the thirteenth Chapter, I have in general abstained from the use of the words *Professor* or *Doctor*, except when they were strictly applicable; but in the remaining Chapters I have found it convenient to employ throughout the term

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE.

xiii

Dr Whewell, which is usually correct, and is the most familiar to us at the present time. The matter is not of great importance, but writers of biographical works seem frequently unduly lax. In a volume recently published I find under the date 1827 a conversation recorded which begins thus: "Lord Brougham, you must be aware."

I pass to my second volume; this consists of letters written by Dr Whewell. From the large collection entrusted to me I have selected those which throw most light on the character and pursuits of the writer; always however with the limitation that the names of living persons should be rarely introduced. There are, I think, grave objections to the practice, common in recent times, of publishing indiscriminately remarks written in the confidence of familiar friendship, which were never intended to travel beyond the person immediately addressed. The letters which constitute my second volume belong rather to the earlier than to the later period of Dr Whewell's life; and this would naturally be the case from the circumstance that the more modern correspondence contains frequent allusions to persons still living, or recently deceased, and so cannot with propriety be introduced. There is however another point to be noticed. In Dr Whewell's earlier days the expense of postage prevented all correspondence on mere trifles, and consequently letter writing was a more serious and responsible occupation than it is at present; moreover the opportunities of personal intercourse were rarer than they are now. Hence, to use one of Dr Whewell's own words, correspondents strove to make their letters *postworthy*. But in our time the facility of communication diminishes the importance of it, so that brief and hasty notes are found sufficient for the purposes of society; and thus letter writing is likely to become a lost art, or to survive only in the case of families in which some members reside in

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xiv

PREFACE.

India or the colonies, where the interchange of opinion and information may still retain the gravity and importance of older days. Dr Whewell's letters in his younger years are remarkable for their neat and accurate execution; whole pages occur written in the most regular manner without any erasure or correction, and composed with an obvious regard to literary effect. The notes of his later years, though still free from marks of correction, are short and unstudied.

The letters are arranged chronologically, and the whole series contains a good account of the many subjects which at various times gained the attention of the busy writer: indeed, they may be said to amount almost to an autobiography. Dr Whewell often made a mistake as to the year in dating a letter, retaining the *old* year after it had passed away; the wrong date is naturally most frequent at the commencement of a *new* year, but it is occasionally to be seen when the year was some weeks or even months old. These mistakes have been silently corrected; it is possible, though not very likely, that some have escaped detection.

After the Preface will be found brief notices of the persons to whom the letters are addressed.

The names of the persons to whom the letters are addressed are placed at the top of the pages; I have given to the name the *last* form which it assumed, which is generally that which is now most familiar to us, though very often it is not chronologically exact.

Some passages have been omitted from the letters; these in general relate to matters of no public interest. Any remarks made by myself in the text of the second volume are included between square brackets. A few notes have also been added. It would have been easy to extend these greatly, but economy of space was an important consideration. Often a reference to

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
 Account of his Writings: Volume 1
 Edited by Isaac Todhunter
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

PREFACE.

xv

the part of the first volume which corresponds in date will sufficiently explain the object of some brief allusion; take for example that on page 132 to a paper of an amusing kind. The date shews that this must be one of three, namely, those on *English Adjectives*, on *Clipt Words*, and on the *Use of Definitions*: see Vol. i. pages 61, 62, 65.

The letters contain the names of many persons: these may be considered to form three classes.

In the first class we may put the names of persons eminent in literature or science, which must be familiar to all readers of this work; for example, Arago, Brewster, Coleridge, Laplace, Mackintosh, Malthus, Mill, Ricardo, Thirlwall, Wordsworth, Young.

In the second class we may put the names of persons of University distinction or position; which, though well known at Cambridge, are less familiar to the general reader. If the date at which a person took his B.A. degree at the University is approximately known, it is usually easy by the aid of the *Cambridge Calendar* to ascertain his subsequent career. For example, take the names mentioned on page 34 of the candidates for fellowships at Trinity College. The first four names occur in the mathematical tripos list for 1818, with notes of information against the first three; the last name occurs in the mathematical tripos list for 1817. If the date at which the degree of B.A. was taken is not known, it may be found by consulting the *Graduati Cantabrigienses*, and then as before the *Cambridge Calendar* will supply information.

The third class of names consists of such as for various reasons there may be some difficulty in identifying; the context will however often sufficiently explain the reference. On pages xxvii and xxviii will be found a list of some of these names with brief indications respecting them. Some of the

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
Account of his Writings: Volume 1
Edited by Isaac Todhunter
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

xvi

PREFACE.

allusions however are now not intelligible; nor can it be surprising that in a series of letters extending over the duration of a long life names and circumstances should be mentioned which seem at the present time quite forgotten.

Of the letters written *to* Dr Whewell I have made no explicit use, except to the extent of a few extracts, almost all in my first volume. It will be easy at any time to publish a selection from these and from the remainder of those written *by* Dr Whewell; but every year of delay will naturally augment the number available for use. In saying this I must guard myself from conveying the impression that the correspondence contains what it is necessary or desirable to conceal; but still for obvious reasons delay is advisable. For example, opinions as to the relative claims of various candidates for an office may well remain unpublished while some of these candidates are still among us.

The volumes now submitted to the public will, I fear, appear to many to be but an inadequate treatment of the subject committed to my care, and a meagre result of the continued labour of nearly three years. There were however many difficulties in the way. I have already hinted at the dissipation of energy caused by the trouble of arranging the entangled mass of material. Moreover the limits which were prescribed to my task have in some measure rendered it more onerous. For by the exclusion of all that belongs to the personal and domestic life the interest of the work is seriously impaired for the general reader; and the omission of the College and University career deprives it of matter which might have attracted attention at Cambridge. My own experience convinces me that the separation of a biographical work into distinct portions under different

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE.

xvii

editors, notwithstanding any apparent advantages, is really a mistake; and I find my conclusion supported by some who have taken a share in similar engagements, and by others who, wise in time, declined to accept anything short of the whole responsibility. It is the fault of the plan of the work, though it seemed at the time the best which could be devised, that my subject may appear rather as a scientific abstraction than as a living person invested with the circumstances which engage the sympathy of readers.

I do not think that adequate justice can be rendered to Dr Whewell's vast knowledge and power by any person who did not know him intimately, except by the examination of his extensive correspondence; such an examination cannot fail to raise the opinion formed of him by the study of his published works, however high that opinion may be. The evidence of his attainments and abilities which is furnished by the fact that he was consulted and honoured by the acknowledged chiefs of many distinct sciences is most ample and impressive. United with this intellectual eminence we find an attractive simplicity and generosity of nature, an entire absence of self-seeking and self-assertion, and a warm concern in the fortunes of his friends, even when they might be considered in some degree as his rivals.

I must record my gratitude for the numerous kind expressions of interest in my work which have reached me since I undertook it. Some who had thus encouraged me have passed away during the last three years, as M. Guizot, M. Quetelet, Sir C. Lyell, Professor Selwyn, and Professor Phillips. Sir C. Wheatstone also, who told me the names of the persons present on an occasion mentioned in Vol. i. page 410, no longer survives.

w.

b

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
Account of his Writings: Volume 1
Edited by Isaac Todhunter
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

xviii

PREFACE.

In conclusion I have only to hope that the volumes will not be quite unsatisfactory to those who sympathize with the subject to which they relate—to Dr Whewell's relatives and personal friends, now a rapidly decreasing number—to the members of that great College with which for more than fifty years he was intimately connected—and to the University which must ever regard him as a conspicuous ornament and a liberal benefactor.

I. TODHUNTER.

March 6, 1876.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An
Account of his Writings: Volume 1
Edited by Isaac Todhunter
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF THE PERSONS TO WHOM
THE LETTERS IN THE SECOND VOLUME ARE
ADDRESSED.

In the following list references are occasionally given to the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, and to the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, for accounts of the lives of the persons named; the former work is denoted, for brevity, by *Proceedings*, and the latter by *Monthly Notices*. These accounts are in general drawn up with great care by competent writers, and are the sources from which the memoirs in ordinary biographical dictionaries are derived.

Sir George Biddell Airy, of Trinity College, the present Astronomer Royal: see Vol. I. page 28.

Dr D. Brown: see Vol. II. page 433.

Baron Bunsen was born in 1791, and died in 1860; he was eminent as a scholar, a theologian, and a diplomatist. A biography of him has been published by his widow.

John Inglis Cochrane: see Vol. I. page 294.

Augustus De Morgan, of Trinity College, was born in 1806, took his B.A. degree as fourth wrangler in 1827, and died in 1871. He was for many years Professor of Mathematics in University College, London. See Vol. I. page 60, and *Monthly Notices*, Vol. 32.

Michael Faraday was born in 1791, and died in 1867. See Vol. I. page 89, and *Proceedings*, Vol. 17. Separate biographies have also been published of him.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

James David Forbes was born in 1809, and died in 1868. He was for many years Professor of Natural Philosophy at Edinburgh, and afterwards Principal of St Andrew's. See Vol. I. page 47, and *Proceedings*, Vol. 19. A volume has been published entitled *Life and Letters of James David Forbes*, 1873.

Richard Gwatkin, of St John's College, took his B.A. degree as senior wrangler in 1814. He held the college living of Barrow-on-Soar from 1832 to 1854, and died in 1870.

Sir William Rowan Hamilton, of Dublin, was born in 1805, and died in 1865: see the *Monthly Notices*, Vol. 26. There is reason to hope that a memoir of this remarkable man will eventually be published by his representatives.

William Venables Vernon Harcourt, of Christ Church, Oxford, was born in 1789, and died in 1871. See Vol. I. page 47, and *Proceedings*, Vol. 20.

Julius Charles Hare, of Trinity College, was born in 1795, took his B.A. degree in 1816, and died in 1855. A memoir of him is prefixed to the edition of the *Guesses at Truth*, published in 1866; and interesting notices of him occur in the book entitled *Memorials of a Quiet Life*. More than a hundred letters written to him by Dr Whewell are preserved.

Sir John Frederick William Herschel, of St John's College, was born in 1792, took his degree of B.A. as senior wrangler in 1813, and died in 1871. See *Proceedings*, Vol. 20, and *Monthly Notices*, Vol. 32.

Sir Henry Holland, an eminent physician, was born in 1788, and died in 1873. His *Recollections of Past Life* appeared in 1872.

Richard Jones, of Caius College, was born in 1790, took his B.A. degree in 1816, and died in 1855; a short account of him was drawn up by Dr Whewell: see Vol. I. page 227. Mr Jones was a man of eminent practical sagacity, and had

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 Account of his Writings: Volume 1
 Edited by Isaac Todhunter
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

THE LETTERS ARE ADDRESSED.

xxi

probably more influence than any other person over Dr Whewell. The volume on *The Distribution of Wealth*, published by Mr Jones, and the Literary Remains which appeared after his death, seem but inadequate evidence of the great speculative ability which he must have possessed according to the belief of Dr Whewell and Sir John Herschel, and of keen judges still living. But public business and the fascinations of society absorbed his time; and thus he never effected what his friends had anticipated, and what he might have accomplished by a greater concentration of his powers, and by a more ascetic discipline. About two hundred and seventy letters written to him by Dr Whewell are preserved.

Sir George Cornwall Lewis, eminent as a statesman and scholar, was born in 1806 and died in 1863. Three short letters written to him by Dr Whewell are printed on pages 405 and 424.

Sir John William Lubbock, of Trinity College, was born in 1803, took his B.A. degree in 1825, and died in 1865. See *Proceedings*, Vol. 15, and *Monthly Notices*, Vol. 26. He was a pupil of Dr Whewell in 1823, when the latter gave up private teaching on being appointed official tutor to the college.

Sir Charles Lyell, the eminent geologist, of Exeter College, Oxford, was born in 1797 and died in 1875.

James Henry Monk, of Trinity College, took his B.A. degree as seventh Wrangler and second Medallist in 1804, and died in 1856. He became successively Professor of Greek, Dean of Peterborough, and Bishop of Gloucester. In reply to the congratulations of Bishop Monk on the appointment to the Mastership of Trinity, Dr Whewell wrote, "I look back with great pleasure to the time when you selected me as your fellow-labourer in the tuition, and consider that as the turning-point of my life, which decided my course to be what it has since been." See Vol. I. page 11.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

George Morland was a master in the Lancaster Grammar School during the early part of Dr Whewell's course at Cambridge. Mr Morland afterwards took orders and became a member of St Peter's College as a ten-year man.

Sir Roderick Impey Murchison was born in 1792, and died in 1871. See *Proceedings*, Vol. 20, and *Monthly Notices*, Vol. 32. A separate memoir has been published by Professor Geikie. Some of Dr Whewell's letters are addressed to Lady Murchison.

The Marquis of Northampton was born in 1790 and died in 1850. See Vol. i. page 182.

John Phillips was born in 1800 and died in 1874. He was in early life connected with the Museum at York, and was finally Professor of Geology, at Oxford.

George Peacock, of Trinity College, was born in 1791, took his B.A. degree as second Wrangler in 1813, was appointed Dean of Ely in 1839, and died in 1858. See *Proceedings*, Vol. 9, and *Monthly Notices*, Vol. 19; the former account is probably by Sir John Herschel, and the latter by Mr De Morgan.

Lambert Adolphe Jacques Quetelet was born in 1796 and died in 1874. He was director of the Observatory of Brussels, and perpetual Secretary of the Academy. See *Proceedings*, Vol. 23, and *Monthly Notices*, Vol. 35. The extracts from Dr Whewell's letters were copied under the direction of M. Quetelet, and nearly all that he sent has been printed, though some of it is of small importance.

Thomas Rickman, well known as a writer on Gothic Architecture, was born in 1776 and died in 1835.

Hugh James Rose, of Trinity College, was born in 1795, took his B.A. degree as fourteenth Wrangler and Senior Medallist in 1817, and died in 1838. He was distinguished as a scholar, a theologian, and a preacher. He suffered much from

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Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

THE LETTERS ARE ADDRESSED.

xxiii

ill health, and to this cause was mainly due his frequent change of residence and occupation. He finally became Principal of King's College, London. He published in 1834 a lecture entitled *An Apology for the Study of Divinity*; in this he rather depreciates some of the human sciences. The following sentence occurs: "The most, as far as I know, which has ever been said for these sciences, as they can affect the human mind, has been said by one whom I can never name without the strongest emotions of respect and regard. Mr Whewell has declared his conviction, in one of his minor works, that habits of inductive reasoning are best learned from wide acquaintance with natural philosophy." In a note which Mr Rose shortly before his death wrote to Dr Whewell, he said, "My many months of miserable weakness have prevented me even from thanking you for all your valuable books—thanks richly due from me, though of little worth to you. But I cannot persuade myself (sentenced as I am to leave home for a milder climate), to go without a *Hail and Farewell*, without offering you the warmest best wishes of an old friend for your welfare and happiness, for the increase (if that may be) of your usefulness, and with it of your already great name." Mr Rose had a brother, younger than himself, named Henry John, who was a fellow of St John's College, and in 1837 took the college living of Houghton Conquest. He died in 1873.

Adam Sedgwick, of Trinity College, was born in 1785, and took his B.A. degree as fifth Wrangler in 1805. In 1818 he was appointed Professor of Geology in the University of Cambridge, and held that office until his death in 1873. See *Monthly Notices*, Vol. 33.

Sir James Stephen, of Trinity Hall, took his LL.B. degree in 1812. In 1849 he was appointed Professor of History in the University of Cambridge, and died in 1859. A memoir of him is

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978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xxiv

LIST OF PERSONS.

prefixed to the edition of his *Essays on Ecclesiastical Biography* which was published in 1860.

Henry Wilkinson of St John's College, took his B.A. degree as second Wrangler in 1814. He left college in 1820 to become Master of Sedbergh School, and died in 1838. Mr Wilkinson was a man of considerable attainments, and long after his death Dr Whewell spoke of him with strong expressions of esteem and regard.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-03853-9 - William Whewell, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge: An Account of his Writings: Volume 1

Edited by Isaac Todhunter

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

The following is the list of Scientific Societies with which Dr Whewell was connected, and the date of his election. H. M. denotes Honorary Member.

- 1819 Cambridge Philosophical Society.
- 1820 Royal Society.
- 1821 Royal Astronomical Society.
- 1827 Geological Society.
- 1829 Gesellschaft für Naturwissenschaft und Heilkunde Heidelberg.
- 1831 Royal Geological Society of Cornwall. H. M.
- 1832 Yorkshire Philosophical Society. H. M.
- 1832 Naval and Military Library and Institution. H. M.
- 1832 Society of Antiquaries.
- 1835 Shropshire and North Wales Natural History Society. H. M.
- 1835 Bristol Institute for the Advancement of Science. H. M.
- 1836 Institute of British Architects. H. M.
- 1837 Institution of Civil Engineers. H. M.
- 1837 Royal Geographical Society.
- 1839 Société Française de Statistique Universelle. H. M.
- 1840 Boston Society of Natural History. H. M.
- 1840 Institut d'Afrique. Vice President.
- 1843 Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester. H. M.
- 1845 Royal Society of Edinburgh. H. M.
- 1849 Académie Royale de Belgique. Associate.
- 1851 Societas Naturæ Scrutatorum Helvetorum.
- 1854 Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. H. M.
- 1857 Kaiserlich-königliche Geographische Gesellschaft, Vienna. H. M.
- 1857 Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques. Correspondent.

He was also elected an Honorary Member of the Royal Irish Academy not later than 1837.

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Account of his Writings: Volume 1
Edited by Isaac Todhunter
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

ADDITIONS.

I have omitted to mention in its proper place a College paper belonging to the year 1854. Lord Palmerston, on behalf of the Government, requested information from the Colleges of Cambridge, with a view to some proposed reforms. A reply was returned from Trinity College, in the form of a letter addressed to the Vice-Chancellor of the University, dated January 10th, 1854, and signed by Dr Whewell. Copies were printed on five quarto pages, and the letter is also published in the Blue Book, entitled *Correspondence respecting the Proposed Measures of Improvement in the Universities and Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge*. The letter is a statement and defence of the existing college practice. Perhaps the letter was drawn up rather by the governing body of Trinity College than by Dr Whewell himself; for it is known that when his attention was first directed to Lord Palmerston's application, he was favourable to some reform, especially with respect to sinecure and non-resident fellowships.

A volume, entitled *Fugitive Poems connected with Natural History and Physical Science*, collected by the late Professor Daubeny, was published in 1869. It contains two pieces by Dr Whewell, both of which however had previously appeared in the *Sunday Thoughts and other Verses*: these pieces are the *Seal and the Sea Mew*, and the whole of the verses relating to the excavations at Bartlow. See Vol. I. page 169.