

TO THE  
TRUSTEES OF THE WIDOWS' FUND  
OF THE  
CHURCH AND UNIVERSITIES OF SCOTLAND.

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REVEREND SIRS AND GENTLEMEN,

I venture respectfully to offer myself as a Candidate for the vacant situation of Collector of the important fund under your charge. Known personally to not a few of your number, while conducting mercantile business in Edinburgh for twenty years previous to 1855 (during a considerable portion of which period I was one of the Stent-Masters of the city), I then emigrated with my family to Canada, whence I have lately returned to native air, for the benefit of shattered health, supervening on sore domestic trials and bereavements. Now restored, in the good providence of God, in a large measure to former health and strength, I am averse again to encounter the trying alternations of climate, and would prefer, could I obtain speedy and honourable employment, to remain at home. Such an opening the eligible situation in your gift now presents; and though, owing to circumstances, I come late into the field, I still feel it my duty to present myself for your acceptance; and I venture to believe that, in addition to previous business acquirements, my avocations in Canada have greatly added to my fitness for the efficient performance of the duties devolving upon a Collector of such a fund as that now in question. There, it was my lot to institute an extensive Provincial Association, the duties in