

stand that the friends in Hamilton are also doing their best, as they always have done, to provide accommodation for members in attendance.

Various matters of deep importance connected with the welfare and progress of the church will be before the Synod for consideration, and will doubtless receive calm, deliberate, and prayerful attention.

We trust that congregations and individuals will reflect how much depends upon the wise and judicious acting of the Supreme Court of the church; and again how much this depends on the gracious influences of the Holy Spirit, and will therefore with earnestness and fervency plead with the Great Head of the church, that He would visit us in loving kindness and mercy, and vouchsafe abundantly the wisdom which cometh from above—the wisdom that alone is profitable to direct.

TRAINING FOR THE MINISTRY.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY DR. BURNS AT THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION OF KNOX COLLEGE, APRIL 4TH, 1866.

In Paul's second Epistle to Timothy, among other important injunctions, we find the following: "Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." (2 Tim. II. 2.). On this passage of Scripture, the following remarks by way of exposition may be made.

In the first place, Paul insists upon it as essential that whatever may have been the special functions allotted to Timothy in the commission given him by Paul, personal experience of the Truth, and steadfastness of adherence to it, were essential to their right discharge. The grace of God must have taken hold of his mind, and its influence upon him must have been of an invigorating and ennobling character; for the same grace that is in Christ, is supposed to be in him. In the second place, the truths which he is authorized to teach in his character as an evangelist, do unquestionably constitute that which Paul elsewhere has designated as the "whole counsel of God," for we have no reason to suppose that He would communicate to Timothy and the other 'witnesses' of whom he had spoken, a message less full and less comprehensive than that which he himself had received, and was in the way of conveying to others. In the third place; Timothy was plainly invested with a commission, not only to preach the glad tidings of salvation to guilty men, but also to look around him for fit and proper instruments that might be employed in the same service, for the benefit of others, and in periods of time more or less beyond the present; and thus by prudent forethought, secure the perpetuation of an enlightened and earnest ministry. In the last place, that those to be thus employed, require to be men possessed of the principle of a living faith in the Lord Jesus, and an aptness to be the "instructors of others also." Now,