

ards of the Presbyterian Church, whilst strong personal conviction gave it vitality and force. The doctrines of grace he magnified both in chair and pulpit, and he gave no uncertain sound on any part of the Reformed faith. He had no desire to see this faith fundamentally revised, for he believed it to be in accordance with the Word of God. Our Church owes not a little to one who, for twenty-three years, with learning and power, continued to instruct successive classes of students, and to bear no secondary part in moulding the sentiments and character of a ministry who have been faithful to the truth and to their high commission.

Dr. Willis was well read in the Reformation and post-Reformation theology. He was at home in the works of Maestricht, Turretine, Ames, Witsius, etc., as in those of the great English theologians of the seventeenth century. His knowledge of Patristic literature far surpassed that of most Presbyterian divines, and was not equalled by many of the class whose reading is supposed to lie more in the early centuries of the Church.

As a preacher Dr. Willis must be ranked high. His matter was excellent, his discourses were usually constructed with care, and his language was always correct and vigorous—often highly felicitous. His delivery was very effective: it was natural and varied, but earnest and rapid, sometimes impassioned. By these excellences of ministration he gathered around him in Glasgow a numerous and intelligent congregation; nor will the pulpit services which, during his long connection with Knox College, he rendered in many parts of our own land be soon forgotten. It was delightful on communion occasions to listen to his rich evangelical utterances as he unfolded the treasures of the covenant of grace. The volume of "Academic Prelections and Sermons," published after he retired from his professorship, fairly represents his characteristic merits in both kinds of discourse. Some of these productions are admirable in literary form, while they all bear testimony to their author's soundness in the faith and the highly scriptural and varied character of his teaching.

As an ecclesiastic, also, Dr. Willis deserves to be remembered. He was leader of the Original Burgher Presbytery previous to its union with the Church of Scotland; but he had little opportunity of taking a very prominent part in the non-intrusion controversy,