

is so highly prized by many English fellows, it is certainly more conducive to the progress of studies and of research, and it is the cause why in the early history of recent science the universities of Scotland have played so much more important a part than those of England. Whilst in England modern science was cultivated outside the pale of the universities by Priestley, Davy, Wollaston, Young, Dalton, Faraday, and Joule, to whom we may even add Green and Boole, all eminent Scotch men of science, such as Gregory, Simson, Maclaurin, Playfair, Black, Thomson, Leslie, Brewster, and Forbes, were university professors, many of whom did not confine their labours to one centre, but spread the light of their ideas and researches all over the country.¹ Whilst England has been great in single names, Scotland has certainly in proportion done more

¹ Napier of Merchiston remained outside the pale of the universities. At that time the College of Edinburgh had no mathematical professor; but Glasgow had, and so had Aberdeen. James Gregory was educated at Aberdeen, was then professor at St Andrews, and subsequently at Edinburgh. Colin Maclaurin was educated at Glasgow, then professor at Aberdeen and at Edinburgh. Playfair was educated at St Andrews, and lectured there before coming to Edinburgh. Leslie was trained at St Andrews, and was then professor first of mathematics and afterwards of natural philosophy at Edinburgh. Black was educated at Glasgow and Edinburgh, and was professor at both universities. Brewster studied at Edinburgh, and was subsequently principal of St Andrews and then of Edinburgh. Forbes, as student and professor, belongs exclusively to Edinburgh, and so did in earlier times Robert Sim-

son, the great mathematical professor. Adam Smith belongs exclusively to Glasgow, though he had lectured in Edinburgh before he was appointed professor at Glasgow. But the contrast between England and Scotland becomes still more prominent if we look at the medical sciences and note the great array of celebrated professors at Edinburgh, Cullen, Brown, Gregory, Alison, Hamilton, Syme, Simpson, Christison, and Charles Bell, whereas the equally great names of John and William Hunter, of Jenner, of Astley Cooper and Bright, have no connection with the English universities; Sydenham was only slightly connected with Oxford and Cambridge, and even Harvey never occupied a prominent position at Oxford. Through situation or constitution the English universities were unable to open a field of activity for these celebrated men.