

influence might be thrown ; and in a rising country like this we viewed the historical chair as one of the stations from which a most powerful influence might be brought to bear on the forming mind of Canada. We conducted our canvass together with perfect good feeling, often comparing notes ; and resolving to be fellow-helpers in the common cause of God and our country, on whomsoever the choice might fall. My loved and respected friend was chosen by the Senate, but the choice was not confirmed by the Government ; and meanwhile the Great disposer called him to a higher preferment above. The gentleman who was eventually chosen, Dr. Wilson, is a man of European reputation. We have him often as a hearer in Knox's Church, and I don't think he will cordially sympathize with the memorialists in wishing my removal. And as for myself, I never felt ashamed, nor do I now, of my position in the canvass for the chair ; for whatever the Senate might do, the Caput assigned me a place far a-head of many leading scholars of Oxford, Cambridge and Dublin ; and far beyond what an old stager so long off the irons had any reason to expect. And did I condemn my people ? I think not. It was never my intention to *hold a plurality* ; but to remain an humble member or office-bearer in the congregation. I could have done my successor in office and them much service ; besides carrying out my missionary desires for the Province at large ; to say nothing of the close connexion between the literature of the church which I had for four sessions taught in Knox's College, and the literature of history at large, which I would have been called to teach in University College.

Mr. McMurrich has adduced as a proof of dishonesty my charging Mr. Campbell or himself with having a certain paper in their possession, which I found to be in my own, and which I gave to him (Mr. M.) without an apology. The facts are these. The paper was Mr. Campbell's defence, my reply to which was retained by me, and therefore I naturally thought that Mr. C. would retain his own paper ; and failing this, that it would be in the hands of Mr. McMurrich, who acted as clerk to the meeting. I may have affirmed the thing with over pertinacity ; but as an evidence of dishonest intention, the proof is at fault. A man of dishonest intentions would have concealed the fact of his having found the paper among his own chattels ; yea, possibly, might have put it into the