

saints, of whom the one has this eulogy from the Saviour, 'behold an Israelite indeed in whom is no guile;' and the other is distinguished by the Holy Spirit as 'the disciple whom Jesus loved.' We almost wonder, not that he has been taken to heaven so soon, but that one so heaven-like was detained on earth so long."

In consequence of the death of these two Professors, the Synod proceeded to supply their places, by choosing Dr. Eadie of Glasgow to be Professor of Biblical Literature, in room of Dr. Mitchell, and Dr. Harper of Leith, to be Professor of Systematic Theology, in room of Dr. Balmer.

The Divinity Hall continued in this manner under four distinct Professors till towards the time of the Union of the Secession and Relief Churches, when another of the distinguished group was called to his rest and reward. We refer to the Rev. Dr. Duncan, of Mid-Calder, Professor of Pastoral Theology.\* Our acquaintance with this excellent person was not intimate, but, being of thirty years continuance, was sufficient to produce the impression that he was a truly great and good man. His theological knowledge was most accurate, profound and extensive. He was a thorough classical scholar, and was distinguished for striking and often original views of divine truth. He was well acquainted with philosophical, historical and theological writings, both ancient and modern. He was instructive and agreeable in his private conversation; and his affable and polite manners commanded the respect of all who knew him. His piety was sincere and fervent. His discourses in the pulpit were valued by his own people, and by the judicious and serious wherever he was called to labour. His prelections in the professorial chair were calculated, in a high degree, to edify and delight his students, to excite them to cultivate habits of close and accurate study, and to be satisfied with no superficial view of any portion of divine truth.

Soon after the death of Dr. Duncan, the Union between the Secession and Relief Churches took place, the prospect of which made it less necessary to supply his place, as that union was likely to bring, and actually did bring, two additional Professors into the Theological Seminary.

Thus it appears that the United Secession Church was at the utmost pains to render their system of theological instruction complete and efficient; and we are persuaded that the students in this Seminary were privileged with advantages at least equal to any other of the kind, throughout the British dominions.

*(To be continued.)*

## THE BLESSEDNESS OF GIVING AND RECEIVING.

All the sayings of the Lord Jesus Christ are worthy of being remembered. They are all profitable either for doctrine, or reproof, or correction, or instruction in righteousness. But there is one which we are told of in the twentieth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, especially worthy of being remembered by all His followers. "Remember," said Paul, verse thirty-fifth; "remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give, than to receive." This, it would appear, was one of the common sayings of our Lord; it was one which He frequently brought under the notice of his disciples, and which He uniformly recommended by his practice. Yet, strange as it may seem, it is not to be found in the writings of any of the Evangelists, where the history of His life is professedly recorded. What could be the reason of this? The evangelist John explains it. He has recorded many of the sayings and doings of Christ which are omitted by the other evangelists; and after recording these, he concludes with these remarkable words, "Many other things did Jesus, the which, if they were written, I suppose the whole world would not

\* Dr. Duncan died on Sabbath, 10th November, 1844.