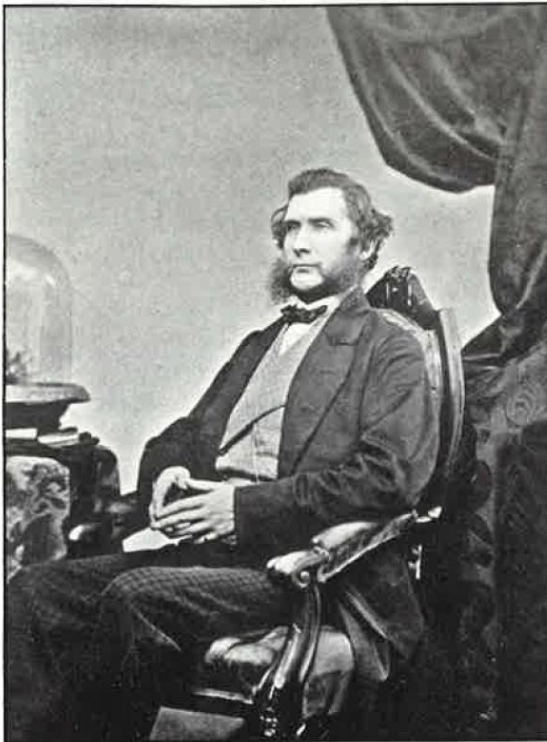


JAMES PINKERTON FRASER.

The first President of the Society was Mr. James Pinkerton Fraser, F.R.S.E. He was elected at the first annual business meeting held in the Board-room of the Athenaeum on the 7th October, 1858, and was re-elected at the second annual business meeting held in the Religious Institution Rooms on the 6th October, 1859, and was succeeded by Mr. John Scouler in 1860.

Of the personal history of Mr. Fraser very little information at this date can be obtained. He held an important position in the City of Glasgow Bank in Virginia Street, and afterwards became inspector of branches for that bank. He was a gentleman who took a large interest in the scientific work of the city about the middle of the last century. He was one of the founders of the Natural History Society of Glasgow, and was present at their first meeting on 2nd July, 1851, when he was elected their first secretary and treasurer, and read to that society, on 6th April, 1852, "Notes Illustrative of the Geology of Part of the Shores of East Lothian and Berwickshire." He read to our own Society two papers, one "Ice Action" and another "On the Hypothesis of Creation by Law."



The portrait is from a carte-de-visite by White, photographer, Glasgow, kindly lent by our Honorary Member, Mrs. Robert Gray.