

[No. V.]

DALHOUSIE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY,  
HALIFAX, 28th August, 1867.

It affords me much satisfaction to have an opportunity of expressing an opinion as to the fitness of the Rev. Professor Weir, A.M., for the office of Inspector of Schools in the Province of Ontario. I have been acquainted with Mr. Weir personally for many years, and was a fellow-Professor with him in Queen's College, Kingston, from 1857 to 1863. He has long been well and favourably known, both in Canada and Britain, as a distinguished Classical and Mathematical Scholar, perfectly familiar with the usual literary and scientific studies of a University course. During the latter years of my residence at Kingston, Professor Weir, in addition to his College duties, acted as Inspector of City Schools ; and in that capacity not only gave great satisfaction to the Board of School Trustees (who re-elected him year after year), but likewise enjoyed the entire confidence and good-will of teachers, parents of pupils, and all who were interested in the advancement of Common School Education. I have been present at the examinations in the Public Schools on several occasions when the pupils were examined by Mr. Weir in Euclid, Algebra, &c. ; and on such occasions, as well as in University Examinations, I have frequently admired the able way in which he brought out the merits of a student or discovered his defects. Mr. Weir is thoroughly acquainted with the educational systems of Canada and other countries, both as regards the Common Schools and the higher education of Universities ; and whilst the graduates of Queen's College throughout the Dominion afford living evidence of his success as a classical teacher, I believe that he is equally fitted for the discharge of the important duties of Inspector of Schools. His vigorous and highly cultivated mind, regular business habits, and extensive experience in the management of Educational Institutions, are the grounds upon which I would recommend Professor Weir in the strongest manner to the attention of those officials with whom the appointment rests.