FARADAY AS A DISCOVERER

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Faraday as a discoverer by John Tyndall

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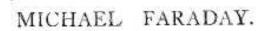
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JOHN TYNDALL

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FARADAY

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A DISCOVERER.

BY JOHN TYNDALL.

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PREFACE

TO

THE SECOND EDITION.

THE EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCHES of Faraday are so voluminous, their descriptions are so detailed, and their wealth of illustration is so great, as to render it a heavy labour to master them. The multiplication of proofs, necessary and interesting when the new truths had to be established, are however less needful now when these truths have become household words in science. I have therefore tried in the following pages to compress the body, without injury to the

spirit, of these imperishable investigations, and to present them in a form which should be convenient and useful to the student of the present day.

While I write, the volumes of the Life of Faraday by Dr. Bence Jones have reached my hands. To them the reader must refer for an account of Faraday's private relations. A hasty glance at the work shows me that the reverent devotion of the biographer has turned to admirable account the materials at his command.

The work of Dr. Bence Jones enables me to correct a statement regarding Wollaston's and Faraday's respective relations to the discovery of Magnetic Rotation. Wollaston's idea was to make the wire carrying a current rotate round its own axis: an idea afterwards realized by the celebrated Ampère. Faraday's discovery was to make the wire carrying the current revolve round the pole of a magnet, and the reverse.

JOHN TYNDALL.

ROYAL INSTITUTION: December 1869.

