

coverer, and his success in this department is to be attributed to the clearness with which he saw that statistics occupy the same place in the development of the social and political sciences that observational data do in the development of such sciences as astronomy and meteorology; to the patient industry with which, through long years, he gathered together his facts; and to the mathematical skill he brought to bear on their discussion. He was truly, as stated by the Academy of Berlin in their congratulatory letter on the occasion of the centenary of the Belgium Academy, "the founder of a new science, which proceeds from the firm basis of observation and calculation, to discover and unfold those immutable laws which govern the phenomena, apparently the most accidental, of the life of man, down even to his most trivial actions."

9. Biographical Notice of George Berry.

By George Barclay, Esq.

MR GEORGE BERRY was born in Edinburgh (where his father, of a Quaker family in Somersetshire, had settled as a merchant), on the 12th of January 1795. Bred to business himself, partly at home and partly in France, Mr Berry succeeded his father in Edinburgh, but about 1834 removed to Leith, whence, after a successful mercantile career of twenty years, he retired, and died at Portobello on the 1st of May last.

While in Leith Mr Berry took an active part in public affairs; he was one of the founders of the Chamber of Commerce, and having early become an enthusiastic "Free trader," he continued, during the years of struggle which preceded the national adoption of that policy, perhaps the most prominent representative of free trade doctrines in Leith.

But though greatly occupied with business, Mr Berry was through all his life also somewhat of a student. A great reader, and gifted with a retentive memory, he was well versed in English literature and in science. He had been a pretty good chemist of his own day, but specially a devoted and accomplished mineralogist and geologist of the school of Jameson. In pursuit of these studies he spent for years as a young man his spare hours at home, and his holidays in

wanderings after “specimens,” in the then little travelled Western Highlands, of which he had many curious anecdotes to tell; following his master, he became a keen “Wernerian” in those days of hot geological controversy. He was admitted to the membership of the Royal Society in 1861.