

pline of the Church, as administered in Sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods; that they shall be instructed in ecclesiastical history in general, and especially in the history of the primitive Church, and the history of the Church in Britain, particularly the history of the Secession Church; and finally, that they shall be made intimately acquainted with the Confession of Faith, and the Testimony of the United Secession Church."

This course of theological instruction was to be directed by four Professors: one of Biblical Literature, one of Exegetical Theology, or exposition of the Holy Scriptures, one of Systematic Theology, and one of Pastoral Theology and Ecclesiastical History.

The three new Professors, who were to co-operate with Dr. Mitchell, Professor of Biblical Literature, were elected on the 13th of April, 1834. These were the Rev. Dr. Brown, for Exegetical Theology, the Rev. Dr. Balmer for Systematic Theology, and the Rev. Dr. Duncan for Pastoral Theology. The Divinity Hall was appointed to meet alternately in Edinburgh and Glasgow, and the pulpits of the Professors were to be supplied by the Synod during the sitting of the Hall.

The Hall was to meet during the months of August and September, and it was considered indispensable that every student should attend the whole time, unless in special cases satisfactory reasons could be assigned for being absent during part of the Session. This attendance was to be given during five annual Sessions. On the first two they were to attend the lectures on Biblical Literature, and Exegetical Theology; and on the remaining three, the lectures on Systematic and Pastoral Theology. During the other months of the year, the students to be under their respective Presbyteries, and were to have exercises on various departments prescribed, on which they were to be regularly and minutely examined.

It was necessary to the admission of students into the Divinity Hall, that they should be members of the Church, that they should have attended at least three Sessions at one or other of the Scotch Universities, and that they should be examined upon Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and on the different Philosophical branches. The students were required to take a fourth year at one of the Colleges, for Natural Philosophy; but it was optional with them to do this either before, or the year after their entrance into the Divinity Hall. There was also a very searching examination by the Presbyteries into the motives and views which the students had in proposing themselves for the study of Theology.

This course of theological study, with these prerequisites to an entrance on it, must surely be considered as very complete in itself, and calculated to secure with the divine blessing, a supply of talented, pious, and efficient ministers of the gospel. Such was the plan prosecuted by the United Secession Church during the whole period of its history.

So far as we know, there was no change in this Theological Institution till the 25th of January, 1844; when it, and the whole Church, sustained an un-speakable loss, by the death of the Rev. Dr. Mitchell, minister of Wellington Street congregation, Glasgow, and Professor of Biblical Literature.

The character of this excellent minister is ably drawn by Dr. Brown, his colleague in the Theological Institution, and by Dr. Robson, his colleague in his pastoral charge, in sermons preached on the occasion of his death. From these we make the following quotations:—

"A larger portion," says Dr. Brown, "of the purity, of the benignity, of the peacefulness of heaven, has seldom departed from earth in a single individual, than in him for whom we deeply sorrow; though not as those who have no hope! It would be a melancholy gratification to me to dwell on the graces of his personal, and domestic, and pastoral, and ecclesiastical character—in all of which he exhibited a measure of likeness to the holy-harmless One; the wise, compassionate, faithful Great Shepherd of the sheep; which has been rarely attained even among genuine saints and devoted ministers. But I