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The Record.

KNOX'S COLLEGE.—NOTICE.—The members of the College Committee are earnestly requested to be present at the closing examinations of the current Session. It is intended (D. V.), that these shall commence on Tuesday, the 6th April,—and be continued throughout the week and part of the week following, if necessary.

A meeting of the College Committee will be held on Thursday, the 8th April, at 11 A. M., in the College Library, when matters of great moment will be brought under consideration.

Wm. RINTOUL, Convener.

HOME MISSIONS COLLECTION.—The Synod appointed the Annual Collection in aid of the Home Mission Funds of the several Presbyteries, to be made in all the congregations and preaching stations of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, on the first Sabbath of March. This appointment being duly recorded in the printed Minutes, and falling more immediately under the inspection of Presbyteries, the undersigned trusts it has been generally attended to. If, however, it has been overlooked in any case hitherto, he would respectfully urge the immediate fulfilment of it, so that there may not be one congregation or station within our bounds, which shall not be found, at the close of the financial year of the church, to have responded, and that to the utmost of their ability, to this annual call in behalf of our Home Missions, notwithstanding any stated periodical contributions that they may be otherwise raising for this important object.

WILLIAM RINTOUL,

Synod Clerk.

N.B. The undersigned would recommend it to Presbyteries to cause the contributions within their bounds to be periodically published in the *Record*.
W. R.

KNOX'S COLLEGE.—COMPETITION FOR BURSARIES.

We would wish to deepen in the minds of all our readers a feeling of interest in Knox's College. We fear that the attention of the Church is too little called to it; but we would assure our readers that those who could best tell what is doing in it are themselves too much occupied with the work to have time to describe it to others. We in the meantime again bespeak the prayers of all the members of the Church for this school of the Prophets. The numbers of the students, their devotion to study, and prospective work, are all most promising; but truly "unless the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it."

From the shortness of the session, and the desire of the Professors to make the most of it, they are labouring in their several departments, and are working the students, to the full limits of their physical capacities. For two weeks past, the

Bursary Examinations have been going on, and some of these are not yet finished. The results thus far arrived at, we now present to our readers. We may just remark, that mere eicemosiary grants to theological students are of a very questionable nature, while rewards to successful study at once stimulate to exertion, and assist those who receive them.

1. The John Knox Bursary, £15, (instituted by Isaac Buchanan, Esq.,) for the highest attainments in systematic Theology; to be ascertained by an examination, extending over the whole course of prelections delivered during the present session. Mr. John Black was the successful candidate for this Bursary; Mr. Andrew Hudson was declared second in order of merit.

2. A Bursary of £10, for the greatest proficiency in Church History and Biblical Criticism, to be ascertained by examination on the prelections of the present session on these subjects. Mr. Wm. Ball was the successful candidate for this Bursary, having been found first in the department of Ecclesiastical History, while Mr. John Black ranked first in that of Biblical Criticism.

3. A Bursary of £10, for the greatest proficiency in the Hebrew language; to be ascertained by examination on Psalms xii. to xviii. inclusive, and on Isaiah xl. to xlii. inclusive, on the paradigm of the regular verb, and of nouns of the third and fourth declensions with the affixes. In this competition, Mr. John Black was also found to stand first, and Mr. John Ross second—the Bursary falling to the latter.

4. A Bursary of £5, for the highest attainments in Mental Philosophy; to be ascertained by examination on the whole course of prelections. Mr. Wm. Wallace stood first in this competition.

5. The George Buchanan Bursary, £15, (instituted by Isaac Buchanan, Esq.,) for the greatest proficiency in the Latin and Greek languages; to be ascertained by examination on the *Æneid*, Cicero de officiis, as also by translation from English into Latin—by examination on the *Odyssey*, the Greek New Testament, and Anthon's Greek Exercises. Mr. John Gray was the successful candidate for this Bursary.

6. A Bursary of £5—the comparative attainments of the competitors to be ascertained by examination on *Cæsar de Bello Gallico*, Mar's Introduction, and by translation from English into Latin. Mr. John Alexander was the successful candidate for this Bursary.

7. A Bursary of £5—the comparative merits of the competitors to be ascertained by examination on the Latin and Greek Grammars. This Bursary was adjudged to Mr. George Wardrope.

8. A Bursary of £10, (instituted by the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland,) for the greatest proficiency in the Gaelic language; to be ascertained by examination on the Scriptures, the Shorter Catechism, and the Gaelic Grammar

and by translation from English into Gaelic. Mr. John Ross was found to stand first in this competition, and Mr. Peter Currie second—the bursary falling to Mr. Currie, in accordance with a regulation which provided that no competitor should receive more than one bursary.

9. A bursary of £7 10s., for the best Essay on "The miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit in the primitive Church." This bursary was adjudged to Mr. Archibald Currie.

10. A Bursary of £7 10s. for the best Essay on "The adaptation of the sensitive nature of man to the ends of life, knowledge, action, and enjoyment." This bursary was adjudged to Mr. John Gourlay.

Four Bursaries—one of £10, two of £7 10s. each, and one of £5—have not yet been awarded; but we shall be able, in our next number, to give the decision in regard to all of them, except one, which will not be competed for until the close of the session. It may be proper to annex a substance of one of the regulations under which the competition proceeded. It is as follows:

"The examination of competitors shall be conducted by questions and exercises dictated to the competitors at the time of competition, and answered by them in writing on the spot, without the use of books or notes."

Another of the regulations was to this effect:

"That should no adequate attainments be manifested by the competitors in any department, the bursary in such case would not be awarded."

No such case, as was contemplated in this last proviso, has hitherto occurred; but, on the contrary, the exercises and answers not only of the successful candidates, but of the competitors generally, were found to possess great merit.

WIDOWS' FUND.

(To the Editor of the Record.)

MY DEAR SIR.—The adoption of a scheme or provision for the widows of Ministers of our Church was very early suggested, and has been generally acknowledged to be desirable. One or two able articles on the subject have appeared in the pages of the *Record*, and the practicability of carrying the measure into successful operation has been there advocated.

It was, in June last, brought under consideration of the Synod by a memorial from certain office-bearers and members of the congregation of Dundas and Ancaster,—laymen,—and therefore the more disinterested; and the result was, that a Committee was appointed "with instructions to prepare a scheme of a Widows' Fund, consulting some experienced Actuary, and corresponding with the Rev. Dr. Gordon on the subject; and in the meantime, to take immediate steps for raising a fund through subscription of Ministers," &c. As Convener of the Synod's Committee, I wrote to Dr. Gordon, and received an answer of which I now quote an extract as important. "I beg to send you herewith a copy of the constitution of our Free Church scheme, in which document you will find all the information that I could give you. You will observe that the maintenance of the Sustentation Fund, which was contemplated