

SENATE REPORT, 1866-7.

The Senate has to report satisfactory results of the Session just closed. On the part both of Professors and Students they have to acknowledge the goodness of Providence, in granting, with few exceptions, health, as well as internal peace and concord, in prosecuting the work of another winter. (One exception, as to health, was the case of Mr. Riley, Student, who, being seized with small-pox, soon after Christmas, had to withdraw for a month, from attendance on the classes).

Before the Session commenced, it was their pleasant duty, following up the Act and instructions of Synod, to receive and formally to admit, to his position among us as Professor of Exeget. Theology, and Apologetics, their esteemed Brother, the Rev. Wm. Caven, who entered at once on his work, by giving the public address at the commencement of the Term, which falls to be given in rotation by the three Professors.

The classes, according to the roll of matriculants made up soon after the commencement of the Session, includes, of regular students thirty-four, and it is pleasing to report that while so goodly a number are embraced in the classes for Theology proper, an unprecedented number are attending in the University College for their preliminary education, and the Synod will be gratified to learn that, as has also been the case before, the students connected with our Church take no discreditable position among the candidates for University certificates and honours.

The matter of most immediate interest to the Church is the number of the outgoing students, or candidates for license, who have just fulfilled their curriculum at our College. These number fourteen, Messrs. Burns, Aull, Musgrave, McDonald, Gillies, Becket, Groux, Grant, Bell, Croll, McNab, Riley, Davidson. The last mentioned student has attended through the Session with the students of the third year, and also of the second year. His case being peculiar, is referred to the Synod's favourable consideration. Mr. Davidson had been prevented, by ill health, from giving continuous attendance from Session to Session. He lost the opportunity of attending the year before last, in his place as a student of the second (Theol.) year. He had been advised to give himself to quiet study at home for a season, but bent on his purpose of giving himself to the good work of preparation for the service of Christ in the Gospel, he has used his somewhat renovated health during this winter, in undertaking in a manner double labour, by attending on the Professor of Theology at both hours, or with both divisions of the class. It will be for the Synod to say how far, in his peculiar circumstances, the literal rules of the curriculum may be dispensed with. He is in age beyond the average years of our students. He has had some practice in mission work, and possessing the Gaelic language, in addition to the English, his services as early as they can be made available in the Church's mission field, are important. The Professors on whom he has attended report very favourably of his diligence and proficiency.

The cases of Messrs. Ballantyne and Croly are also referred to the Synod. The former has given attendance one-half term each of these two winters last past, in effect, thus fulfilling one session. He expects only to have his attendance so reckoned.

The latter, Mr. Croly, was unable, for similar reasons—engagements with other duties—to be present above half the term, or from the Christmas recess to the end.

BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS.—These have been awarded as follows: The Buchanan Bursary, to Mr. A. Rowat; the Knox Bursary, to Mr. Gillies, who has also proved the successful competitor for the Bayne Scholarship. The Senate, following the precedents or usage of the College from its commencement, gives the pecuniary value, in the case of the same individual being successful in more than one competition, to the party whose essay is next in order of merit. The honour, however, of his success in the latter, as well as in former competition, being duly recognized and certified, Mr. Croll, accordingly, has received the Knox Bursary.

The Fisher Scholarships (without competition) were awarded by the arbiters

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