

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
EDINBURGH MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.

---

FIRST SESSION, 1883.

---

The EDINBURGH MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY owes its origin to the suggestion of the late Mr A. Y. FRASER, at that time one of the mathematical masters in George Watson's College, Edinburgh. With him were closely associated Mr A. J. G. BARCLAY, now of Glasgow High School, and Dr C. G. KNOTT of the University of Edinburgh. The following is the circular which they issued to those persons throughout the kingdom whom they deemed likely to take an interest in such a Society :

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY,  
*January 23, 1883.*

DEAR SIR,

We, the undersigned, beg to call your attention to the following proposal, in the hope that you will find it in your power to give it your support :

It is proposed to establish, primarily in connection with the University, a Society for the mutual improvement of its members in the Mathematical Sciences, pure and applied.

Amongst the methods by which this object might be attained may be mentioned: Reviews of works both British and Foreign, historical notes, discussion of new problems or new solutions, and comparison of the various systems of teaching in different countries, or any other means tending to the promotion of Mathematical Education.

It is suggested that the Society be formed, in the first instance, of all those who shall give in their names on or before February 2, 1883, and who are

- (1) present or former students in either of the Advanced Mathematical Classes of Edinburgh University,
- (2) Honours Graduates in any of the British Universities, or
- (3) recognised Teachers of Mathematics;

and that, after the above mentioned date, members be nominated and elected by ballot in the usual manner.

It may be added that Professors Tait and Chrystal have expressed themselves as highly favourable to the project, as one that may lead to important results.

If there are any of your friends who might take an interest in the Society, kindly inform them of its objects, and invite them to attend the Preliminary Meeting, to be held in the MATHEMATICAL CLASS ROOM here, on Friday, February 2, 1883, at Eight P.M., at which meeting your presence is respectfully requested.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

CARGILL G. KNOTT, D.Sc. (Edin.), F.R.S.E.

A. J. G. BARCLAY, M.A. (Edin.).

A. Y. FRASER, M.A. (Aberdeen).