

No. II.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION.

The Committee on Theological Education beg respectfully to present the following Report:—

They met on Tue-day, 2nd August last, when the Divinity Hall was opened by the Moderator with devotional exercises and an address. The Rev. Dr. Taylor then read an Introductory Lecture; and the Rev. Dr. Ferrier delivered an address. The students who entered were,—of the fourth year, Messrs. John Lees and John Fotheringham; of the third year, none; of the second year, Messrs. Robert C. Moffatt, William C. Bruce and Francis Tisdell, (Mr. Alex. McFaul, who entered in 1852, was prevented from attending last year by severe and protracted bodily affliction); and of the first year, Messrs. David Waters, William Ballantyne, John McNeillie, and William Fletcher, the last of whom had not been examined by a Presbytery, but was afterwards admitted by the Presbytery of Toronto. Mr. John McNaughton also joined the Hall, but only as a hearer. The Committee likewise made arrangements for the meetings of the Hall during the session, and for the accommodation of the library.

The Committee met again on Thursday, 6th October, when the two Senior Students delivered their discourses, which met with the approbation of the Committee; and the Rev. Messrs. Thornton and Dick delivered addresses. Dr. Taylor stated that the students had attended regularly during the session, had conducted themselves with propriety, and had performed to his satisfaction the exercises prescribed; that they had been examined on Dick's Lectures, from XLVIII. to LXXI. both inclusive, and on Mosheim's Church History, from the Fifth to the Tenth Century, both inclusive; that they had read critically in the Greek of the New Testament, the narratives of the chief facts and incidents contained in the Gospels; and, in the Hebrew of the Old Testament, selected passages in Genesis, beginning with the murder of Abel, and ending with the interview between Abram and Melchizedek, along with the corresponding passages in the Septuagint. Also, that the students, besides delivering a discourse, had all during the session read several critical exercises on passages prescribed to them. The Committee then proceeded to the consideration of the remit from the Synod, and agreed to the following Recommendations to Presbyteries respecting the examination of students, viz.:

"The Committee are of opinion that the standard of requirement ought to be considerably elevated; but that this ought to be done gradually and cautiously; and they beg respectfully to recommend that the following be now the *minimum* which Presbyteries should faithfully and rigidly demand, viz.:

I.—BEFORE ADMITTANCE TO THE DIVINITY HALL.

1. *English*.—A good Education, *i.e.*, a correct knowledge of the principles of the Language; Geography; Arithmetic; and History.
2. *Latin*.—The Grammar; Cæsar's Commentaries; and Virgil's *Æneid*, Books I—II.
3. *Greek*.—The Grammar; Gospel by John; and Xenophon's *Anabasis*, Book I, Chaps. 1—6.

II.—BEFORE ENTRANCE TO THE HALL THE SECOND YEAR.

1. *Latin*.—Calvin's Institutes, Book I. Chaps. 1—5; and Cicero de Amicitia.

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