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D.F. Gregory Esq.

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LIX. *On the Experiments detailed in Mr. Waldie's Paper on Combustion and Flame, inserted in the Lond. and Edin. Phil. Mag. for August 1838.* By D. F. GREGORY, Esq.

To the Editors of the Philosophical Magazine and Journal.
GENTLEMEN,

I ONLY observed yesterday, in your August Number, an article on the subject of combustion, on which, though it be now rather late, I would beg to make some observations. The author of the paper, Mr. Waldie, does not seem to be aware that almost all the experiments which he has there detailed were made several years ago, and are well known to chemists, and frequently exhibited in public lectures. They were originally due to that very ingenious chemist Mr. K. T. Kemp of Edinburgh, Chemical Assistant to Dr. Hope, who first performed them in 1833. I do not know whether or not Mr. Kemp communicated a paper on the subject to any of the Journals, but I know that he communicated them freely to other chemists, who as well as Mr. Kemp have exhibited them frequently in their lecture-rooms since that time, so that they must have become pretty generally known. And I am surprised that Mr. Waldie, who seems to have directed his attention to this branch of chemistry, should not have heard of them before this. I may mention that one of the experiments, that of burning a jet of oxygen in an atmosphere of hydrogen, I saw performed by Dr. Hope in his lecture-room as far back as 1829; but if I recollect rightly, he did not give the true theory of the experiment. Mr. Kemp did this, and illustrated it not only by the experiments detailed by Mr. Waldie, but also by others, which that gentleman does not seem to have tried, such as the burning of chlorate of potass or nitre in an electropositive atmosphere.

If you think these remarks worthy of a place in your pages, their insertion will much oblige,

Gentlemen, yours, &c.

Trinity College, Cambridge,
Nov. 3, 1838.

D. F. GREGORY.

LX. *On a certain Difficulty connected with the Demonstration of Euclid, Book I. Prop. 29.**

A WELL-known difficulty connected with the demonstration of Euclid, Book I. Prop. 29, which has long been a stumbling-block in the very threshold of mathematical science,

* Communicated by the Author.