

1026-01-12 **Amy Ackerberg-Hastings*** (aackerbe@verizon.net), 5908 Halsey Road, Rockville, MD 20851.
Euler and the Enlightenment Mathematicians: A Scottish Perspective. Preliminary report.

Although he was not a particularly active creative mathematician himself, John Playfair (1748-1819), professor of mathematics and natural philosophy at Edinburgh University, had plenty to say about eighteenth-century developments in mathematics in his expository historical writings and reviews. This talk will explore Playfair's depiction of the contributions made by Leonhard Euler, Jean D'Alembert, Pierre-Simon Laplace, and other Continental mathematicians. These writings appeared in Transactions of the Royal Society, the Edinburgh Review, and Encyclopaedia Britannica. The significance of Playfair's opinions at the turn of the nineteenth century in Scottish mathematics will also be considered. (Received December 15, 2006)