

time in teaching Hebrew to those students looking forward to the ministry. He was a good Hebrew scholar. In my time he was reported to have read through the Hebrew bible. He could not be said to have taught in the hall, but up to a late period he rendered important aid to the students and to the hall by giving them instructions in Hebrew preparatory to their entering upon their theological course. In Dr. Fraser's time the mode of instruction was similar to that described by Mr. Patterson. But in after years the system was somewhat changed. There was a regular session held for a month during the vacation of the schools. The rest of the year, the students being engaged in teaching school, gave as much time as they could to study, under the direction of the Professor and Presbyteries, preparing discourses, readings for examinations, &c.

I had the privilege of attending his classes in theology one session. It was the last of his life, but as he was still in the full vigor of his mental powers, a view of the Hall as it then appeared will serve to represent it as it was at this period. He was then teaching in Dalhousie College, and the theological classes met at his house. We had two classes, Hebrew and Theology. In his early years the study of Hebrew was much neglected in Scotland, many ministers having scarcely the pretence of an acquaintance with it. The study of this and cognate languages has greatly advanced since that time, but Dr. McCulloch was for his day a proficient Hebrew scholar, and moreover was almost entirely self taught. He told us the story of his early struggles in this respect. He had neither dictionary nor grammar, I think not a Hebrew bible. All he had was an old book, the name of which I have forgotten, which professed to give all the Hebrew roots, if not in the bible in a portion of it, with their derivative forms. Upon this he worked for some time, as he said not knowing whether he was really making progress in the language or not, till some time after, having obtained necessary helps, he found that with a little study of its grammatical principles, he had such an acquaintance with its vocables, that he was fairly well versed in it. I have understood that he taught the language when only twenty-two years of age, and that he had among his pupils, Ralph, afterward Dr. Wardlaw, long so prominent among the Congregationists of Scotland and Principal of their Theo-