

Fellows whom we have lost; or those of our late eminent Honorary Fellows, Schönbein and Foucault. A full biography, however, of our late President, Sir David Brewster, will appear ere long from some well-qualified pen, and one of Professor Walker-Arnott by Dr Cleghorn.

The following Gentlemen were elected Foreign Honorary Fellows of the Society :—

GUSTAV ROBERT KIRCHHOFF, Professor of Physics in the University of Heidelberg.

RUDOLPH VIRCHOW, Professor of Pathological Anatomy in the University of Berlin.

Monday, 21st December 1868.

The following Communications were read : —

1. On the Colour of Aërial Blue. By Sir George Harvey.

This paper is intended to prove that the colour of blue in the sky and in the landscape is simply the result, in the former, of the darkness of space, as seen through the white light contained in the atmosphere; and, in the latter, of the same cause as shown in the dark and distant portions of the landscape being viewed through the interposed medium of air filled with white light. The colour of aërial blue being due in both cases to the same cause, namely— a dark body neutralised as to its darkness by being seen through a white and transparent medium.

2 On the Rotation of a Rigid Body about a Fixed Point.
By Professor Tait.

(Abstract).

This paper contains an attempt to exhibit the mutual relations of some of the more important of the various processes which have been employed in solving one of the most celebrated problems of Dynamics. The Quaternion analysis has been throughout used, as far more briefly comprehensive and more suggestively expressive than the ordinary Cartesian analysis.

A brief sketch of the *kinematical* relations of the problem is first