

as pure. He paid a tribute, in conclusion, to the deceased Professor of Church History, singling out for special commendation, his independence of mind and earnest purpose in following out his convictions of right. He selected for eulogy, among the Doctor's efforts as a public speaker, his appearance in the debate on Pluralities in the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and referred also to some specimens of sermons from his pen published in the *Scottish Pulpit*. Dr. Willis enlivened his reading of some selections from the Debate on the Pluralities, by inviting notice to the courteous tone and manner of those speeches. He fixed attention on the vigour of Dr. Burns' speech, the sound principles enunciated, and the historical knowledge brought so happily to bear on the question in hand. He also pointed out his independent action on the question of the reform of the Scottish Poor Law, and on Lay Patronage; and the Act called the "Veto" Act, in preference to which he had advocated an earnest application to the Legislature for a repeal of the offensive enactments of Queen Anne's time.

He added—"His labours in his latest years in Canada are well known to you all; and it is interesting and affecting, as we look at this library, to remember that the fruit of his latest visit to his native land was to replenish these shelves; and his all but latest week on earth found him busy in arranging those additions to your book store. We seem too, in the character of these books—including numerous copies of the standard books of the Church and volumes of sound Calvinistic Theology—to hear him, by his latest act, recommending to all our candidates for the ministry, an intelligent and zealous adherence to received truth."

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

The opening lecture of the third session of this College was delivered by the Rev. Prof. D. H. McVicar, in Erskine Church, on Wednesday, the 6th October, the subject being:—"The Christian Ministry, its Divine authority and permanency, with current objections thereto." There was a good attendance.

The Rev. A. Young presided, and upon the platform were the Rev. Drs. Taylor and Irvine, Gibson, Watson, Anderson, Torrance, of Guelph, Professor Coussirat, &c.

The Rev. Dr. Irvine offered up prayer.

The Rev. lecturer showed that the Lord, by His spirit and the proper officers of the church, calls certain persons to preach the Word, and this order was to be continued to the end of the world. He swept away the figment of Apostolic succession, by showing that the Apostles did not appoint successors to themselves, but their place was now supplied by their writings. He then gave a number of reasons for the continuance of the ministry, founded on the nature of men and the wants of society, and also demonstrated the Divine appointment of the ministerial office by its happy effects. The lecturer next adduced the direct Scripture proofs, showing the permanency of the office of pastor and teacher, even to the end of the world. He deprecated the assumption of the office except through the proper and appointed authorities; also the exercise of its functions by uneducated, or half-educated men. He also referred to another class, who first contemned, or called in question, the office of preacher, then, virtually, became preachers themselves. He also glanced at the comparative backwardness of the class who, from position or education, were the most eligi-