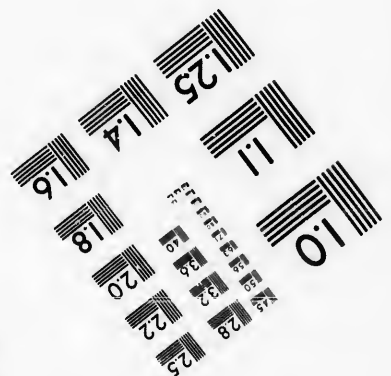
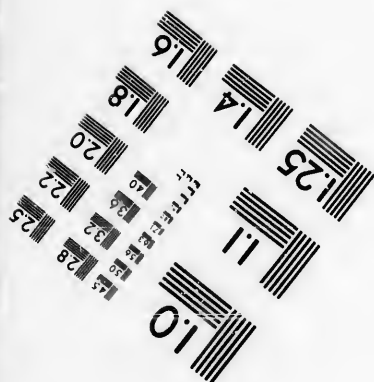
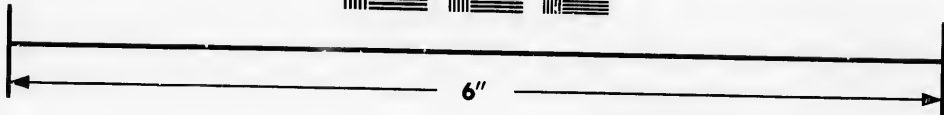
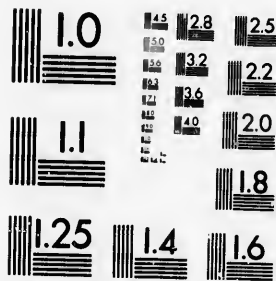


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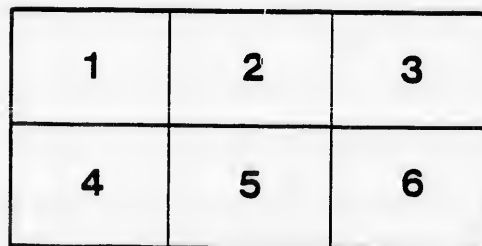
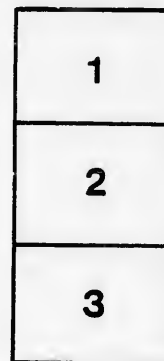
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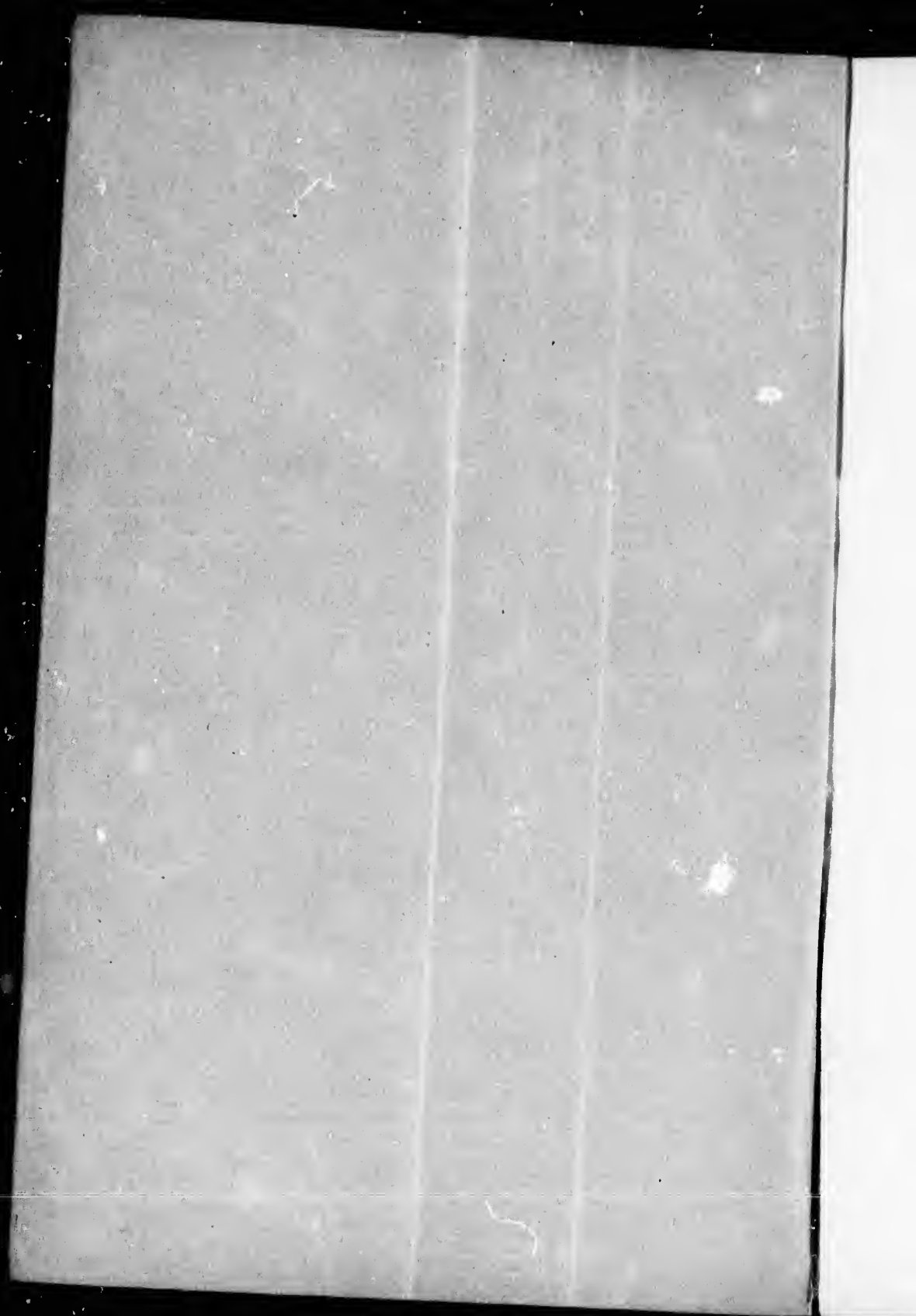
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# TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

MR. DANIEL WILSON,

ONE OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND, AUTHOR OF  
"THE ARCHÆOLOGY AND PREHISTORIC ANNALS OF SCOTLAND;" "MEMORIALS  
OF EDINBURGH IN THE OLDEN TIME;" "OLIVER CROMWELL  
AND THE PROTECTORATE," ETC.

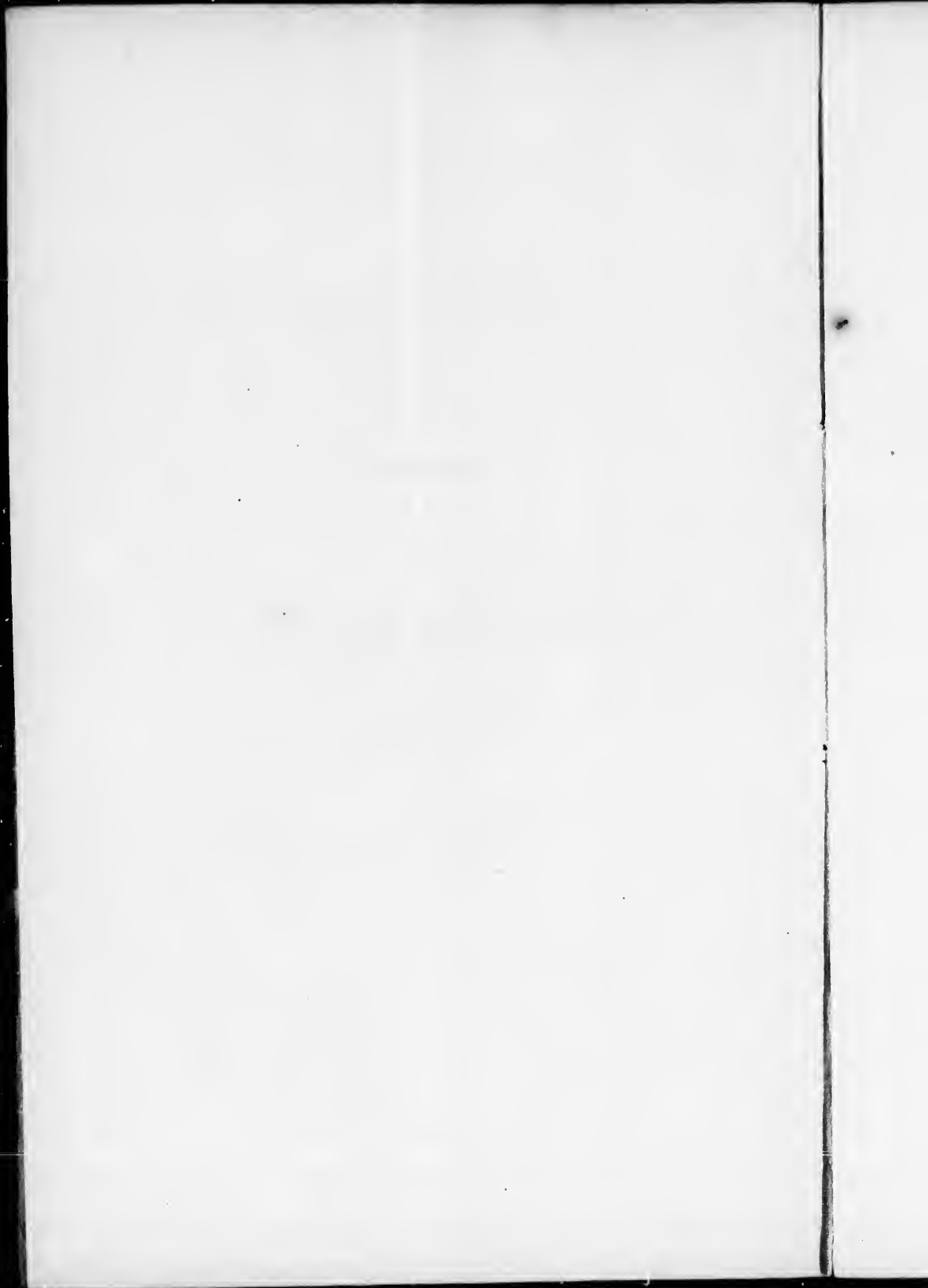


# TESTIMONIALS

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AND THE PROTECTORATE," ETC.





TO THE CAPUT AND SENATE  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

---

EDINBURGH, *October 1, 1851.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg respectfully to offer myself as a Candidate for the CHAIR of HISTORY and ENGLISH LITERATURE in the UNIVERSITY of TORONTO, and to submit to you the following Testimonials; referring you at the same time to my published works in further evidence of literary and historical research.

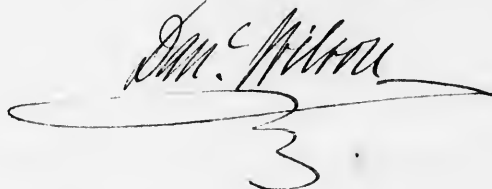
Regarding, as I do, with profound interest, the progress and high prospects of the British Colonies in America, I shall esteem it an honour to be entrusted with so important an office in one of their chief educational institutions. Should I obtain your suffrages, it shall be my earnest endeavour to prove myself worthy of the responsible trust committed to me.

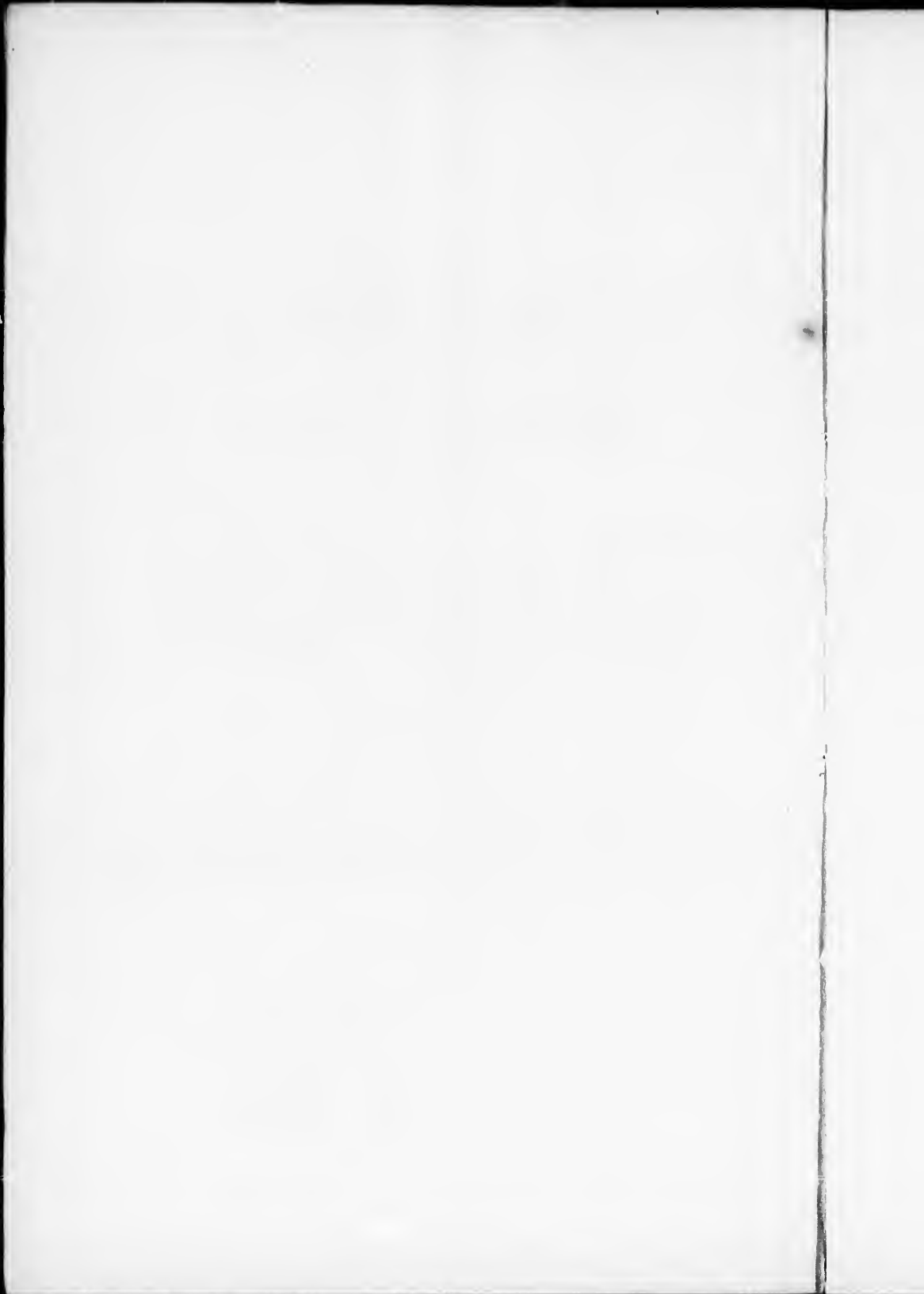
I have the honour to be,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient Servant,

DANIEL WILSON.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dan. Wilson", with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.



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## TESTIMONIALS.

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I.—From J. Y. SIMPSON, M.D., F.R.S.E., *President of the Royal College of Physicians, and Professor of Midwifery in the University of Edinburgh; Author of "Notices of Leprosy, and Leper Hospitals in Scotland;" "Essays on Anæsthesia," &c.*

EDINBURGH, September 25, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—I regret to hear that you are a Candidate for the Chair of History and English Literature in Toronto, because, with all your other numerous friends, I should deeply lament your withdrawal from Scotland.

At the same time, I do sincerely believe that the Toronto University will be exceedingly fortunate indeed, provided they do secure your services in teaching the department alluded to; for I feel well assured that few or none could be selected among English litterateurs more fitted to conduct the duties of such a Chair. Your distinguished character as an author—your indefatigable industry—your intimate acquaintance with history and literature—your great facility in speaking and communicating your ideas, and your high moral character, all alike admirably fit you for such a situation as you now seek.—Believe me, &c.

J. Y. SIMPSON.

II.—From P. A. MUNCH, Professor of History in the University of Christiania; Author of “*Norges Sveriges og Danmarks Historie*,” “*Nordens Mythologie eller Nordens Gude og Heltesagn*,” &c.; and Editor of the “*Fagrskinna*,” the “*Codex Munkaálvensis*,” “*Historia Norvegiæ*,” &c.

CHRISTIANIA, September 2, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—I understand from your last letter that you intend offering yourself as a Candidate for the Professorship of History at Toronto.

I cannot, I confess, reconcile myself to the thought of your cutting asunder the ties connecting you more strongly with your native soil than most other persons; and to Scotland itself, I think it would be a shame if the Author of its “*Prehistoric Annals*” could not find himself at ease in his country, to the glory of which he has so largely contributed. Although, moreover, I wonder that no University or Academy in Britain should exert its powers to the utmost for the purpose of securing your talents and great stock of learning to its own benefit, by offering you a Chair of History, yet I cannot wonder at your wish to obtain a position where you can continue your researches and literary pursuits, to the benefit of our common studies, more at your ease than at present.

I need not tell you how much I have learned from you, as well from our daily intercourse at Edinburgh in the winter of 1849, as from a correspondence by which I have been almost the sole gainer, as far as regards historical and archæological information in general, and especially as connected with your own country. As for your last splendid work on Scottish Archæology, it has not only proved very highly useful to me, but I continue to value having it constantly at hand to consult.—Believe me, &c.

P. A. MUNCH.

III.—From EDWARD FORBES, Esq., F.R.S., *Professor of Botany in King's College, London; and of Natural History in the Government School of Mines; Author of "History of British Star Fishes," &c.*

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON,  
September 1851.

UNDERSTANDING that Mr. Daniel Wilson of Edinburgh proposes to become a Candidate for the Professorship of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto, I esteem it as a favour to be permitted to offer a testimonial in behalf of a gentleman so distinguished for his researches, and so respected for his personal character.

The originality, excellence, and style of Mr. Wilson's published works, are the best evidences of the lustre his name would confer on any University to which he might be attached.

Since, however, a professorship, to be effectively conducted, requires that its holder should not only be eminent as an author, but also capable of imparting knowledge with eloquence and clearness, I may bear witness to the eminent degree in which those qualities are possessed by Mr. Wilson.

In every respect I believe that gentleman to be a worthy claimant of the post he seeks.

EDWARD FORBES.

---

IV.—From COSMO INNES, Esq., F.R.S.E., *Professor of Universal History, Edinburgh University; Editor of the "Parochiales Scotice," "Liber Cartarum S. Crucis," "Registrum Prioratus S. Andree," &c.*

15, INVERLEITH ROW, EDINBURGH,  
September 27, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am glad to learn that you have a prospect of becoming Professor of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto, though it must remove you from among us, your fellow-labourers, and from some of the subjects to which you had so successfully devoted your attention.

I cannot doubt your fitness for such a situation. I have had no opportunity of measuring your attainments in general English Literature except by one test,—the use you make of our language and all its resources. The work by which you are best known, forming, as it does, the “Code” of our national antiquities, is a great monument of your industry and well-directed study, and of the judgment and excellent method with which you turn your materials to account. I do not speak my own sentiments only, but those of all best acquainted with the subject, when I say that the style is worthy of the matter, and that you have mastered that not very common acquisition, a plain and elegant English narrative.

As a scientific antiquary you are too well known to require any testimony. Your great work dealt with the most difficult period of history, and the light you have gathered upon it shows how well you can treat more recent and more easy annals.

With whatever regret I shall see you leave our own country, I cannot but wish you success in so honourable an object of ambition as that you have in view.—Believe me, &c.

C. INNES.

---

V.—*From the Rev. ALEXANDER C. FRASER, Professor of Logic and Metaphysics, New College, Edinburgh.*

GREENHILL GARDENS,  
EDINBURGH, September 30, 1851.

The reputation of Mr. Wilson, as an original and successful investigator in the departments of History and Archæology, is so well established, that any formal attestation of his merits in that respect seems needless. His historical learning, and his unusual capacity for adding to it, are recognised as conferring credit on his native city, by persons well fitted to judge in such matters. The union in his writings of grace and vivacity, with profound antiquarian research, render them attractive to the literary and popular taste, as well as to the student of antiquities.

Private intercourse with Mr. Wilson only confirms the impres-



sion of his power to *animate* archaeological records and historical details, and to associate a broad human sympathy with solid learning. His keen literary tastes, and persevering zeal in the gratification of them, I have often admired. These qualities, united to his well balanced mind, liberal spirit, excellent sense, and religious principle, must make him a very valuable associate in the academical institution which secures his aid, especially in a Chair of History.

ALEXANDER C. FRASER.

---

VI.—From GEORGE HARVEY, Esq., R.S.A., *Honorary Director of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution.*

EDINBURGH, September 27, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—Understanding that you intend proposing yourself as a Candidate for the Chair of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto, it affords me very great pleasure to bear testimony to your eminent qualifications for discharging the duties connected with that office, if great literary acquirements, high mental endowments, habits of untiring industry, and a most obliging disposition, are understood to constitute such.

Your recently published work on Archæology bears evidence as to your powers for philosophical speculation on remote and dimly discovered data, as well as to your ability to deduce important generalizations from well ascertained facts; while the admirable course of Lectures on Primitive British History delivered by you to the members of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, strongly attest your great power to make such subjects popular and attractive. Added to these, your religious and most honourable character renders you, in my opinion, singularly well fitted not only to instruct in the details of History and General Literature, but to turn that teaching to the best account for the advantage of such as may be favoured to become the subjects of it.—Believe me, &c.

GEO. HARVEY.

VII.—*From C. PIAZZI SMYTH, Esq., F.R.S.E., Astronomer Royal for Scotland, and Professor of Practical Astronomy in the University of Edinburgh.*

ROYAL OBSERVATORY,  
EDINBURGH, September 26, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—In answer to yours of yesterday, I have much pleasure in testifying to your capacity and peculiar fitness for doing honour to a Professorship of History and English Literature.

Your various published works prove the great extent and the exact character of your knowledge, while such lectures as you have occasionally given, and your conversation always, show you to have the faculty in an eminent degree of imparting your own knowledge to others, fluently and copiously.

I shall regret certainly, as doubtless will many others, your removal from this neighbourhood; but must rejoice in prospect of your having more spare time for literary purposes, and in a country too where there is such unlimited room for a student of your turn of mind to employ himself in deciphering the remains of antiquity. Your success here has been so eminent in such questions, that I recently found in some remote parts of the country, the people were content to forget all their traditions and local stories, considering that they had been superseded by your "Prehistoric Annals of Scotland." Your employment therefore in the New World, amongst the host of ill-understood remains of antiquity there, is to be desired by every one who would wish to see the mysterious questions of the New World cleared up in our own times.

With best wishes for your success, I remain, &c.

C. PIAZZI SMYTH.

VIII.—From JOHN GOODSIR, Esq., F.R.S. L. & E., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the University of Edinburgh, Author of "Anatomical and Pathological Observations," &c.*

September 27, 1851.

I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to Mr. Daniel Wilson's great literary ability, and to the success with which he has prosecuted Ethnological and Antiquarian research.

From an intimate acquaintance of many years standing, I can also state that he possesses energy of character, enthusiasm in his pursuits, and a most amiable disposition.

With these qualifications, I cannot doubt that Mr. Wilson would prove a most energetic and successful Professor of History (for the philosophical illustration of which he is thoroughly prepared) and of English Literature.

If successful in gaining the Chair in the University of Toronto, his loss will be severely felt in this country by all who are interested in his favourite pursuits.

JOHN GOODSIR.

---

IX.—From ALEXANDER KEITH JOHNSTON, Esq., F.R.G.S., F.G.S., *Geographer in Ordinary to Her Majesty; Hon. Member of the Geographical Society, Berlin, &c.; author of "The Physical Atlas of Natural Phenomena;" the "Dictionary of Geography," &c.*

EDINBURGH, 4, ST. ANDREW SQUARE,  
September 30, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—Having been informed of your intention to become a Candidate for the Professorship of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto, I gladly take this opportunity of expressing my conviction of your eminent qualifications for so important an appointment. Your merits as a critical historian, and the united force, perspicuity, and elegance of your compositions are well known, and may be judged of at a distance, from your valuable publications. But the peculiar faculty which

you possess of bringing every kind of information to bear on the immediate object of pursuit, and your promptitude in turning it to the best account, can only be appreciated by such as have enjoyed your friendship and are conversant with your literary labours.

The vast amount of your reading, and the extent of your experience, would render preparation for the Academic Chair a comparatively easy task ; while your facility in conveying instruction, not only orally, but graphically, would make these stores of learning at once available and acceptable to your pupils. When to these advantages is added that high sense of honour which prompts you to devote your best energies to whatever duty you undertake, it cannot be doubted that your appointment would be as great a source of benefit to Canada, as I am sure it would be of lasting regret to your friends here.—I remain, &c.

ALEX. KEITH JOHNSTON.

---

X.—*From J. SHANK MORE, Esq., F.R.S.E., Professor of the Law of Scotland in the University of Edinburgh.*

19, GREAT KING STREET,  
September 19, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have just received your note, informing me that you have been requested to offer yourself as a Candidate for the Chair of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto.

Your writings will shew how admirably you are qualified for such a Professorship ; and, indeed, from what I know of your intimate acquaintance with history and literature, independent of your published works, I do not at present call to mind any person who would do so much credit to such an appointment as yourself. I am confident that if any testimony you may get from your friends should induce the Electors of Toronto to confer this appointment upon you, it will soon be acknowledged that, in giving such testimony, a much greater benefit has been conferred on the University of Toronto than on yourself.

I am sure all your friends here will regret your departure, if you should succeed in obtaining this appointment.—I am, &c.

J. S. MORE.

---

XI.—*From J. HUTTON BALFOUR, M.D., F.R.S.E., Professor of Medicine and Botany in the University of Edinburgh; Author of the "Manual of Botany," &c.*

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,

September 26, 1851.

Mr. Daniel Wilson has been long known to me as an enthusiastic and zealous student of literature and history. He has distinguished himself by his writings, and his recent work, the "Archæology and the Prehistoric Annals of Scotland," has most deservedly placed him in a high rank as a writer, a scholar, and an antiquarian. He is also an able lecturer, and has shewn his power of communicating information in a pleasing and attractive manner by the course of Lectures on Primitive British History, which he delivered at the Philosophical Institution of Edinburgh.

Whether I regard Mr. Wilson's moral and religious character, his extensive historical knowledge, or his ability as a lecturer, I look upon him as peculiarly well qualified for the Chair of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto.

My only regret will be, that in the event of his getting the appointment, we shall lose one who has contributed not a little to the fame of our Scottish Metropolis.

J. H. BALFOUR.

XII.—*From J. STUART BLACKIE, M.A., Professor of Latin Literature, Marischal College, Aberdeen; Author of "The Lyrical Dramas of Æschylus, translated into English verse," &c.*

MARISCIAL COLLEGE, ABERDEEN,  
October 13, 1851.

UNDERSTANDING that my friend Mr. Daniel Wilson of Edinburgh is a Candidate for the Chair of History and English Literature, Toronto, I have the highest pleasure in certifying from direct personal knowledge his eminent fitness for such a situation. Mr. Wilson combines in an extraordinary degree the imagination of the poetical mind with the accurate discrimination necessary for scientific investigation. He expresses himself with fluency, elegance, and ease; his manners are remarkably gentlemanly; and in every respect he is a person calculated to give lustre to an Academic Institution, and to exercise a beneficial influence on the minds of the young. I cannot but express my deep sorrow that the little encouragement given in our Universities to native literature and history, should have induced a person of Mr. Wilson's high talents and attainments to apply for such an appointment beyond the Atlantic.

JOHN S. BLACKIE.

XIII.—*From GEORGE E. DAY, M.A., Cantab., M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Anatomy and Medicine, University of St. Andrews.*

ST. ANDREWS, October 13, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—I do not think that any recommendation of mine can add weight to the opinion of those eminent men who have already borne the strongest testimony to your general literary qualifications, and to your profound knowledge of Ethnology and Archæology; but I am very sure that your appointment to the Chair for which you are a Candidate, although it would be a source of much personal regret to your friends, would confer a great benefit on the University of Toronto.—I am, &c.

GEORGE E. DAY.

XIV.—*From the Rev. ROBERT VAUGHAN, D.D., Principal of Lancashire Independent College, and late Professor of History, University College, London; Author of "The History of England under the House of Stuart;" "The Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell," &c.*

MANCHESTER, October 6, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—The proofs of your taste, acquirements, and power, on matters of Art and Literature, and especially in relation to History, which have come before me, fully warrant me in saying, that should the Chair of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto be assigned to you, I feel assured that the duties of that trust will be discharged by you with a high degree of efficiency.—I am, &c.

ROBERT VAUGHAN.

---

XV.—*From LYON PLAYFAIR, Ph.D., F.R.S., Lecturer on Chemistry to the Government School of Mines, Museum of Practical Geology, London.*

LONDON, October 3, 1851.

DEAR SIR,—I am glad to learn that you are a Candidate for the Chair of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto. I have had the pleasure of knowing you for many years, and it gives me much pleasure to bear my testimony to your peculiar qualifications for this important office. In addition to your literary attainments, long recognised by the public as of a high order, your antiquarian knowledge gives a further guarantee of your fitness for this office. I feel that an opinion from myself on these subjects can have so little weight in comparison with that expressed by your eminent literary friends, that I can only further assure you that it will give me much pleasure to congratulate you on your success.—I am, &c.

LYON PLAYFAIR. . . .

XVI.—From DAVID THOMSON, Esq., M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge ;  
*Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University and King's  
 College, Aberdeen.*

KING'S COLLEGE ABERDEEN,  
 October 20, 1851.

Mr. Daniel Wilson has been long known as one of the most distinguished antiquaries in this country. The subjects to which he has hitherto chiefly directed his attention, have so intimate a connexion with those which he now desires to prosecute in the University of Toronto, that he cannot fail—in applying to the latter the same laborious zeal and critical acumen which he has displayed in the former—to discharge the duties of the office to which he aspires, with credit to himself and to all concerned. And although his removal from this country will, on many accounts, be much regretted by all who know him, whether personally, or through his writings, they will find some alleviation of their regret in the prospect of his transference to a fresh field of useful labour, and of his effecting for North America what he has so ably performed for Scotland, by throwing new light on the “Prehistoric Annals” of that country.

DAVID THOMSON.

XVII.—From DAVID LAING, Esq., *Principal Librarian of the Library of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet ; Honorary Secretary of the Bannatyne Club ; Author of “A Memoir of the Life of William Dunbar ;” Editor of “The Poems of William Dunbar ;” “Knox's History of the Reformation in Scotland,” edited for the Wodrow Society, &c.*

SIGNET LIBRARY,  
 October 22, 1851

MY DEAR SIR,—In reply to your request, I can only bear testimony to the high and just opinions already expressed in regard both to the works you have already published, and the qualifica-



tions which would enable you am fully persuaded, to fill the Chair of History and Literature in the University of Toronto with distinction.

While I should rejoice to see you obtain a situation which might call forth your peculiar talents to advantage, this would not be unaccompanied with regret in being deprived of your services in this place, in literary as well as antiquarian pursuits.—Believe me, &c.,

D. LAING.

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XVIII.—From J. F. FERRIER, Esq., B.A., *Oxon.*; *Professor of Moral Philosophy and Political Economy in the University of St. Andrews*; and *late Professor of History in the University of Edinburgh.*

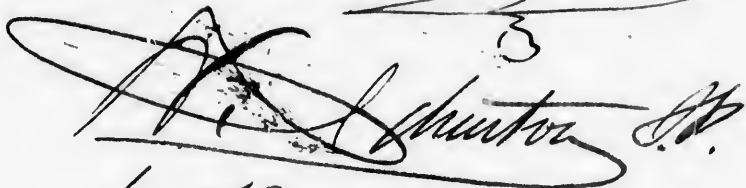
ST. ANDREWS, October 20, 1851.

I have not the pleasure of being personally acquainted with Mr. Daniel Wilson; but having had occasion to consult his "Archæology and Prehistoric Annals of Scotland," I may be permitted to say, that the extensive research, the soundness of judgment, and the perspicuity of style displayed in that elaborate and well-digested work, afford ample evidence, in my opinion, of his perfect competency to discharge the duties of a Professor of History and English Literature in any academical institution.

J. F. FERRIER.

At Edinburgh the thirtieth day of  
October, Eighteen hundred and fifty one  
years. In presence of the Right  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir William Johnston, Kt. Lord  
Provost of Edinburgh, appeared Daniel  
Wilson, who being solemnly sworn and  
examined, depones that the foregoing  
Testimonials are genuine copies of the  
originals, and have been seen and  
approved of as correct in their present  
form, by their respective Authors.  
All this is true as the deponent shall  
Answer to God.

Dan<sup>l</sup> Wilson

A. Hunter

Lord Provost of Edinburgh

John Kiddle heard him  
lecture a day he is the best  
speaker he ever heard of —

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