

REASONS

*For the Translation of the REV. DR. BURNS, Paisley, to Toronto,
Canada West.*

FOR THE COLONIAL COMMITTEE OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

I. The vast extent and resources of Canada, the amazing rapidity with which its population is increasing, and generally its rising importance, point out the propriety of its being supplied with the services of ministers of zeal, ability, and piety.

II. The peculiar circumstances in which the brethren of the Presbyterian Church of Canada have been placed in consequence of the Disruption, render it exceedingly desirable that they should enjoy the presence of a minister of experience from Scotland—more especially one who is fully acquainted with the systems which have been pursued in this country for organizing congregations and for the sustentation of the ministry.

III. While the call to Toronto attests the strength of the Presbyterian interest in that city, both as regards numbers and wealth, this call must be viewed as connected with the nomination which Dr. Burns has received to the Chair of Theology at Toronto; and while the duties of both offices must be discharged, for a time at least, by the same individual, the learning, ability, readiness, and untiring energy of Dr. Burns point him out as possessing, in an eminent degree, the rare qualifications which are necessary for so arduous a service.

IV. The reception which Dr. Burns has already met with in Canada, indicates the cordiality with which he will be welcomed, and affords the most pleasing prospects of the success which would attend him in that great and rising country.

For the Colonial Committee,

J. A. BALFOUR, JUNR.,

Secretary.

Edinburgh, 13th January, 1845.

The Chairman of the Congregational Meeting of Knox's Church, which sent me the call, was Mr. Isaac Buchanan, now of Hamilton, and a tried friend of the Church in many ways, and in two of his letters, of date 24th and 26th July, 1844, the following passages occur:—

"It is impossible for me to express the deep feeling of anxiety entertained by every member of the congregation, that you may come among us, having in view not only their own edification and eternal interests, but looking to it as vitally important to the interests of the infant Church, that we secure the advantage of the great knowledge and experience which you possess, especially at her outset."

In the second letter, two days after, he says: "Your coming out, were it only for eighteen months or two years, would be even more valuable, as affording the infant Church here, and through it, the parent Church, as the Free Church may be