

[No. IV.]

Having been colleague, and in almost daily communication with Professor Weir for upwards of ten years, I have had constant opportunities of judging of his character, abilities, and attainments.

During the long period of my intimacy with him as a colleague, I always respected and esteemed him for his many excellent qualities ; and nothing ever disturbed our friendly intercourse. He is, as is well known, a learned and accurate Classical Scholar, and I have heard him not unfrequently examine my own students in a manner which showed him to be well versed in mathematics, in which department, indeed, no less than in classics, he distinguished himself at the University of King's College, Aberdeen, from which he received his degree. As to his aptitude for teaching, his energy, fidelity, and success in the discharge of the duties which devolved upon him as Professor, were shown by the remarkable proficiency of his students, while his patience and kindly manners won their affectionate regard.

What, moreover, strongly convinces me of his special qualifications for the office of Inspector of our Public Schools, and Examiner in Classics and Mathematics, is the zealous interest which he has always manifested in everything relating to the education of youth, and the beneficial results which flowed to the Common Schools of Kingston from his tenure of the situation of their Superintendent. In this capacity he not only gained the respect and good will of the parents and pupils, but performed the duties of the office so entirely to the satisfaction of the Trustees, that, after he had accepted, at first only temporarily, the appointment of Professor of Classical Literature in Morrin College, they left the Superintendency open for him for nearly a year, in the hope that, if possible, they might again be enabled to have the benefit of his services, the great usefulness of which they had already experienced.

(Signed,) JAMES WILLIAMSON, LL.D.,
Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy,
University of Queen's College.

Kingston, Ontario, 9th. Sept., 1867.