

First report of the commissioners appointed by his Majesty William IV November 23rd 1836 and re-appointed by her Majesty Victoria I October 2d 1837 for visiting the Universities of King's College and Marischall College, Aberdeen / presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

Contributors

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Royal College of Physicians of London

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FIRST REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS

APPOINTED BY HIS MAJESTY WILLIAM IV.,

NOVEMBER 23d, 1836;

AND RE-APPOINTED BY HER MAJESTY VICTORIA I.,

OCTOBER 2d, 1837;

Commission FOR VISITING THE

UNIVERSITIES OF KING'S COLLEGE AND
MARISCHAL COLLEGE, ABERDEEN.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY W. CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1838.

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CONTENTS.

COMMISSION of His Majesty King William the Fourth, dated 23d Nov. 1836.	iii
COMMISSION of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, dated 2d Oct. 1837.	vii
REPORT:—	

<i>General Contents:—</i>		PAGE
INTRODUCTION		3
Union of Universities preliminary to other Improvements		3
Proceedings of Commissioners in reference to		3
Plan of Union proposed by former Commissioners		4
Circumstances under which proposed		4
Circumstances since altered		5
Necessity of reconsidering and remodeling it		5
Present Condition of Colleges		6
Site		6
Number of Students		6
Income		6
Bursaries		6
Buildings		6
Professorships		7
Sinecures		7
Professorships required to complete system		7
Existing deficiencies in both Colleges		8
Arts		8
Theology		8
Medicine		8
Law		8
Union, advantages of		9
— Opposition to, in various quarters		9
— Objections to, stated and answered		10
Alleged violation of Charters		10
Difficulties as to site		10
Increased size of Classes		11
Locality of teaching Classes		11
Increased expense of Education		11
Alleged injury to King's College		13
Plan of Union proposed		13
Universities to be united.		13
Colleges to remain separate		14
Professorships in United University		14
Theology		14
Law		14
Medicine		14
Arts		14
How to be supplied		14
Classes, where to be taught		14
Constitution of United University		15
Chancellor		15
University Meetings		15
Senatus Academicus		15
Rectorial Court		15
Rector		15
Assessors		16
Quorum		16
Casting Vote, &c.		16
Vacancies how to be supplied		16
Powers of		16
Courts, when to be held		17
Meetings to be open		17
Minutes		17
Proposed alterations of existing arrangements		17
In King's College		18
In Marischal College		18
Effect of proposed alterations		18
Additional Regius Professors required		19
Present Emoluments of Professors		19
Endowments under proposed arrangements		19
Additional Endowments		19
Reasons for variations from Plan proposed by former Commissioners		20
Principles of Union		20
Constitution of Rectorial Court		20
Constituent Members		20
Mode of appointment		20
Powers		21
Senatus Academicus		21
Institution of Tutorships		21
Reasons for		21
Advantages of		22
Patronage		22
Private		23
Synod and Town Council of Aberdeen		23
Professors		23
Crown		24
Suggestions as to vesting in Rectorial Court		24
Advantages of		25
Limitations proposed		25
Vacancies not to be filled up until after public notice		25
Oaths on Graduation, abolition of proposed		25

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE *respecting* KING'S COLLEGE:—

Dr. Hugh Macpherson	26	Patrick Davidson, Esq.	48
Dr. John Fleming	28	Mr. James Bentley	64
Rev. Dr. Duncan Mearns	35	Mr. John Tulloch	68
Dr. James Bannerman	37	Mr. Hercules Scott	69
Rev. Dr. Patrick Forbes	ib.		

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE *respecting* MARISCHAL COLLEGE:—

Rev. Dr. George Glennie	50	Dr. James Davidson	60
Dr. William Knight	ib.	Dr. George Gordon Maclean	61
Dr. Thomas Clark	53	Dr. John Cruickshank	ib.
Rev. Dr. Robert James Brown	54	Dr. John Macrobin	64
Rev. Dr. Alexander Black	57		

APPENDIX, viz.:—

ACCOUNTS <i>respecting</i> the Emoluments of the Principals and Professors.	71 to 74
OATHS administered at the Colleges	75

COMMISSION

FOR

VISITING THE UNIVERSITIES OF ABERDEEN, 1836.

WILLIAM the FOURTH, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith. To all just Men to whom these Our present Letters shall come, greeting: Whereas We, considering that Commissioners were appointed by His Majesty King George the Fourth on the Twenty-third Day of July and Twenty-eighth Day of September, in the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-six, and by Us on the Twelfth Day of October, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty, for the purpose of inquiring into and remedying the defects that existed in the Laws, Statutes, and Usages by which the several Colleges and Universities in Scotland were regulated, and of examining the Rentals and Revenues of the said Universities and Colleges, and Management thereof, and for various other Purposes, as specified in the Commissions whereby the said Commissioners were appointed. And whereas the said Commissioners have made a Report to Us; and whereas it is desirable to ascertain what abuses still exist and prevail in the Universities of Aberdeen notwithstanding of the said Report, and in what manner such abuses may be best remedied, and what further improvements may be introduced into the said Universities of Aberdeen; and whereas it would greatly tend to prevent delay in making the necessary inquiries in regard to the same, and in introducing such improvements into the said Universities as may be deemed expedient, that Commissioners should be appointed by His Majesty for the said Universities of King's College and of Marischal College, Aberdeen. And considering that it is Our undoubted Right and Prerogative to name Visitors and Commissioners to inquire into the said Matters, and to remedy the Irregularities or Deficiencies that exist in the said Universities, therefore We have nominated, constituted, and appointed, like as We, by these Presents, nominate, constitute, and appoint, Our Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Councillor *William George* Earl of Errol, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, and Our Trusty and Well-beloved *Alexander Bannerman*, Esquire, *William Jack*, Doctor of Divinity, Principal of King's College, Aberdeen, *Daniel Dewar*, Doctor of Divinity, Principal and Professor of Church History in Marischal College, in the said University, *John Cuninghame*, Esquire, Our Solicitor-General for Scotland, *John Abercrombie*, Doctor of Medicine, Rector of the said University of Marischal College, Aberdeen, *William Anderson*, Clerk, and *Alexander Earle Monteith*, Esquire, to be our Commissioners for visiting the Universities of Aberdeen, authorizing them to meet within the Buildings of both or either of the said Universities of King's College and Marischal College, Aberdeen, on the Twenty-ninth Day of December next ensuing, at One o'Clock Afternoon, and thereafter by adjournment or otherwise, at what time or times, place or places, they shall think fit to appoint, with power unto them, or any three or more of them, as Our Commissioners in that behalf, to visit the Universities of Aberdeen. And We hereby authorize the said Commissioners, or their Quorum, to cite the Prin-

cipals, Professors, Regents, and Masters, and others bearing Office in the said Universities, to appear personally before them at such time or times, and under such certification in case of disobedience, as to the said Commissioners shall seem expedient; and to examine them as to all matters and things that may be deemed necessary for the purpose of enabling the said Commissioners to carry into effect the objects of the Commission hereby entrusted to them; and in particular as to all matters or things regarding the granting of Degrees in the different Faculties in the said Universities, the Management and Ordering of the said Universities, the manner of Teaching therein, and everything else relating thereto, as well as to all matters or things regarding the Property and Funds, Rental or Revenues of the said Universities, or Management of the same; the Laws, Privileges, Immunities, Burdens, Fabrics, and Libraries thereof; the Fees of all descriptions exacted from the Students therein; the Foundations, Mortifications, and Donations bestowed thereon; the Powers, Jurisdictions, and Privileges of the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Rector, Dean of Faculty, Professors, and all other Members and Office-bearers therein; the University and Faculty Meetings thereof, as well with respect to the Government, Policy, and Discipline, as to the Management and Disposal of the Revenue thereof; the mode of electing or choosing the said Officers; and to decide and determine all Controversies, Pleas, and Disputes which shall have arisen in regard to the Rules for granting Degrees, or upon whatever allegation, ground, or cause whatever; and further to do all other things belonging to the Office of Commissioners for visiting Universities or Colleges by the Law or Custom of Scotland. And We further specially authorize and require the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, having due regard to the Report of the Commissioners above mentioned, appointed by his late Majesty George the Fourth, and by Us of the dates above specified, and the Evidence taken by them, to inquire into and report to Us whether there are any of the Professorships or other Offices of the said Universities or Colleges which have become Sinecures, or in regard to which the Duties enjoined on the Professors or other Office-bearers by the Charters, Foundations, or Regulations of the said Universities have not been performed by the Professors or Office-bearers, and what remedy ought to be provided for such cases where they shall be found to exist; whether the said Universities, or any body therein claiming a right to the Administration or Management of the Property and Funds thereof, or of any part of the same, have, since the date of the Report of the Commissioners above mentioned, duly or unduly administered the Property or Funds of the said Universities, or any part of them, or made Payments, Appropriations, or Distributions of the same contrary to the Foundations, Charters, and Regulations of the said Universities; or whether anything has been done or omitted in regard to the same, inconsistent with the duty of the said Universities as Administrators thereof; and whether the Debts of the said Universities or Colleges have been increased or diminished during the said period; and whether the Property and Funds of the said Universities have increased or diminished during the same; and, in the event of any Abuses being found to exist in the premises, as to the best method of remedying the same, and preventing their continuance in time coming; as to the Patronage and Mode of Appointment of the Principals or Professors, and other Office-bearers, in the said Universities; and how, and in what manner, the same has heretofore been exercised; and as to the best Mode of remedying any Defects that may be found to result from the existing Modes of Appointment to the same; as to the completeness and efficiency of the Curriculum as presently fixed in each of the Faculties of Theology, Law, Medicine, and Arts in the said Universities, and of the Modes of Teaching the several Branches of the same; and as to the propriety and expediency of instituting New Professorships in

any of the said Faculties, and of abolishing any Professorships which may be useless and unnecessary, or of substituting other Professorships in their room; and as to the necessity of granting Endowments to any New Professorships to be instituted; and as to the best Mode of providing of such Endowments from the existing Funds and Property of the said Universities or otherwise. And We further specially authorize and require the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, to take into their consideration how far it would be for the benefit of the said Universities of Aberdeen, and for the advancement of Science and Learning, that the University of King's College and the University of Marischal College should be united into one University; and in case they shall be of opinion that such union ought to take place, they shall submit such Regulations as they shall deem proper for the accomplishment of such Union, and the Management of the Affairs of the United University. And further, We hereby authorize and require the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, having regard to the Reports of the foresaid Commissioners of Visitation, to make such Regulations in relation to the Government, Discipline, and System of Education in the said Universities of Aberdeen, and the Management and Distribution of the Funds thereof, as they shall deem most conducive to the Improvement of Education in the said Universities, and to the beneficial Administration of the Affairs of the same, and as shall be consistent with the Laws and Government of Church and State as by Law established, it being hereby declared that none of the said Commissioners shall be entitled to vote in any matter in which he shall have a personal or patrimonial interest. And it being also hereby declared that, before the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, shall proceed to make any such Regulations, an opportunity shall be given to the Senatus Academicus and Professors of the said Universities, in the first instance, to take into consideration the Affairs of the same, as well in relation to the System of Education and Teaching therein, as to the Administration and Funds thereof; and for this purpose it shall be competent for the said Senatus Academicus and Professors to prepare, and at any time, within the period of Six Months from the Date of this Commission, to submit for the consideration of the said Commissioners such Regulations founded on the Reports of the foresaid Commissioners of Visitation, but under such modifications or omissions as may appear expedient for the future Regulation and Management of the said Universities as to the said Senatus Academicus and Professors shall seem best calculated to promote the prosperity of the Universities as places of Education and the advancement of Science and Learning. And the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, if they shall think fit, are hereby empowered to call upon the said Senatus and Professors to afford such information and explanation in relation thereto as they may require. And the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, are empowered and required, upon consideration of such Regulations, and having regard to the Reports of the foresaid Commissioners of Visitation, to adopt such Regulations in whole or in part, and to frame such further or other Regulations, to the effect aforesaid, as they shall think fit and expedient; and, failing the Senatus Academicus and Professors so submitting such Regulations within the said period, the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, are hereby authorized and empowered to proceed in framing such Regulations without the necessity of consulting the said Senatus Academicus or Professors in regard to the same. And We further hereby authorize and require the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, to make Reports to us from time to time on the matters thus entrusted to them, setting forth the state of the said Universities or Colleges in reference to the premises, and the Rules, Statutes, and Ordinances which the said Commissioners may propose to be established therein, and suggesting any further

Improvements in the said Universities which the powers hereby conferred may be deemed not sufficient to sanction. And when such Rules, Statutes, and Ordinances shall have been approved by us, they shall be inserted in a Book or Books, to be signed by the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, which Book or Books shall be lodged with our Clerk Register of Scotland, for the end that the same may be preserved among the Public Records, and a Duplicate thereof shall be sent to the said Universities of Aberdeen, and such Rules, Statutes, and Ordinances shall thereafter be observed in all time coming in the said Universities of Aberdeen, until altered or revoked by the authority of Us, Our Heirs or Successors, and this notwithstanding any prior Rules, Laws, or Customs to the contrary. And we declare that this present Commission shall continue and endure during Our own pleasure only, and until We shall think fit to revoke the same under Our Royal Sign Manual; and, if not sooner revoked, shall cease and be determined so soon as the purposes hereinbefore expressed shall be accomplished. In testimony whereof We have commanded to be appended to these Presents Our Royal Seal, appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in Scotland in the vice and place of the Great Seal of the same, at Our Court at Saint James's, the Twenty-third Day of the Month of November, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-six, and the Seventh Year of Our Reign.

By Warrant of a Signature superscribed by the Sign Manual of
Our Sovereign Lord the King.

Written to the Seal, and Registered the Sixteenth Day of
December, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-six.

ALEXANDER M. BELL, *Sub.*

Sealed at Edinburgh, the Sixteenth Day of December,
in the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and
Thirty-six.

COMMISSION

FOR

VISITING THE UNIVERSITIES OF ABERDEEN, 1837.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith. To all just Men to whom these Presents shall come, greeting: Whereas our Royal Predecessor, William the Fourth, King, by his Warrant or Commission for expediting Letters Patent, under the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in place of the Great Seal of Scotland, dated the Sixteenth Day of December, in the Seventh Year of His Reign, nominated, constituted, and ordained His Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Councillor, *William George* Earl of *Erroll*, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, and His Trusty and Well-beloved, *Alexander Bannerman*, Esquire, *William Jack*, Doctor of Divinity, Principal of King's College of Aberdeen, *Daniel Dewar*, Doctor of Divinity, Principal and Professor of Church History in Marischal College, in said University, *John Cuninghame*, Esquire, Our Solicitor-General for Scotland, *John Abercrombie*, Doctor of Medicine, Rector of the said University of Marischal College of Aberdeen, *William Anderson*, Clerk, and *Alexander Earle Monteith*, Esquire, to be His Commissioners for visiting the Universities of Aberdeen; granting authority to them to meet within the buildings of both or either of the said Universities of King's College and Marischal College of Aberdeen, on the Twenty-ninth Day of December last, at One o'Clock Afternoon, and thereafter by Adjournment, or otherwise, at what time or times, place or places, they should see fit to appoint; with power to them, or any three or more of them, as His Commissioners in that behalf, to visit the Universities of Aberdeen. And We, considering that the said Letters Patent or Commission by the late King, granting to the said Commissioners Powers of Visitors, for the purpose of exercising His Royal Prerogative, have fallen, or may have fallen, on account of the decease of the late King, of Blessed Memory; and whereas it has further graciously pleased Us to approve of the design of the said Constitution of Visitors of the Universities of Aberdeen, and We have resolved to commit to the said persons the said office of Visitors, with all the powers before granted to them by the late King, and for the same designs and purposes: therefore We have nominated, constituted, and ordained, like as We by these Presents nominate, constitute, and ordain, the said *William George* Earl of *Erroll*, *Alexander Bannerman*, *William Jack*, *Daniel Dewar*, *John Cuninghame*, *John Abercrombie*, *William Anderson*, and *Alexander Earle Monteith* to be Our Commissioners for visiting the Universities of Aberdeen, granting by these Presents unto the said Commissioners all the powers and faculties conferred on them by the Letters Patent or Commission first recited, with full power to them to do what they are required by these Presents; to prosecute and complete their proceedings foresaid, in all respects as if the said decease of the late King had never happened; and with full power to the said Commissioners to meet at what time or times, place or places, they shall see fit to appoint; with power unto them, or any three of them (that number being a quorum), as Our Commissioners in that behalf, to

visit the Universities of Aberdeen. And We by these Presents authorize the said Commissioners, or their quorum, to cite the Principals, Professors, Regents, and Masters, and others bearing office in the said Universities, to appear personally before them at such time or times, and under such certification, in case of disobedience, as to the said Commissioners shall seem expedient; and to examine them as to all matters and things that may be deemed necessary for the purpose of enabling the said Commissioners to carry into effect the objects of the Commission hereby entrusted to them; and in particular as to all matters or things regarding the granting of Degrees in the different Faculties in the said Universities, the management and ordering of the said Universities, the mode of teaching therein, and every thing else relating thereto; as well as to all matters or things regarding the Property and Funds, Rental or Revenues of the said Universities, or Management of the same; the Laws, Privileges, Immunities, Burdens, Fabrics, and Libraries thereof; the Fees of all descriptions exacted from the Students therein; the Foundations, Mortifications, and Donations bestowed thereon; the Powers, Jurisdictions, and Privileges of the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Rector, Dean of Faculty, Professors, and all other Members and Office-Bearers therein; the University and Faculty Meetings thereof; as well with respect to the Government, Policy, and Discipline, as to the Management and Disposal of the Revenue thereof; the mode of electing or choosing the said Officers; and to decide and determine all Controversies, Pleas, and Disputes which shall have arisen in regard to the Rules for granting Degrees, or upon whatever allegation, ground, or cause whatever; and further to do all other things belonging to the office of Commissioners for visiting Universities or Colleges by the law or custom of Scotland. And We further specially authorize and require the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, having due regard to the Report of the Commissioners appointed by King George the Fourth, and by the late King William the Fourth, for visiting the Universities and Colleges of Scotland, and the evidence taken by them, to inquire into and report to Us whether there are any of the Professorships, or other offices of the said Universities or Colleges, which have become sinecures, or in regard to which the duties enjoined on the Professors, or other Office-Bearers, by the Charters, Foundations, or Regulations of the said Universities, have not been performed by the Professors or Office-Bearers, and what remedy ought to be provided for such cases, where they shall be found to exist; whether the said Universities, or any body therein claiming a right to the Administration or Management of the Property and Funds thereof, or of any part of the same, have, since the date of the Report of the Commissioners above mentioned, duly or unduly administered the Property or Funds of the said Universities, or any part of them, or made payments, appropriations, or distributions of the same, contrary to the Foundations, Charters, and Regulations of the said Universities; or whether anything has been done or omitted, in regard to the same, inconsistent with the duty of the said Universities, as administrators thereof; and whether the Debts of the said Universities or Colleges have been increased or diminished during the said period; and whether the Property and Funds of the said Universities have increased or diminished during the same, and in the event of any abuses being found to exist in the premises, as to the best method of remedying the same, and preventing their continuance in time coming, as to the Patronage and mode of Appointment of the Principal and Professors, and other Office-Bearers in the said Universities, and how and in what manner the same has heretofore been exercised, and as to the best mode of remedying any defects that may be found to result from the existing modes of appointment to the same; as to the completeness and efficiency of the Curriculum as presently fixed in each of the Faculties of Theology, Law, Medicine, and Arts in the said Universities, and of

the modes of teaching the several branches of the same ; and as to the propriety and expediency of instituting new Professorships in any of the said Faculties, and of abolishing any Professorships which may be useless and unnecessary, or of substituting other Professorships in their room ; and as to the necessity of granting Endowments to any new Professorships to be instituted ; and as to the best mode of providing of such Endowments from the existing funds and property of the said Universities or otherwise. And We further especially authorize and require the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, to take into their consideration how far it would be for the benefit of the said Universities of Aberdeen, and for the advancement of Science and Learning, that the University of King's College and the University of Marischal College should be united into one University. And in case they shall be of opinion that such Union ought to take place, they shall submit such regulations as they shall deem proper for the accomplishment of such Union, and the management of the affairs of the United University. And further, We hereby authorize and require the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, having regard to the Reports of the foresaid Commissioners of Visitation, to make such regulations in relation to the Government, Discipline and system of Education in the said Universities of Aberdeen, and the management and distribution of the funds thereof, as they shall deem most conducive to the improvement of Education in the said Universities, and to the beneficial Administration of the affairs of the same, and as shall be consistent with the Laws and Government of Church and State as by Law established : it being hereby declared that none of the said Commissioners shall be entitled to vote in any matter in which he shall have a personal or patrimonial interest ; and it being also hereby declared that before the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, shall proceed to make any such regulations, an opportunity shall be given to the Senatus Academicus and Professors of the said Universities, in the first instance, to take into consideration the affairs of the same, as well in relation to the system of Education and teaching therein, as to the Administration and Funds thereof. And for this purpose, it shall be competent for the said Senatus Academicus and Professors to prepare, and, at any time within the period of six months from the date of this Commission, to submit for the consideration of the said Commissioners, such regulations founded on the Reports of the foresaid Commissioners of Visitation, but under such modifications or omissions as may appear expedient for the future regulation and management of the said Universities, as to the said Senatus Academicus and Professors shall seem best calculated to promote the prosperity of the Universities as places of Education, and the advancement of Science and Learning. And the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, if they shall think fit, are hereby empowered to call upon the said Senatus Academicus and Professors, to afford such information and explanation in relation thereto, as they may require. And the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, are empowered and required, upon consideration of such regulations, and having regard to the Reports of the foresaid Commissioners of Visitation, to adopt such regulations in whole or in part, and to frame such further or other regulations to the effect aforesaid, as they shall think fit and expedient ; and failing the Senatus Academicus and Professors so submitting such regulations within the said period, the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, are hereby authorized and empowered to proceed in framing such regulations, without the necessity of consulting the said Senatus Academicus or Professors in regard to the same. And we hereby further authorize and require the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, to make Reports to us from time to time on the matters thus entrusted to them, setting forth the state of the said Universities or Colleges, in

reference to the premises, and the Rules, Statutes, and Ordinances which the said Commissioners may propose to be established therein, and suggesting any further improvements in the said Universities, which the powers hereby conferred, may be deemed not sufficient to sanction. And when such Rules, Statutes, and Ordinances shall have been approved by Us, they shall be inserted in a book or books, to be signed by the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them; which book or books shall be lodged with Our Clerk-register of Scotland, for the end that the same may be preserved among the Public Records, and a duplicate thereof shall be sent to the said Universities of Aberdeen, and such Rules, Statutes, and Ordinances shall thereafter be observed in all time coming in the said Universities of Aberdeen, until altered or revoked by the authority of Us, Our heirs or successors, and this, notwithstanding any prior Rules, Laws, or Customs to the contrary. And We declare that this present Commission shall continue and endure during Our own pleasure only, and until We shall think fit to revoke the same under Our Royal Sign-manual, and, if not sooner revoked, shall cease, and be determined so soon as the purposes hereinbefore expressed shall be accomplished. In testimony whereof, We have commanded to be appended to these Presents Our Royal Seal, appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in Scotland, in the vice and place of the Great Seal of the same, at our Court at St. James's, the Second day of October, in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Seven, and of Our Reign the First Year.

By Warrant of a Signature superscribed by the Sign-manual of
Our Sovereign Lady the Queen.

Written to the Seal, and Registered the Twenty-fourth day of
October, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-seven.

ROGER AYTOUN, C. D.

Sealed at Edinburgh, the Twenty-fourth day of October,
in the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-
seven.

JOHN CHRISTISON, Deputy.

REPORT.

UNTO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

HAVING been appointed Commissioners for visiting the Universities of Aberdeen, by a Commission issued by his late Majesty King William, dated the 23d day of November 1836, and by a Commission issued by your Majesty, dated the 2d day of October 1837, we proceeded without delay, in the discharge of the duties committed to us, to investigate the various subjects which we were directed to inquire into and report upon to your Majesty. These investigations are numerous and complicated, and have not yet been fully completed, but they are in such a state of forwardness as, we trust, may enable us to lay the results before your Majesty at an early period. Introduction.

Among the subjects into which we are directed to inquire, the expediency of uniting the two Universities of King's College and Marischal College holds a prominent place. The Commission "specially authorises and requires the said Commissioners, or any three of them, to take into their consideration how far it would be for the benefit of the said Universities of Aberdeen, and for the advancement of science and learning, that the University of King's College and the University of Marischal College should be united into one University; and in case they shall be of opinion that such Union ought to take place, they shall submit such regulations as they shall deem proper for the accomplishment of such union and the management of the affairs of the United University."

We are further directed, among other things, to inquire into "the completeness and sufficiency of the Curriculum, as presently fixed in each of the Faculties of Theology, Law, Medicine, and Arts in the said Universities, and of the modes of teaching the several branches of the same, and as to the propriety and expediency of instituting new Professorships in any of the said Faculties, and of abolishing any Professorships which may be useless or unnecessary, or of substituting other Professorships in their room, and as to the necessity of granting endowments to any new Professorships that may be instituted, and as to the best mode of providing for such endowments from the existing funds and property of the said Universities or otherwise."

We soon found that the question of the union of the Universities was not only of paramount importance in itself, but that it necessarily affected the views we might form, and the suggestions we might feel called upon to make to your Majesty in reference to the particular subjects above-mentioned, as well as to various other subjects embraced by the Commission. We resolved therefore to proceed to the consideration of it in the first instance, as being in its nature preliminary to any suggestions for improving the system of education in the Universities of Aberdeen; and having formed an unanimous opinion on the subject, we have availed ourselves of your Majesty's gracious permission, to report "from time to time," humbly to submit to your Majesty the proceedings we adopted, and the conclusions to which we have come in regard to it. Union, preliminary.

Having been directed by your Majesty's Commission to have due regard in all our proceedings to the Report of the Commissioners appointed to visit the Universities of Scotland, by their late Majesties King George IV. and King William IV. in the years 1826 and 1830, and to the evidence taken by those Commissioners, our first step was to apply to the Secretary of State for the Home Department for copies of that Report and Evidence, with which we were promptly furnished, and which we have carefully and maturely considered. Proceedings of Commissioners.

The Commission further directed, that, before we should proceed as Commissioners to propose any regulations in regard to the government of the Universities, an opportunity should be given to the Senatus Academicus and Professors of each of the Universities to take the whole affairs of the same into their consideration, and at any time within the period of six months from the date of the Commission,

to submit to us such regulations, founded on the Report of the previous Commissioners, as might appear to them expedient for the future regulation and management of the Universities. Accordingly we, at the first meeting held by us, directed notices to be given to the Senatus Academicus of each of the Universities that the Commission had been issued, and at the same time furnished each of the Universities with a copy of the Commission, particularly directing their attention to the clause alluded to, and inviting them to accompany the regulations to be proposed by them with such suggestions, in regard to the principles of an Union and the mode of carrying those principles into effect, as might appear to them most conducive to the interests of education in the Universities of Aberdeen.

The University of Marischal College within the prescribed period submitted to us a system of regulations, comprehending a plan for the Union of the Universities, and containing many important suggestions which we have maturely considered, and from which we have derived much valuable assistance. The University of King's College, however, took no notice of our communication, and has neither submitted any system of regulations or plan of union, nor assigned any reason for the omission.

The former Commissioners of Visitation having expressed an unanimous opinion in favour of the expediency of uniting the Universities, and having in the Report given in by them suggested a plan for carrying the Union into effect, we considered it to be our duty, before proceeding further, to take that plan, as well as the evidence on which it was framed, into our mature consideration.

For the details of the plan suggested by those Commissioners, we take the liberty of referring to their Report, in which it is embodied. From that document it appears that they proposed to unite not only the Universities, but the Colleges; to deprive the members of those Colleges of the power to manage and administer their respective funds and property, and to invest the same in a University Court; to institute one set of Professorships in each of the Faculties of Theology, Law, Medicine, and Arts; to fix the seat of the united University at King's College, the buildings of which were proposed to be added to for the purpose of affording the necessary accommodation, and the site of Marischal College to be sold in aid of the funds required for that purpose.

It humbly appeared to us, upon considering this plan, that it involved some principles which, besides being of questionable expediency, were calculated to excite, and had excited, much opposition in various quarters, while they were not by any means necessary to an efficient union of the Universities. But independently of these considerations, to which we shall have occasion to advert more particularly in the sequel, we found that circumstances had so materially altered since the period when that plan was proposed, as to have made it, in some of its most important features, inapplicable to the existing state of things in the Universities.

The circumstances under which the plan of the late Commissioners was proposed may be best stated in the language of their Report, which we quote the more fully as it embodies certain general views in which it will be seen that we entirely acquiesce. "Before forming any opinion as to the regulations required for the Universities of Aberdeen there is a preliminary question which it is necessary to consider. There are two Universities in Aberdeen, King's College and Marischal College, the former situated in Old Aberdeen and the other in the new city of Aberdeen, the distance between them not being more than a mile. The same branches of education are taught in each, and each of them has its separate Professors. The propriety of uniting the two establishments into one University was at a very early period a subject of serious consideration. In the reign of Charles the First, a charter for this purpose was passed by the King, and confirmed by an Act of Parliament. It appears, however, that this Act had not been carried into effect, or at least that the two establishments continued to be practically distinct. During the course of the last century various proposals were made, at different times, for uniting them. After deliberate consideration, we are decidedly of opinion that it is highly expedient that a Union should take place. By this measure the system of instruction might be rendered more extensive and complete; and in particular a full Medical School might be established, the importance and probable success of which appear to be strongly supported by the evidence before us. Some apprehensions have been expressed by the Professors that by the union the number of the students in the several classes would become inconveniently great; but we are satisfied that there is no real foundation for these apprehensions. For although we believe that the Univer-

Plan of Union by
former Commis-
sioners.

Circumstances
under which it was
prop

"sity, when united, might be rendered a complete seminary of instruction for the inhabitants of the northern parts of Scotland, we see no ground for expecting that the number of students attending any of the classes would ever become so great as to present any obstacle to the most efficient system of education.

"A union of the same nature, and on the same principles, was effected, about the middle of the last century, of the separate Colleges of St. Leonard's and St. Salvator's, in the University of St. Andrews, with perfect success. The mode followed in that case might be adopted in the present, and there would be little difficulty in providing for existing interests, and in adjusting the endowments in the manner which such a union may require.

"There is at the same time a practical consideration of great importance, which strongly supports the conclusion to which we have come on this subject. The Marquis of Lansdowne, then one of the principal Secretaries of State, transmitted to us, by command of His late Majesty, an application made to Government in behalf of Marischal College on the subject of the dilapidated condition of the buildings of that University, desiring us to take the matter into our consideration, and to report our opinion thereupon. The committee of visitors who attended the special visitation of the Universities of Aberdeen inspected those buildings, and they further examined professional gentlemen in regard to the state of them. From the evidence of those gentlemen, it appears that they considered the buildings as too ruinous to admit of repair, without an expense equal to that of an entirely new edifice. The Commissioners present at the visitation were quite satisfied of the correctness of that evidence. We are, therefore, of opinion that, if the proposed Union of the two Universities shall not be carried into effect, it will be necessary to construct, at a very great expense, new buildings for Marischal College, with accommodation for a medical school. On the other hand, if a Union does take place, the site of the United University ought to be at King's College, where considerable additions and extensive repairs have recently been made, partly by a grant of money from Government, and partly by private subscription. In all probability, therefore, if this plan should be adopted, full accommodation would be afforded by moderate additions to the buildings of King's College, and it would then only be further necessary to provide the smaller buildings required for the Law and Medical classes, which ought to be taught in Aberdeen, &c. It is material also to observe, with reference to this matter, that the large area now belonging to Marischal College, which is nearly in the centre of New Aberdeen, may be very advantageously disposed of."

Since the date of that Report upwards of £25,000 have been obtained for the purpose of rebuilding Marischal College, of which about £18,000, including a sum of interest, was a Royal Grant, the remainder raised by private subscription; and buildings for University purposes on a very extensive and judicious plan are in the course of being erected on the site of Marischal College, and are already in a considerable state of advancement.

Change of circumstances.

This important change of circumstances, added to the consideration that the plan proposed by the former Commissioners involved a greater degree of interference with charters and vested rights than, in our humble opinion, was necessary to attain the end in view, satisfied us of the propriety of re-considering the whole subject, and we were confirmed in this by a very strong feeling which, in the course of our investigations, we had found to prevail in both Universities against many of the leading features of the plan of Union formerly proposed.

Necessity of re-considering plan of Union.

But, although convinced of the impracticability under existing circumstances of the precise plan proposed by our predecessors, we saw no reason to doubt the soundness of the general conclusion to which they had come as to the propriety of uniting the two Universities. On the contrary, we have formed a very clear opinion from the evidence that was taken before them, and from the reasons stated in their Report, that the Union is a measure of essential importance to the interests of education in the North of Scotland.

In the course of the investigations which we were called upon to make, for the purpose of enabling us to mature a plan of Union to be submitted to Your Majesty, applicable to existing circumstances, we found, with regret, that means had been used to create a strong opposition in many quarters to any union whatever, by persons who were anxious to uphold the present system. This, added to the great variety of opinions that were expressed, and the number of conflicting interests with which we had to deal, made it necessary for us to proceed with the greatest caution, and, if possible, to devise a plan which should be efficient for the public good, and, at the same time, interfere as little as possible either with the

interests or prejudices of any class of the community. With this view, we resolved to examine the whole of the Professors of both Universities, a course from which we derived great advantage, for, while we were favoured with a variety of important suggestions from many who were friendly to the principle of an Union, we had the objections brought before us in a definite and tangible form by those opposed to it, and were thus enabled to estimate the weight that was due to these objections better than we could otherwise have done.

After the most mature consideration of the subject, and weighing the evidence derived from these various sources, we are unanimously of opinion in favour of the principle of uniting the Universities, which was so strongly recommended by the late Commissioners, although the plan of Union which we have to propose differs from theirs in some of its leading features.

Before submitting the details of that plan to Your Majesty, it may be proper to advert shortly to those circumstances in the present condition of the Universities, which are most essential to be kept in view in considering the expediency of an Union, and to the principal difficulties with which we had to combat in framing a plan for uniting them.

Present condition
of Colleges.

Under the former head, we shall satisfy ourselves with a general statement, referring for more minute details to the very full Report of the former Commissioners, excepting in so far as any alteration of circumstances has taken place since the date of that Report.

Site.

There are two Universities in Aberdeen, which are distinct from each other, and each of which claims and exercises the rights of an independent University. They were founded at different periods and by different persons, and each comprehends a College, endowed from separate and distinct sources. King's College, which was originally founded in the year 1494, is situated in Old Aberdeen, which lies to the north of the modern city. Marischal College was founded in the year 1593, and is situated in New Aberdeen. The distance between the two Colleges is somewhat more than a mile. The population of Old Aberdeen is understood to be about 2,000, and that of New Aberdeen to be upwards of 45,000, although, from the mode in which the last census was taken, we have not the means of stating this precisely. The population of the latter is rapidly increasing, while the population of the former has long been stationary, if not retrograding.

Number of
Students.

The number of Students, exclusive of Medical Students, attending King's College, annually on an average of the last ten years, has been 365. The number, also exclusive of Medical Students, attending Marischal College annually on an average of the same period has been 357. A large proportion of the Students frequenting King's College are derived from the neighbouring counties, and from the north of Scotland, generally, the greater number of whom reside in Old Aberdeen. The Students attending Marischal College, derived from the city of New Aberdeen, have their residences there. Upwards of one-half of the Students in Arts attending Marischal College come from the country, and these also reside, with few exceptions, in New Aberdeen.

Income.

The annual income of King's College for the year 1836 derived from their endowments, independently of certain annual grants from the Crown, amounted to the sum of £1,215. 13s. 4d., while the annual value of its grants from the Crown amounted to £1,148. 6s. 8d. The average annual value of the endowments of Marischal College, independently of certain annual grants from the Crown, amounted for the same year to £1,088. 2s. 6d., while the annual value of the grants from the Crown amounted to £550. 6s. 8d.

Bursaries.

The number of Bursars connected with King's College, according to the returns made to the former Commissioners in 1826, was 128, and the annual amount paid to them from funds bequeathed or mortified for their support was £1,643. The number of Bursars connected with Marischal College, according to returns made at the same period, was 101, and the annual amount paid to them from funds bequeathed or mortified for their support was £1,111. There have been some variations on the amount of the Bursar funds since 1826, which shall be specified in our future Report; but it is unnecessary to enter into any detail of them at present, as they are of small amount, and not such as can at all affect the elements of the question as to the expediency of an union.

Buildings.

The buildings of King's College, which were considerably added to in the year 1827, are in a tolerable state of repair, and, generally speaking, sufficient for the accommodation of the Students frequenting it. The old buildings of Marischal College are in such a ruinous condition as to require to be taken down, but new

buildings are in the course of being erected on the same site, on an extensive scale, sufficient not merely to accommodate the proper Students of Marischal College, but also to afford accommodation for a Medical School, which has for some years been taught in New Aberdeen, by Lecturers appointed from time to time by both Universities, under the direction of a joint Committee.

The University of King's College contains the following Professorships:—

Professorships.

1. Principal.
2. Professorship of Divinity.
3. Professorship of Humanity.
4. Professorship of Greek.
5. Professorship of Logic and Moral Philosophy.
6. Professorship of Natural Philosophy.
7. Professorship of Mathematics.
8. Professorship of Oriental Languages.
9. Professorship of Civil Law.
10. Professorship of Medicine.

The University of Marischal College contains the following Professorships:—

1. Principal.
2. Professorship of Divinity.
3. Professorship of Church History.
4. Professorship of Greek.
5. Professorship of Moral Philosophy.
6. Professorship of Natural Philosophy.
7. Professorship of Mathematics.
8. Professorship of Medicine.
9. Professorship of Chemistry.
10. Professorship of Oriental Languages.
11. Professorship of Natural and Civil History.

The Principal of King's College, who must be a Licentiate in Theology, does not teach any class. The Principal of Marischal College, who must also be a Licentiate in Theology, does not teach any class as Principal, but the present incumbent delivers Lectures upon Church History, which Professorship he holds separately from the office of Principal, the Professorship having been instituted by the Crown in 1833, with an annual salary of 50*l*. The Professorship of Medicine in King's College has degenerated into a sinecure, no Lectures having, for a long course of time, been delivered by the incumbent; while the Professorship of Law in the same College is also virtually a sinecure, there having been no attempt made for many years, on the part of the incumbents, to lecture, and the present incumbent, though willing to lecture, not having been able to form a regular class, although, during the present season, a few students have attended a weekly lecture, for which no fee is exacted.

Sinecures.

While such is the state of the Universities of Aberdeen, in regard to the means of education afforded by them, we may state, in passing, our concurrence in the Report of the previous Commissioners, that towards a complete system of education on the principles adopted by the Scottish Universities, the following Professorships at least are necessary.

Professorships required.

1. A Principal.

Theology.

2. A Professorship of Divinity or Systematic Theology.
3. A Professorship of Divinity and Biblical Criticism.
4. A Professorship of Church History.
5. A Professorship of Oriental Languages.

Law.

6. A Professorship of Law.

Medicine.

7. A Professorship of the Theory and Practice of Physic.
8. A Professorship of Anatomy and Surgery.
9. A Professorship of Chemistry.
10. A Professorship of Materia Medica.
11. A Professorship of Botany.
12. A Professorship of Midwifery.

Arts.

13. A Professorship of Moral and Political Philosophy.
14. A Professorship of Logic and Rhetoric.
15. A Professorship of Natural Philosophy.
16. A Professorship of Mathematics.
17. A Professorship of Natural History.
18. A Professorship of Greek.
19. A Professorship of Humanity.

Existing
deficiencies.

From these details it appears, *first*, that while there are two distinct Universities in Aberdeen, each teaching certain branches of learning, and having a separate Professor in those branches which are taught in common, each of the Universities is deficient in certain Professorships which the other possesses; *secondly*, that each University is defective in the means of teaching the necessary branches of learning in the different Faculties, particularly in the departments of Theology and Medicine; *thirdly*, that if the Universities are to remain separate, there is no prospect, without large additional endowments, of either of them being able to afford the means of a complete University education; and, *fourthly*, we may add, that even could these necessary endowments be obtained, there is no reasonable prospect of the attendance of a sufficient number of Students, especially in the Faculties of Theology, Law, and Medicine, to render it desirable to have two Schools in those branches of learning in Aberdeen.

Arts.

Even in the Faculty of Arts, which is the least defective of all the Faculties, the defects in both Universities are considerable. These defects have obliged the Professors to have recourse to expedients which, however praiseworthy under the circumstances, are necessarily imperfect. For example, in King's College, Natural History and Chemistry are taught by the Professor of Latin, an arrangement in itself anomalous, and which cannot be otherwise than prejudicial; while in Marischal College, Humanity and Law are taught by Lecturers who are not on the foundation, and have no voice in the Senatus Academicus, and are consequently without that weight and influence which are of importance to the proper discharge of their functions.

But if each of the Universities, as at present constituted, is deficient in the means of instruction in the Faculty of Arts, the deficiencies in the Faculties of Theology and Medicine are more conspicuous.

Theology.

The Faculty of Theology in each is confessedly so defective, that it has been found necessary in practice for Students of Divinity to attend the Lectures at both Universities; and as there is no proper division of the different branches of Theological Study among the different Professors, and no regulating and controlling power to ensure such an arrangement of the classes and of the order of teaching as should be most advantageous to the Students, they may be obliged to attend double sets of Lectures on the same branch of study, while they are deprived of the advantage of instruction in other branches altogether,—an evil which the evidence shows to be by no means visionary, but to be of great practical amount.

Medicine.

The deficiencies in the Faculty of Medicine are still greater. In the present state of Medical Science one Professorship in each University is inadequate, if not altogether nugatory and useless. Accordingly, in King's College no attempt has been made for many years to teach any branch of Medicine, and the Professorship of Medicine, which is one of the best endowed in either of the Colleges, has degenerated into a sinecure. An attempt has been made to supply the acknowledged defects in this Faculty by the appointment of Lecturers. These Lecturers, who all teach in New Aberdeen, are appointed under the inspection of the two Universities. But the system works ill. In the words of an intelligent witness, in his examination before the late Commission,—“Were there but one University, and the Faculties of Medicine united, the consequence would be, that there would be a complete control over the Medical School; at present there is none whatever. The way in which the business of the Medical School is carried on at present, is by a joint Medical Committee from the two Universities. They meet and recommend certain things to the two Colleges, and ten to one but every one of those measures is overthrown; and there is besides no authority whatever that exists which can make it imperative upon the Medical Lecturers to do one thing or another. I consider that the Medical School here is likely to get on, were it not for this great obstacle, and would be of very essential benefit to the University.”

Evidence of
Dr. Forbes.

Appendix to the
Report.

Law.

The defects in the Faculty of Law we regard of much less importance, as, considering the situation of Aberdeen, there is no reason to expect that a School of

Law can be successfully formed there; nor do we think that there would be any advantage in attempting more than the delivery of a course of Lectures upon the Municipal Law of Scotland. At present, the Professorship of Law in King's College is virtually a sinecure, and the only regular course of Lectures that is delivered in either University is by a Lecturer within the buildings of Marischal College, who derives his appointment from the Faculty of Advocates in Aberdeen, and who is neither upon the foundation, nor a Member of the *Senatus Academicus*.

It appears to us that a stronger practical testimony could not be borne to the imperfect state of the means of instruction in these Universities, and to the impracticability of making each a complete Seminary in itself with the present funds, than the course which has been pursued in reference to the Faculties of Theology and Medicine, and which amounts to a virtual union of the Universities, in so far as these Faculties are concerned, although on principles exceedingly defective, and calculated to deprive the public of many advantages that might result from a more judicious arrangement, which would at once secure an efficient and well-organized system of discipline, and hold out greater encouragement both to Professors and Students, by increasing the respectability of the establishments, and consequently the value of the honours to be conferred by them.

Advantages of Union.

While the Universities, as separate establishments, have not the means of affording a full course of education for any class of Students, there are other disadvantages attending these institutions, as they at present exist, even in reference to the branches of literature and science for which Professorships are now established. In one view it may be thought that, from the vicinity of two establishments for education, so near each other as the two Universities of Aberdeen, a salutary rivalry would take place which would act as a *stimulus* to both to adopt the best system of public instruction. To a certain extent this may be the case, and it may afford an argument for keeping the Colleges separate and distinct. But we cannot help regarding the circumstance of each of the Colleges being allowed to continue invested with University powers, as having a tendency to lead to an opposite result. Where certain privileges or honours are to be procured by attendance on Universities situated like those of Aberdeen, there is a risk of Candidates striving to obtain them at the cheapest rate; and hence a temptation in small and poorly-endowed seminaries, depending in a great measure on the number of their Students, to bestow those privileges and honours under a scanty and imperfect system of education. The most effective check upon such an abuse appears to us to be to transfer the University powers from the separate Colleges, and to invest those powers in these Colleges combined. This, by introducing one standard of attainments for procuring University honours, would tend to prevent the risk that has been alluded to, while increased value would be given to those honours by the greater dignity and weight of the body by whom they would be conferred.

In these circumstances we were decidedly of opinion that there was great room for improvement in the Universities of Aberdeen, both in the extent of the education afforded by them, in their system of discipline and management, and in the value of the degrees to be conferred by them. In considering how that improvement could be most effectually promoted, we had to choose between two alternatives, either to recommend to your Majesty to make such provision as might be required, to extend and perfect the means of education in each of the Universities, or to recommend a Plan of Union that might ensure a complete system of education from their junction. We cordially concurred with the former Commissioners in adopting the latter of these alternatives, both as being attended with much less expense to the public, and as being, independently of that consideration, better calculated to raise the standard of education—to increase the dignity and weight of the University by affording greater inducement to men of talent to become Professors—to make the honours conferred a higher object of ambition to the Students—and to alleviate or remove what one of the Professors of King's College represents “as a jealous rivalry between the Institutions which extends to the towns in which they are situated, and is now in some measure hereditary, and which renders the love of victory stronger perhaps than higher sentiments.”

Evidence of Dr. Fleming, Appendix, p. 30.

But although we had no difficulty in adopting the principle of Union, we encountered many difficulties in applying that principle, in consequence of the numerous prejudices that had been excited, and the conflicting interests which required to be considered. We found, however, that most of the persons who were

opposed to an union, founded their opposition upon reasons which, when analysed, did not apply to an Union generally, but to an Union upon certain principles which they assumed to be necessary elements of any plan that could be devised. In particular we found that a great proportion of these reasons were directed against certain features in the plan that had been proposed by the former Commissioners, which, whether right or wrong, had excited alarm in the minds of the witnesses, and which did not appear to us to be by any means necessary towards an effective plan of Union.

Objections answered.

Alleged violation of Charters.

All the objections urged against Union of the Universities which are deserving of attention may be comprised under a very few heads.

One objection, which was very strongly urged, was, that the union of the two independent Universities necessarily involved a violation of Foundation Charters and Deeds of Endowment, as well as an infringement on the vested rights of individuals. Considering that the foundation Charters of both Universities proceed on the narrative of its having been the object of their Founders to promote Religion and sound Learning in the North of Scotland, we were not disposed to attach much importance to this objection as directed against a plan which was clearly calculated to further those ends. We were moreover disposed to think, that where the rights of present incumbents are preserved entire, such an argument against legislative interference for the public good, with trusts constituted for the public benefit, was not entitled to any weight.

It appeared to us, however, very desirable to avoid, as far as possible, raising any question that was open to serious difference of opinion, especially where it could be done without injury to the object in view. Influenced by this consideration, and by the general inexpediency of unnecessary innovation, we endeavoured to devise a plan which might overcome this objection. In the plan to be submitted, accordingly, we have ventured to differ from the former Commissioners, who recommended not only an Union of the two Universities into one University, but an Union also of the Colleges, so as to merge their property and endowments into one common stock, to be administered, not by the members of the separate Colleges, or in terms of their Foundation Charters, but by an University Court vested with an unlimited control. While we have proposed an Union of the two Universities, we have also suggested that the Colleges shall remain distinct and independent, to the effect of each continuing to hold its separate property, to be managed and administered within itself, by the members on its foundation, in terms of its Foundation Charter and other rights.

Difficulties as to Site.

Another obstacle to the Union was the difficulty of arranging the site of the united University. Each College was naturally attached to its own locality, and unwilling that the seat of the University should be transferred to the other. This difficulty was much increased by the conflicting interests of the inhabitants of Old and New Aberdeen. A great proportion of the houses in Old Aberdeen are occupied as lodging houses by the Students attending King's College, and the value of the property in that quarter depends mainly on its vicinity to that College, thus giving the inhabitants a material interest that the College should be kept up. It was in evidence moreover, that a very general attachment to Old Aberdeen existed among a considerable class of the inhabitants of the North of Scotland, not only from the greater antiquity of its College, but from its retired situation making it a more desirable residence for their sons than New Aberdeen, in which young men living apart from their families were thought to be exposed to more numerous temptations. On the other hand, the inhabitants of New Aberdeen, a large and rapidly increasing commercial town, objected to the necessity of sending their sons to the distance of Old Aberdeen, possessing, as they do, a University with adequate accommodations within their own bounds. It appeared to us that these objections were not altogether unreasonable on either side, and we considered it of importance that the Plan of Union to be submitted should be framed on such principles as might reconcile the interests of both parties and remove any fair ground of complaint by either. The former Commissioners had recommended King's College as the site of the United University, but the change of circumstances that has been already adverted to, has induced us to deviate from this recommendation, and to submit a plan which, while in point of locality it divides the different branches of learning to be taught as equally as may be between Old and New Aberdeen, makes the buildings of both Colleges available for the purposes of the United University, and secures the additional advantage of enabling parents to attach their sons to either College and to regulate their residence accordingly.

A third objection to the Union, and one which was very strongly pressed by many of the witnesses examined, was, that an Union, by doubling the size of the classes, would increase them to such an extent as to make it impossible that they should be taught to the same advantage as at present, especially if the system of examination so strongly recommended by the late Commissioners was to be enforced. Although it appeared to us that the alarm on this subject expressed by many of the Professors who were examined was much greater than was warranted, we were so deeply impressed with the great advantages of the system of minute and thorough examination, as to be averse to recommend any measure that might risk an interference with it.

Size of Classes.

We were fully satisfied, however, that in the Faculties of Theology, Medicine, and Law, in which the Students are principally taught by lectures, the probable increase of the number of Students would not be attended with any practical disadvantage, and that, under proper regulations, the system of examination might be carried on in them with efficiency. On the other hand, the objection appeared to us to have great weight as regarded the Classes of Latin, Greek, and Elementary Mathematics, in which the system of teaching is essentially different, and such as is calculated to prevent a teacher from efficiently conducting the tuition of more than a comparatively limited number of pupils. While we resolved, therefore, to recommend the institution of single Professorships in the Faculties of Theology, Medicine, and Law, we concurred in thinking it desirable that there should be double Professorships in Latin, Greek, and Elementary Mathematics. We came to this conclusion in the knowledge of the fact, that larger Classes in these branches than it is at all likely will exist in the United University are taught by single Professors, both in Edinburgh and in Glasgow. But whatever may be done by teachers of great energy, we had no hesitation in thinking that, in general, large Classes in these departments of learning are attended with manifest disadvantages, and are amongst the greatest evils of the University System of Scotland, as tending to prevent the formation in early youth, of those intellectual habits which are the most important objects of education, and the acquisition of that accurate scholarship which is the best foundation for the more advanced studies of a University.

In regard to certain other Classes in the Faculty of Arts, viz., Natural Philosophy, Logic, and Moral Philosophy, we felt greater difficulties. We should have been disposed, on the whole, to have recommended Single Professorships in each of these branches as being capable of being taught to larger Classes without inconvenience, and as the increased size of the Classes would, by affording greater encouragement have tended to secure the services of more distinguished men as Professors; but we found that the obstacles to such an arrangement were so formidable as to induce us to abandon the idea of making it an element in the plan to be proposed.

In addition to the objections which were strongly urged by many of the Professors, on the ground of the dangers likely to result from the increased size of the Classes, we found great practical difficulty in regard to the locality in which these branches should be taught. On the one hand, it was represented as a hardship, and as incurring an unnecessary consumption of time, that the Students in the Faculty of Arts residing in New Aberdeen should be obliged to resort to Old Aberdeen for any part of their instruction, while, on the other hand, it was represented as an equal hardship on the Students residing in Old Aberdeen to be obliged to resort to New Aberdeen. Considering that the distance between the two Colleges is not greater than the distance which a large proportion of the Students in every great town have to go for their instruction, this did not appear to us an insuperable difficulty. We were disposed to think that the Classes connected with Moral Science might have been taught with advantage within the buildings of King's College, and those connected with Physical Science within the buildings of Marischal College. But we found this to be so strongly opposed by a great proportion even of those who were friendly to the principle of a Union, that we were obliged, however reluctantly, to abandon it, and to recommend the institution of double Classes in those branches, one to be taught within the buildings of each College. We cannot help, however, expressing a hope that at no distant period, it may be found practicable to unite them, with the full consent and approbation of all interested, and to have only one Professorship, in each of the branches last referred to in the United University.

Locality of Teaching.

Among the objections urged by the opponents of an Union, there was one which, although much dwelt upon, and very unsparingly used to excite popular prejudice on the subject, did not properly apply to the union of the Universities, but to the

Expense of Education.

more perfect Curriculum which that union might afford the means of introducing, viz., that it will have the effect of increasing the expense of education, and thus virtually excluding from the Universities a class of persons who, under the present system, are able to attend them.

On this subject we concurred with the former Commissioners, in thinking it of great importance that the benefits of the education afforded by the Universities of Scotland should continue to be as widely diffused as possible. It has hitherto been one of their characteristic features, that they have placed the means of a liberal education within the reach of a large portion even of the humbler classes of society. The system has gradually adapted itself to the wants and habits of the people, and has been eminently successful in the objects it has sought to attain, and we deprecated any changes that would have the effect of unnecessarily excluding any class of society from its benefits.

On the other hand, we felt that regard must be had to the advance of science as well as to the progress of society, and to the increased diffusion of the elements of knowledge among all classes through the medium of the press. We did not agree with those who considered this as an evil. On the contrary, we regarded it as a great good, but we felt that it called for exertion to maintain a corresponding improvement in the higher education of the country. The most effectual means of preventing any evils to be apprehended from the general diffusion of knowledge among the people appeared to us to be, to raise the standard of that higher education which the Universities alone are calculated to afford. We could not sympathize with those who, under pretence of promoting the interests of education among the humbler classes, would retard its progress in the Universities, and we regarded it as a very poor defence of an imperfect system of University Education, that it is necessary to keep it so, in order that it may be placed within the reach of all classes of society. Such a doctrine, though virtually advocated by some of the Professors who were examined, appeared to us to be inconsistent at once with the interests of learning and science, and with the principles on which society is constituted. But while we entertained these opinions, we were fully alive to the great importance of not increasing the expense of education beyond what is absolutely necessary, and we presumed to think, that it was the duty of Government, to contribute to so desirable an end.

It would be out of place to enter into the subject of the expediency of the State endowing Universities, but we feel bound to express our conviction, that whatever may be the case in richer countries, it is out of the question to expect that, in a country like Scotland, the higher branches of learning can be widely diffused, and their Professors adequately supported at present, without a certain amount of encouragement from the State. The Government of this country has practically acknowledged this principle, by making such grants to the Universities of Scotland from time to time as their exigencies required. It is true that those grants have been made with a sparing hand, but the results have been most encouraging, and we know not any mode in which a comparatively trifling expenditure of public money can be made productive of such extensive benefit to the country. Impressed with these views, we have ventured to recommend such a moderate addition to the endowments of the Colleges as may enable the Professors to keep the fees to be exacted from the Students so low as not to offer any unnecessary obstacle to the benefits of an improved University Education being enjoyed as extensively as heretofore.

We have been the more encouraged to adopt this course from the smallness of the sum required, when compared with the magnitude and importance of the object to be attained, and by the consideration that we are not recommending the introduction of a new principle, or that a principle already recognized, should be acted upon beyond the exigencies of the case.

Without meaning to detract from the just claims of other Universities, we may remind your Majesty that the Universities of Aberdeen are peculiarly situated, the greater proportion of the Students being derived from the northern and more remote parts of the kingdom, and from a class of the population to whom the expense of a University Education, even on the most moderate scale, is a serious burden. We are anxious to impress the necessity of small additional endowments, because it appears to us that, without them, one of two alternatives will probably take place,—either the system of education in the Northern Universities will retrograde, or at least cease to keep pace with the progress of science; or it must entail such an expense upon the Students, as will virtually exclude a large class of persons who

have hitherto partaken of its benefits, a result which not only would excite much popular discontent, but which, in point of public expediency, it is most desirable to avoid.

The only other objection to the Union of the Universities which we deem it necessary to notice, is one to which we should not have adverted but from respect to the quarter from which it emanated. We give it in the words of the Rev. Dr. Mearns, by whom it was advanced :—"The scheme of Union of the Colleges into one University may be considered as indirectly introductive of an incorporating union, and, under the circumstances of the Colleges, could hardly fail, at no distant period, to lead to it. Marischal College, from its locality, particularly if certain proposed Medical Professorships are added to its establishment, must always be the more influential of the two. Its Students, furnished chiefly from the town, could, without inconvenience, submit to a more lengthened and expensive Curriculum, preparatory to degrees, than could be accomplished by the Students of King's College; and various measures might easily be devised, harmless in the one case and distressing in the other, which would silently and gradually work the subversion of the weaker College."

Alleged injury to King's College.

Appendix, p. 36.

We could see no ground for the apprehension here expressed. It proceeds on the assumption that, in any Plan of Union, a preponderance must be given to Marischal College in the United Senatus Academicus, a result by no means necessary, and which we have been careful to guard against. But even assuming that Marischal College had a preponderance in the United Senatus, it appeared to us that there were no good grounds for the apprehension expressed by Dr. Mearns, that a course of education might be prescribed, not inconvenient for the Students of Marischal College, which would nevertheless be unsuitable to the circumstances of the Students attending King's College. It cannot be supposed that the Senatus Academicus, the members of which have an obvious interest in increasing the resort of Students to the University, would propose any course of education which was not called for by the progressive advancement of learning and science, and the consequently growing demands of society for an improved education. Such a course of education, however, is evidently no more than King's College should enforce, if it should remain separate. We could not allow ourselves to believe that the learned Professor intended to maintain the proposition that it was desirable that King's College should have it in its power to attract a certain class of Students by affording an inferior education at a cheaper rate, under the name of a University Education. It was only in this point of view that the objection was intelligible, and we confess that it appeared to us to be by no means improbable that some such state of things would result from the Universities being allowed to continue much longer separate, and the prevention of the obvious evils thence arising, we concurred in thinking one of the strongest reasons for recommending that they should be united. Besides this, in the event of the Universities being united, we saw no reason to apprehend that any thing in the relative position of the two Colleges was likely to effect any withdrawal of Students from King's College that might not equally, if not to a still greater degree, take place, should they continue to be separate. The number and value of the Bursaries at King's College, with which we have thought it inexpedient to interfere, of themselves afford sufficient security against the apprehended evil of the Students being withdrawn from it to attend Marischal College exclusively.

Such having been the leading objections urged against the union of the Universities, we were unanimously of opinion that they were not only insufficient to counterbalance the advantages to be derived from it, but that, while many of the objections were calculated to enhance its necessity, a plan of union might be devised involving none of the inconveniences or hazards that were apprehended.

After the most careful consideration of the whole subject, we humbly recommend that the two Universities of Aberdeen shall be united according to the following plan, viz. :—

The two Universities to be united into one University, to be called "The United University of Aberdeen," to be invested with the power of granting degrees, and with all other University powers and privileges heretofore possessed by either of the Universities of King's College or Marischal College, or by any of the other Universities of Scotland.

Plan of Union.
Universities to be united.

King's College and Marischal College to continue separate as Colleges for the administration of their respective property and funds, but without University powers, holding and administering their property and funds in terms of their

Colleges to continue separate.

respective foundation charters and other rights, and applying the same in support of Professorships to be continued on the foundation of each, and for the other purposes provided for by their respective charters.

That the affairs of each College shall be managed and administered by the Professors on the foundation thereof, to be named the "Council of King's College" and the "Council of Marischal College" respectively, subject always to the inspection and control, as after mentioned, of the Rectorial Court of the United University.

Professorships.

That the United University shall consist of

A Principal, who shall also be one of the Professors of Theology.

Theology.

A Faculty of Theology, comprehending

1. A Professor of Divinity and Systematic Theology.
2. A Professor of Divinity and Oriental Languages.
3. A Professor of Divinity and Church History.
4. A Professor of Divinity and Biblical Literature.

One of these Professors to be the Principal.

Law.

A Faculty of Law, comprehending a Professor of Scottish Law.

Medicine.

A Faculty of Medicine, comprehending

1. A Professor of Anatomy and Physiology. To deliver a separate course of Lectures on each of these branches of Medical Science.
2. A Professor of Surgery.
3. A Professor of the Practice of Medicine.
4. A Professor of Midwifery.
5. A Professor of Chemistry.
6. A Professor of Materia Medica.
7. A Professor of Natural History and Botany.

Arts.

A Faculty of Arts, comprehending *Two* Professors in each of the following branches, with the exception of Intellectual Philosophy and Logic, viz.—

- 1, 2. Latin.
- 3, 4. Greek.
- 5, 6. Mathematics.
- 7, 8. Natural Philosophy.
- 9, 10. Moral and Political Philosophy.
11. Intellectual Philosophy and Logic.

Note.—To carry the principle on which we have proceeded into effect, we ought perhaps to have recommended the institution of two Professorships of Logic; but as there has not hitherto been a distinct Professorship of Logic in either of the Universities, and as, in recommending the institution of new Professorships, we thought it incumbent on us to recommend at present the most economical arrangement, we have only proposed one Professor for this branch of learning.

How to be supplied.

That the Professorships of the United University shall be filled by the Professors on the foundations of the Colleges of King's College and Marischal College, to be arranged as after mentioned, and by such additional Professors as may be required over and above the Professors on the said foundations; such additional Professors to be University Professors merely, and to have no interest in, or control over, the property or funds of either of the said Colleges.

Classes, where to be taught.

That the Classes in the Faculties of Law and Medicine shall be taught within the buildings of Marischal College, with the exception of Natural History and Botany, which shall be taught within the buildings of King's College, as being nearer an appropriate site for a Botanical Garden.

That the double Classes in the Faculty of Arts shall be distributed between both Colleges equally, one Class in each branch being taught in the buildings of King's College and another in the buildings of Marischal College.

That the Professor of Intellectual Philosophy and Logic shall lecture in either or in both of the Colleges as he shall be directed and appointed by the Rectorial Court.

That the Theological Professors on the foundation of King's College shall teach their Classes within the buildings of that College, and that the Principal of the United University and the Theological Professor on the foundation of Marischal College shall teach either in the building of Marischal College or of King's College, as they shall be directed by the Rectorial Court, in the exercise of the power after mentioned.

For the Constitution of the United University we humbly recommend— CONSTITUTION.

- I. That there shall be a Chancellor, to be elected by the *Senatus Academicus*, Chancellor, and to continue in office for life ; to be entitled to preside in all University meetings, and to summon and direct Rectorial Courts to be held for the consideration of any matters concerning the University.

That in the absence of the Chancellor and Rector, the Principal shall preside at the University meetings.

That the University meetings shall be composed of the Chancellor, of the *University Meetings*, Members of the Rectorial Court, of the *Senatus Academicus*, and of the Graduates of the present Universities and of the United University.

That these meetings shall only be assembled for the installation of the Chancellor, for the induction of the Rector, and of the Principal and Professors to their respective offices ; for the conferring of degrees granted by the *Senatus Academicus*, and for the distribution of general prizes, at which the Students shall be entitled to be present in places to be assigned to them by the Rectorial Court.

- II. That the *Senatus Academicus* shall consist of the Principal and the Professors of the United University. *Senatus Academicus.*

That the ordinary discipline of the University shall be vested in the *Senatus Academicus*, who shall prescribe regulations, according to which the several Faculties shall have power to maintain order and exercise discipline amongst the Students belonging to them respectively, an appeal being competent from each Professor to his respective Faculty, and from each Faculty to the *Senatus Academicus* ; but an appeal to the Rectorial Court being competent only from such decisions of the *Senatus Academicus* as relate to the dismissal or expulsion of Students, or to depriving them of Bursaries.

That the *Senatus Academicus* shall have the right of appointment, superintendence, and dismissal of the Librarians, servants, and other subordinate officers of the United University.

That in all meetings of the *Senatus Academicus*, the Principal, when present, shall preside, and in his absence the senior Professor present. The President to have both a deliberative and casting vote.

That the *Senatus Academicus* shall have power to originate and suggest any improvements in the internal system of the University, and to submit the same to the Rectorial Court for its consideration.

That all examinations for degrees shall be conducted by the respective Faculties to which the degrees belong, under the superintendence and direction of the *Senatus Academicus*.

That the Principal shall have power at all times to visit and superintend the several Classes, and that he shall have the general inspection of the education and discipline of all the Students.

- III. That there shall be a Rectorial Court, in which the general superintendence and government of the University shall be vested. *Rectorial Court.*

This Court to consist of

1. A Rector, as the head or President of the Court.

The Rector to be chosen by the Principal and Professors, by the Graduates of the present Universities of Aberdeen and Graduates of the United University, and by the matriculated Students, according to the mode at present adopted in Marischal College, with the exception that the Students are not to vote by nations. *Rector.*

That the Rector shall continue in office for four years after the 31st December subsequent to his election. The new Rector to be chosen on the first day of the session in which the former Rector goes out of office. The Rector to be again eligible to the same office.

That for the first election of Rector the Chancellor shall name the day on which the Principal shall assemble a meeting for that object.

That the Rector by acceptance shall undertake to perform personally the duties of the office.

That the induction of the Rector shall take place within three months after his election; and that in the event of his not coming forward to be inducted within that period, he shall be held to have resigned, and a new election shall take place within two months thereafter, upon a day to be fixed by the Chancellor, of which a month's previous notice shall be publicly given.

That neither the Principal nor the Professors in any of the Universities shall be eligible to the office of Rector.

Assessors.

2. The Principal of the United University for the time being.
3. An Assessor not being a Principal, nor a Professor in any University, to be nominated by the Senatus Academicus.
4. An Assessor, not being a Principal or Professor in any University, to be nominated by the Crown.
5. An Assessor, not being a Principal or Professor, to be nominated by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.
6. An Assessor, not being a Principal or Professor, to be nominated by the President and Vice-Presidents of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

That each of the Assessors shall continue in office for the space of four years.

That the Assessor to be elected by the Senatus Academicus shall be chosen on the day fixed for the election of the Rector.

That the Assessors, to be nominated by the Crown, and the President and Vice-Presidents of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, shall be chosen on or before the 31st day of December following the election of the Rector.

That the Assessor to be nominated by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland shall be chosen during the first meeting of the Assembly that shall take place after the election of the Rector.

That it shall be competent for the Crown, in the event of the General Assembly, or of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Royal Society, or both, neglecting or refusing to nominate an Assessor or Assessors within the said period, to appoint an Assessor or Assessors in their room.

Quorum.

That four shall be a quorum of the Court, and that the Court shall at all times have power to adjourn.

Casting vote, &c.

That the Rector shall have an original and casting vote, and in his absence the Members shall preside according to the above order, but without any such double vote; and in the event of an equality of votes in the absence of the Rector, the consideration of the matter before the Court shall be adjourned to a day of which due notice shall be given to the Rector; and if on that day the Rector cannot attend, the presiding Member shall have an original and casting vote.

That the Principal shall not be entitled to vote in any matter in which he is patrimonially interested.

Vacancies.

That in the event of the death or resignation of the Rector during the aforesaid four years, the vacancy shall be filled up by a new election, which shall take place within six months from the vacancy occurring, on a day to be fixed by the Chancellor, of which a month's previous notice shall be publicly given; and that in the event of the death or resignation of any of the Assessors, the vacancy shall be supplied within six months by their respective constituencies; and in the case of the Assessor appointed by the General Assembly, the vacancy shall be supplied by the first Assembly held after the vacancy shall occur.

That persons so chosen, in consequence of death or resignation, shall continue in office for the remainder of the period during which the party in whose room they are chosen should have held office.

Powers of Rectorial Court.

The Rectorial Court to have power to review all regulations and decisions of the Senatus Academicus, and to be a Court of Appeal in every case connected with the affairs of the University, excepting as hereafter provided for; to regulate the Curriculum from time to time in the several Faculties; to fix and regulate the fees in the several Classes; to receive and dispose of all representations or complaints from the Senatus Academicus, Professors, Graduates, Students, and others, not inconsistent with the regulations for the ordinary discipline of the University, as hereinafter vested in the Senatus Academicus.

To have power to originate and carry into effect all improvements in the internal system of the University not inconsistent with the statutes of visitation, after due communication with the Senatus Academicus and with the sanction of the Chancellor.

To have power to appoint the Professor of Logic to teach separate Classes within the buildings of each of the Colleges of King's College and Marischal College as may be thought expedient; as also to appoint the Principal of the United University and the Professor of Theology in Marischal College to teach within the buildings of Marischal College or of King's College, as may be thought expedient.

To have power to regulate the particular departments of Theological Science to be taught by each of the Professors in the Theological Faculty, as well as the particular departments of Medicine to be taught by each of the Professors in the Medical Faculty.

To have power to appoint any one or more of the Professors in the Medical Faculty to deliver such courses of lectures, in addition to the subject specially appropriated to them, as may from time to time be required to complete the education of Students in Medicine, in reference to the requirements of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons and of the Boards for regulating the Medical department of the public service.

To have power to enforce the performance of their duties by the Professors; to censure Professors when it shall become necessary, and, with the sanction of the Chancellor, to suspend Professors for a time, or to deprive them of their offices, and to make provision for the teaching of their classes during the period of suspension; the right of appeal to the Civil Courts being preserved to the individuals so superseded or deprived.

To have power to examine and inquire into the state of the Revenue and Expenditure and all pecuniary concerns of the United University, and of the Colleges, including Funds mortified for Bursaries and other purposes, and to regulate and control the same in such manner as may not be inconsistent with the constitution of the United University, or with the Foundation Charters of the respective Colleges, in so far as the same are not innovated or affected thereby.

To have power, as a Court of Appeal, to consider and dispose of all Complaints by Professors, Graduates, Students, or others interested in regard to alleged Abuses in either of the Colleges, or in the United University; and generally to have all the powers legally competent to the Rectorial Courts in the present Universities of King's College or Marischal College, of Aberdeen, or in any of the other Universities of Scotland, in so far as the same are not limited or controlled in manner above mentioned.

That the Rector shall have power to call a Rectorial Court when necessary.

That a Rectorial Court shall be held immediately after the induction of the Rector, and at least once in each University Session, on a day to be appointed by the Rector; or, failing his appointing such meeting, before the last day of March, on a day to be appointed by the Chancellor; intimation of which to be published, on the College gates, at least fourteen days before the meeting is held.

Court, when to be held.

That the meetings of the Rectorial Court, when sitting in a judicial capacity, shall be open to the public, unless, in the opinion of the Court, the peculiar nature of the case should render publicity improper.

Meetings to be open.

That Regular Minutes of the Proceedings of the Court shall be taken and preserved by a Secretary to be appointed by the Court.

Minutes.

Such being the Plan of Union which we humbly recommend, and the constitution we propose for the United University, we proceed to suggest what has occurred to us as the best mode of making the funds and property of the separate Colleges available for the endowment of the various Professorships.

Proposed alterations on existing arrangements.

According to the Plan of Union which we have suggested it is proposed that the United University should comprehend 23 Professorships; viz.—

Theology	4
Law	1
Medicine	7
Arts	11
	—
	23

The number of Professorships in each Faculty in the two Colleges, as at present constituted, when taken together, are as follows; viz.—

Theology :		
King's College, including Principal	3	
Marischal College, including Principal	4	
	—	7
Law :		
King's College	1	
Medicine :		
King's College	1	
Marischal College	2	
	—	3
Arts :		
King's College	5	
Marischal College	5	
	—	10
		—
In all		21

Thus, while including the two Principals, there are three Theological Professorships beyond what are required for the United University, there is a deficiency of four Professorships in Medicine, and of one Professorship in Arts. In order to supply these deficiencies, in so far as this can be done from the funds of the existing Colleges, without transferring any part of the funds of the one College to the other, or of either to the United University, we would humbly suggest the following arrangements; viz.—

In King's College.

I. In King's College :

1. The Professorship of Medicine to be converted into a Professorship of Natural History and Botany, on the foundation of King's College.
2. The Professorship of Law to be converted into a Professorship of Logic, on the foundation of King's College.
3. The office of Principal to be merged in that of Principal of the United University, and the present salary to be applied towards the salary of the United Principality.

In Marischal College.

II. In Marischal College :

1. The Professorship of Natural and Civil History to be converted into a Professorship of Latin, on the foundation of Marischal College.
2. The Professorship of Oriental Languages to be suppressed, and the salary added to the endowment of the Professorship of Divinity.

Note.—Towards this arrangement the consent of the Patron is necessary.

3. The Professorship of Church History to be suppressed, and the salary added to the endowment of the Professorship of Divinity.
4. The office of Principal to be merged in that of Principal of the United University, and so much of the present salary to be applied towards the salary of the United Principality as, when added to the salary to be derived from the foundation of King's College, shall amount to the sum of 550*l*.
5. The surplus of the Principal's salary to be applied towards the endowment of a Professorship of Law, on the foundation of Marischal College.

The United Principal to be President of the Councils of both Colleges.

Effect of proposed alterations.

When these changes shall have been effected, the Professorships in the different Faculties, on the foundation of the two Colleges, will be as follows; viz.—

Theology :		
Principal	1	
King's College :		
Professorships	2	
Marischal College :		
Professorship	1	
	—	4

Law :

Marischal College :

Professorship 1

Medicine .

King's College :

Professorship (Natural History
and Botany) 1

Marischal College :

Professorships 2
— 3
—
8

Arts :

King's College :

Six Professorships 6

Marischal College :

Five Professorships 5
— 11
—
19

This arrangement affords the full complement of Professorships required for the United University in the three Faculties of Theology, Law, and Arts; while, in the Faculty of Medicine, there is a deficiency of four Professorships. To supply this deficiency, we humbly recommend the institution of four Regius Professorships, with salaries of 100*l.* a-year each; the Professors to be University Professors, but not to be placed upon the foundation of either College, or to have any control or management of the College funds.

Additional Regius
Professorships.

In the printed Appendix will be found a table showing the amount of the whole emoluments derived by each of the Professors in both Colleges for the last year, whether from the ordinary revenues of the Colleges, Crown grants, or fees from Students. We have also printed, in the Appendix, a table showing what will be the amount of the endowments (including both College property and Crown grants) of the different Professorships, should the arrangements which we have suggested be carried into effect.

Emoluments of
Professors.
Appendix, p. 71.
Appendix, p. 72.
Appendix, p. 70.

It appears to us that, without an increase of the fees to be exacted from the Students (which would have the effect of defeating its own end by preventing many from being able to attend the University), these endowments are inadequate to ensure a supply of men of talent and learning to fill these offices, or to enable the Professors to sustain that place in society which it is of importance, for the proper discharge of their functions, that they should be able to do. We therefore take the liberty of suggesting the expediency of such additions being made to the salaries of the Professors in the Faculties of Theology and Arts, and also to the Professor of Natural History and Botany and the Professor of Chemistry, as that each of the Theological Professors shall have an endowment of not less than 300*l.* a-year, and each of the others an endowment of not less than 250*l.* We do not propose the same increase in regard to the Professorships of Law or Medicine generally, which we think, under the circumstances, sufficiently endowed with a salary of 100*l.* each, because these Professorships do not withdraw the persons holding them from the general exercise of their professions, but, on the contrary, are calculated to promote their interests in this respect, while the Professors in the Faculties of Theology and Arts are prevented from engaging in any other vocation.*

Additional Endow-
ments.

In the event of the Universities being united on the principles above suggested, or under any modification of them that your Majesty may think expedient, we humbly recommend that the existing Chancellors of the two Universities shall be joint Chancellors, and the existing Principals joint Principals, during their joint lives respectively, to take precedence respectively according to the dates of their inductions into office; it being understood that each Principal shall be entitled to

Existing Chancel-
lors and Principal
to be joint.

* The Professorship of Natural History and Botany and the Professorship of Chemistry, though classed under the Medical Faculty, are peculiarly situated. The subjects of them are so extensive as generally to require the exclusive attention of the Professors, who are moreover exposed to very considerable expense in consequence of the objects and apparatus necessary for illustrating their lectures.

vote in the *Senatus Academicus*, and to preside in the Council of his own College; but that only one Principal at a time shall have a right to vote in the Rectorial Court. In the event of the death or resignation of either of the said Chancellors or Principals, that the survivor shall be Chancellor and Principal of the United University respectively; and that due provision shall be made for making compensation to such Members of either of the Colleges as may be able to prove any direct pecuniary loss from the proposed arrangements.

Principles of Plan
of Union.

The principles on which this plan of uniting the Universities has been formed have been sufficiently indicated in recapitulating the difficulties which we encountered in the formation of it. Our suggestions, in regard to the Rectorial Court, however, may require some explanations.

We do not think it necessary to add anything to the remarks made by the former Commissioners, in their Report, upon the general expediency of new modelling the Rectorial Courts in the Scottish Universities. We concur with them in the opinion that the Rectorial Courts, as at present constituted and administered, are very defective; and that an efficient Court is of essential importance, both as regards the system of education and discipline in the University, and the superintendence of the management of the property and funds of the Colleges.

Principles of con-
stitution of Rec-
torial Court.

It will be observed, however, that, in some important particulars, the Court which we have proposed differs from that proposed by the former Commissioners, both as to its constitution and its powers.

The Court proposed by the former Commissioners consisted of five members, while that which we have presumed to recommend consists of six. In proposing an additional member, we were influenced partly by the consideration that, in the event of the absence of one or more of the members of a Court composed of only five persons (a contingency likely to be frequent where attendance is not compulsory), one of two things must happen,—either that the business of the Court must be delayed, or that it must be devolved upon a smaller number of persons than it would be expedient to intrust with such ample powers as those with which it is proposed that the Rectorial Court should be invested.

Constituent Mem-
bers.

In reference to the changes we have proposed in regard to the constituent members of the Rectorial Court, we were influenced by various considerations. We thought that, as it was desirable that the Court should exercise an efficient control over the *Senatus Academicus*, it was not expedient that a majority of the Court should be more or less under the influence of that body, as was the case under the constitution proposed by the former Commissioners, in which the Rector and the Assessor to be appointed by him were the only members of the Court who were not more or less connected with and dependent upon the *Senatus Academicus*. In the next place, it appeared to us that, although the *Senatus Academicus* should not have a preponderance in the Rectorial Court, it was very important that it should not only be represented in that Court, but that it should possess considerable influence in it. These reasons induced us to recommend a constitution which should comprehend the Principal and an Assessor, to be elected by the *Senatus Academicus*, as necessary to ensure due weight to the *Senatus*, and, at the same time, as amply sufficient for that purpose, in a Court which we have proposed should be limited to six members, in order that their feeling of personal responsibility, in the discharge of their important functions, might not be too much weakened or impaired.

Mode of appoint-
ment.

In considering how the additional members should be chosen, our chief object was to ascertain how the appointment could be vested so as best to secure the nomination of persons of sufficient station and attainments to give weight and efficiency to the Court. It appeared to us anomalous, considering the deep interest which the country has in the welfare of the Universities, and the pre-eminent power of superintendence over them which belongs to the Crown, that it should not be represented in the Rectorial Court. We have therefore suggested that one of the Assessors should be named by the Crown, and this we have done the more readily, that we know no quarter from which an efficient appointment to an office of this kind is more likely to proceed. In reference to the other two Assessors, we thought it important that, in order to their being brought under the salutary influence of public opinion, their nomination should be vested in elective bodies, and of elective bodies so constituted as to give a reasonable security for their being qualified to judge of the proper individuals to be selected for the office. It appeared to us that there was no body of men in Scotland to whom, in this view, the nomination of an Assessor could be confided with more propriety than the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. We were further influenced by the

consideration, that although the Universities of Scotland are not, properly speaking, ecclesiastical institutions, as some have represented them to be, it is necessary, towards the efficiency of their theological education, that a good understanding should subsist between them and the Church of Scotland, on which they are chiefly dependent for their Theological Students. Besides which, we thought it but a proper recognition of the principle that Religion should go hand in hand with Science in our Educational Seminaries, that the Church should maintain a connexion with the Universities under circumstances that seemed to us to exclude the possibility of her abusing it.

We have recommended the remaining Assessor to be nominated by the President and Vice-Presidents of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, as the leading literary and scientific institution in Scotland, the President and Vice-Presidents of which are chosen for their eminence in literature and science, and are nearly certain therefore to be persons eminently qualified to nominate to such an office, and removed from all local influence or other temptation to abuse the trust reposed in them.

Our plan also differs from that of the former Commissioners, in reference to the powers of the Court. Both in regard to its constitution and its powers we thought it expedient to adhere as closely to the model of the present Rectorial Courts as was consistent with the efficiency we had in view to secure. While we have retained the old name of "Rectorial Court," it appeared to us to be by no means desirable that it should supersede the Councils of the Colleges in the management of their separate funds and property, or the united *Senatus Academicus* in the discipline and ordinary administration of the affairs of the University.

It is to be presumed that the members of the different Colleges, who have the chief interest in the improvement of their funds, will administer them to the greatest advantage, although, as these members are virtually trustees for the public interest, it seemed proper that their management should be subject to an independent inspection and control, so as to prevent any diversion of the funds from their proper purposes. We have endeavoured to combine both these objects in the constitution which we have proposed.

Again, in reference to the *Senatus Academicus*; while, for the reasons assigned by the former Commissioners, we are distinctly of opinion that it should be subject to an official superintendence and control, we by no means think that it ought to be superseded in the ordinary discipline and management of the University. Although we concur with the former Commissioners in opinion that the Professors of a University, from their retired habits and from their pursuits, as well as from the importance which each is naturally disposed to attach to his own department of learning, are not always the persons best qualified to regulate the general course of study, we think that it would be destructive of their usefulness to subject them to unnecessary interference in reference to the details in their modes of teaching; while it seems to us essentially necessary to the proper dignity of their station, and to their due authority over their students, that they should be left in the undisturbed possession of ordinary University discipline. These reasons have induced us to deviate, to a certain extent from the plan, of the former Commissioners, by increasing the powers of the *Senatus Academicus*, and assimilating the functions of the Rectorial Court more nearly to those of a Court of Appeal.

In connexion with the plan we have submitted for remodelling the Universities of Aberdeen, we would humbly entreat your Majesty's attention to a subject on which a good deal of evidence was taken before the late Commissioners, and which appears to us to be of very great importance to the interests of education in the Scottish Universities. We allude to the introduction of Tutors into the system of these Universities.

The average age at which young men enter the Scottish Universities is from 13 to 15, and it has been hitherto found impossible to ensure such a degree of previous advancement in classical or mathematical studies as to supersede what may be termed Elementary Instruction, especially in Mathematics and in Greek. The consequences of this have been practically very detrimental to the progress of the students, as it is next to impossible for a Professor, however active, to give that species of thorough instruction to classes composed of a large number of students, which is absolutely necessary to ensure their being thoroughly grounded in these branches of learning. Another evil, if possible still greater, resulting from this system is, that it is inconsistent with that thorough examination and mental discipline which is essential to the formation of those intellectual habits which it is the most important object of education to ensure. We are not aware of any mode

by which these evils could be more effectually prevented than by the institution of a definite number of well-qualified Tutors, who might act as subsidiary to the Professors in the examination and systematic instruction of the Students, more particularly in Greek, Latin, and Mathematics, divided into smaller classes. We are satisfied that the appointment of even ten or twelve such Tutors would be productive of the highest benefits to the United University. We humbly suggest that they should be chosen by the *Senatus Academicus*, upon an open competition among Graduates of the University who are willing to undertake the office; that a small endowment, as, for example, 100*l.* per annum, should be attached to each Tutorship, to be held for seven years, on condition of residence and the fulfilment of the duties of the Tutorship, in regard to which the Tutors should be under the direction and superintendence of the Rectorial Court.

Advantages of.

The institution of such Tutorships would, in our opinion, be attended with very important incidental advantages. At present the inducements to graduate, excepting in the Medical Faculty, are so small in the Scotch Universities, that very few Students think of taking a Degree. The Students are thus without the most efficient stimulus that an University can afford, and the University is deprived of the best means of ascertaining the proficiency of its Students, and of giving them the stamp of its approbation. The late Commissioners were strongly impressed with the importance of remedying this evil, which we concur with them in thinking a very great obstacle to the introduction of a more efficient system. We are satisfied that the institution even of a few such Tutorships would have a powerful effect in inducing a large class of young men to graduate, and in creating a spirit of salutary emulation that would materially conduce to raise the standard of literary and scientific acquirements in the University.

Such Tutorships would also form an excellent school for training men for the office of Professor, and afford a ready supply of persons qualified to discharge the duties of that office on the occasions, which frequently occur, of the temporary inability of Professors from illness or other causes.

We are aware that, to derive the full benefit from such an institution, and to guard against the abuses to which it might be subject, a good deal of regulation would be necessary; but we think this might be safely left to the Rectorial Court, with the aid of suggestions from the *Senatus Academicus*.

Patronage.

Another subject of vital importance to the interests of the Universities, and on which we have thought it proper to report our views to your Majesty, in connexion with a plan for their Union, is the patronage of the Professorships: for it is obvious that, unless due precautions are taken to ensure the nomination of proper persons to fill the offices in a University, the most perfect system of organization cannot be otherwise than nugatory.

With the exception of the Professorship of Divinity, the patronage of which is vested in the Synod of Aberdeen, and the Professorship of Oriental Languages, the patronage of which is vested in the Crown, the patronage of the Professorships in King's College is vested either in the Professors themselves, or in the Professors in conjunction with the Rector and Principal.

In Marischal College, with the exception of the Professorships of Divinity and of Mathematics, the patronages of which are vested in the Town Council of Aberdeen, the Professorship of Chemistry, of which the patronage belongs to the Principal and Professors, and the Professorship of Oriental Languages, of which the patronage belongs to the family of Sir Alexander Ramsay, of Balmain; the patronage of the whole Professorships is vested in the Crown. The two Colleges thus contain examples of every species of patronage known in the Universities of Scotland.

A considerable body of Evidence was laid before the last Commissioners, as to the best form of University Patronage, although those Commissioners did not think proper to report upon the subject. After maturely considering that Evidence, together with the Evidence of some additional witnesses examined by ourselves, we felt not less impressed with the importance than with the difficulties of the problem. While, on the one hand, there is scarcely any system of patronage which, if purely administered, might not be sufficiently good, we were, on the other hand, not sanguine enough to hope that any system could be devised which might not be open to abuse. This, however, did not deter us from considering how University Patronage might be vested, so as to ensure the greatest probability of its being purely administered, and to impose the most effectual checks against its being abused. We were satisfied of the futility of expecting to find in any system a complete remedy for the evils which are incident to this species

of patronage; and while any plan that could be devised could but approximate to the prevention of these evils, we had no doubt that a material improvement in the present system of nomination might be equally well effected in a variety of ways.

For this reason, we did not regard it as of essential importance that the Patronage of the whole Professorships should be put upon precisely the same footing; nor did we deem the circumstance of the Patronage being vested in different bodies, in the existing Universities, to be in itself any material disadvantage. In so far, therefore, as the Patronage was vested in such a manner as appeared to us reasonably to satisfy the leading conditions of the problem which we were called upon to solve, we did not feel disposed to recommend any innovation for the mere sake of preserving uniformity.

These leading conditions humbly appear to us to be, that the Patronage should be vested in persons who have adequate means of ascertaining the respective merits of the Candidates, and, at the same time, have no interest to bestow the office on any other than the best qualified individual, nor any facilities for combining to do so, if any of them should be disposed so to act. In addition to these requisites, the evidence demonstrates the great importance of the Patronage being so vested as to prevent disunion and jealousies among the Professors themselves.

For these reasons we concur with the former Commissioners in deprecating the permission of the Patronage of Professorships being exercised by private individuals. But as there is only one instance of a Patronage of this kind in the Universities of Aberdeen, and as the endowment attached to the office is very trifling, we do not think it necessary to enlarge on the subject, further than to remark, that if the private Patron cannot be induced to consent to the arrangement above proposed in the Plan submitted for remodelling the Universities, we humbly recommend, either that the endowment should be abandoned, or that the proposed arrangement should be carried into effect, giving the Patron compensation, if, in the circumstances of the case, he can qualify any legal ground of damage.

Private.

In so far as regards the Patronages vested in the Synod, and in the Town Council of Aberdeen, we are humbly of opinion that they ought not to be interfered with. Although it has been doubted whether bodies so constituted are the best Patrons that could be selected, yet, from the local interest their constituent Members are likely to have in the prosperity of the University, and from the constitution of the bodies themselves placing them, to a certain extent, under the influence of public opinion, we are disposed to think that it is not expedient to interfere with them.

Synod and Town Council.

The Patronages vested in the Professors, as well as those vested in the Crown, humbly appear to us to be, in many important respects, in a different predicament. We are too sensible of the difficulties that stand in the way of interfering with them, as well as of determining the problem where they should be vested, to presume to recommend to your Majesty any definite measure of change, in regard to them, as part of the Plan of Union which we have proposed. But as your Majesty had appointed us to report our views upon the subject, we felt that we should not have done our duty if we hesitated to suggest the objections which occurred to us as to the present system, and also humbly to submit to your Majesty's consideration what occurred to us in reference to the body in which, in our opinion, the Patronage might be vested with the greatest prospect of advantage.

In regard to the Patronages vested in the Professors, either by themselves or in conjunction with the Principal and Rector, we are thoroughly satisfied of the inexpediency of its being continued on its present footing. The witnesses examined both by the former Commissioners and by ourselves in general represented it as a system that worked extremely ill. It is no doubt true that, in one sense, the Professors of a College have a most substantial interest in having the vacant offices filled by persons of sufficient attainments to raise the character of the University, and thus to increase the attendance of Students; and we do not mean to say that there may not be combinations of circumstances in the greater Universities that may conduce to render this interest an available check against the risk of the Patronage being abused. These, however, do not appear to us to exist in Colleges situated like those of Aberdeen. The smallness of the endowments tends to prevent competitors from offering themselves, of that class whose attainments are such as to have established a reputation which would have the effect of enforcing the superiority of their claims through the force of public opinion; while from the circumstance of the Students being derived almost exclusively from the North of Scotland, and chiefly from a class of the population who cannot afford to resort to more distant or expensive seminaries, the interest of the Professors to select the most distinguished Candidate is less direct, and has sometimes

Professors.

been found insufficient to counteract private interests in individual Candidates, which are apt to conflict with it. There is further risk (to which we advert, as having been given in evidence, and which is quite consistent with human nature, although we know of no actual instance of it in the Universities of Aberdeen) of a natural jealousy on the part of many persons to admit an individual into their number, who, from his high talents and attainments, might cast themselves into the shade.

Another important element to be kept in view is the tendency of this species of Patronage to create cabals in a College, and, by introducing jealousies and feuds, to destroy that harmony which it is so important to preserve in such institutions, and its no less dangerous tendency to lead to a sacrifice of the interests of the College to those of private friendship or relationship, by mutual compromises among the electors. In this respect the system of Patronage in question is open to all the evils and abuses which have been universally found attendant on the self-elective system, which, by removing electors from the direct influence of public opinion, and tending to foster individual interests at the expense of the interests of the public, renders self-elected bodies the worst depositories of the Patronage of important public offices.

Entertaining these views of patronage as vested in the Professors of Colleges, we humbly think it most desirable that it should be discontinued in the Universities of Aberdeen. We are aware of the delicacy of interfering with an usage of long standing, and which, we have no doubt, some persons may represent as constituting a vested right in the holders of such patronage. We are satisfied, however, of the soundness of the distinction between private patrimonial interests and trusts held for the public benefit, under which category University patronage unquestionably falls; and we humbly think that, in legislating upon such important subjects, the interests of the public ought not to be sacrificed either to the prejudices or to the mistaken views of any class of the community.

Influenced by these views, we take the liberty of stating it as our humble opinion that steps should be taken to transfer the patronage vested in the Professors to a quarter where it may be vested with greater advantage to the public interest; and we do so with the less hesitation, that we have recommended an increase of the endowment of the Professors, which it would be unreasonable to expect to obtain at the public expense, unless accompanied by such conditions as might put the educational institutions in question upon the footing most conducive to the public interests.

In considering to what body the Patronage could with most propriety be transferred, we had chiefly in view one of two alternatives, either that it should be transferred to the Crown, or to a body of Electors so constituted as to secure it, as far as possible against the risk of abuse.

Crown.

In reference to University patronage as vested in the Crown, it becomes us to speak with the greatest respect and deference. But we should fail in discharging the duty entrusted to us were we to hesitate in expressing our conviction, that however superior it may be to the patronage vested in the Professors themselves, it is liable to considerable objections, as applicable at least to the Universities of Aberdeen. It seems to us of great importance that Universities should be kept free from all suspicion of political influence, which never can be entirely the case as matters are conducted in this country, while the patronage of the Professorships is administered by the servants of the Crown for the time being. However purely it may be bestowed, the partialities of political party are sure to engender jealousy and distrust; and it is not to be disguised that the temptation is sometimes considerable to make such appointments subservient to political purposes, especially in remote provinces to which the public attention is but little directed, and in reference to the appointments in which public opinion necessarily constitutes a less efficient control. In addition to this, it may be doubted how far the Ministers of the Crown, residing in the Metropolis, have the best means of being thoroughly acquainted with the comparative fitness of the Candidates. These considerations induced us to hesitate in recommending that the patronage in question should be transferred to the Crown, and, after mature deliberation, it appeared to us that it might with greater advantage be transferred to the Rectorial Court, as being composed of persons deeply interested in the welfare of the University, having the best access to learn and appreciate the relative merits of the Candidates, and freed as much as possible from the risk of being influenced by any motives that might induce them to appoint to a Professorship any other than the individual best qualified to fill it.

Suggestions as to vesting Patronage in Rectorial Court.

The Rectorial Court, while composed of persons interested in the welfare of the institution, forms a body sufficiently numerous to ensure discussion, and not so large as to weaken the feeling of personal responsibility; while being of an elective

character, it is, to a great degree, under the salutary influence of public opinion, and, from the varied composition of the electoral bodies by whom the Members are chosen, every possible security is afforded against any improper coalition or compromise.

But, with a view still further to secure these advantages, we would humbly suggest the propriety of the absolute patronage being vested in the Rectorial Court only in the event of the Members being unanimous in their choice. In case of their being divided in opinion, we humbly recommend that both Candidates, in the event of there being only two, and, in the event of there being more than two, the two Candidates who had the greatest number of votes in the Rectorial Court, should be presented to the Crown, which should have a right to nominate one of them. This would at once tend to ensure more full consideration and discussion of the merits of the Candidate in the Rectorial Court, and prevent or defeat any improper coalition among a mere majority of the Members, if such a thing should by any accident happen.

As to the patronages at present vested in the Crown, we feel it to be unnecessary to add anything to what has been stated. We have already intimated our humble opinion as to the comparative disadvantages of the system and of the benefits which we think would result from the nomination to Professorships being vested in the Rectorial Court, or in some body constituted on analogous principles. We repeat, however, that we are too sensible of the obstacles that may present themselves to any such arrangement to suggest it to your Majesty as a necessary concomitant of the Plan of Union which we have presumed to recommend, although we feel that we should have failed in our duty had we withheld the expression of the unanimous opinion which we had formed upon the subject. Having expressed that opinion, we beg at the same time to express our perfect confidence that, if your Majesty shall not find it expedient to give any effect to it, it will only be because, after mature consideration, an opposite course shall be found more conducive to the interests of the Universities of Aberdeen.

Whether any alteration is to be introduced as to the system of Patronage or not, or whatever that alteration may be, we recommend that no vacant Professorship should be filled up for at least three months after the vacancy occurs and has been fully notified, and that proper means should be taken to publish a list of the Candidates for the vacant office.

In both the Universities of Aberdeen, as presently constituted, an oath of the nature of a religious test is required to be taken previously to obtaining a Degree. The oath differs in the two Universities. In Marischal College it is directly calculated to exclude Roman Catholics. In King's College the terms of the oath are more general, and therefore less exceptionable. We humbly recommend that both of these oaths should be abolished. It is an important feature of the Scottish Universities that no religious test is required from the students, but that their Colleges are equally open to all classes, whether Churchmen or Dissenters, and we can see no good reason why the same principle should not be extended to Graduates. We differ widely from those who are of opinion that religious instruction should be excluded from such seminaries, and we intend to offer to your Majesty some suggestions on this subject in a future Report, but we do not think that the interests of religion can be promoted by the injustice of excluding any class of your Majesty's subjects, either from the instruction or the honours of an University, on account of their religious creed.

With a view to facilitate the arrangements for effecting an Union of the Universities, we suggested to the Patrons of the different Professorships in both Colleges the propriety of not filling up any vacancies that might occur, until we should have an opportunity of presenting our Report to Your Majesty. The Chair of Medicine in King's College has since become vacant; and should Your Majesty be graciously pleased to approve of an Union of the Universities, it will be most desirable that it be carried into effect with as little delay as possible.

ERROLL.

AL. BANNERMAN.

WILLIAM JACK, D.D.

DANIEL DEWAR, D.D.

JOHN CUNINGHAME.

JOHN ABERCROMBIE, M.D.

WILLIAM ANDERSON.

ALEX. E. MONTEITH.

E

Advantages of.

Limitations proposed.

Vacancies not to be filled until after public notice.

Oaths on Graduation, abolition of. Appendix, p. 75.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

THE COMMISSIONERS FOR VISITING THE UNIVERSITIES
OF KING'S AND MARISCHAL COLLEGE, ABERDEEN.

KING'S COLLEGE, ABERDEEN.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor
Macpherson.

20 October 1837.

Old Aberdeen, Friday, 20th October 1837.

Lord CUNINGHAME in the Chair.

Dr. *Hugh Macpherson*, Professor of Greek, called in and examined.

WE shall follow the order of the printed queries which were sent to you by order of the Commissioners.

1. Have you considered the question, as to the union of the Colleges, since your examination before the former Commission, and have you seen any reason, in any respect, to alter or modify any opinion which you may have then expressed?—After bestowing every attention on the subject of the union of the Colleges, I have not seen reason to change my opinion regarding that question as delivered here to the former Royal Commission, and afterwards with all my colleagues in a communication to the Lord Advocate in, I think, March 1836.

2. Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable; or do you think that the union of the two Colleges into one University, for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?—I do not consider the union of the two Colleges into one University, as suggested in this query, advisable.

3. If your opinion is adverse to a union, under any regulations, be so good as explain the grounds of your objections?—I feel that this University has done nothing to forfeit the rights it has so long enjoyed, or to deserve that it should now be reduced to a mere concurrent and divided exercise of privileges which it has hitherto wielded independently. To merge it in any other institution would be inconsistent with the principle to which it owes its origin, and with a due regard to the intention of the founder,* which we consider of paramount authority, both in relation to our own duties and to the interests of the northern population especially entrusted to our care, as well as with the views of the Scottish Parliaments expressed in repeated Acts of Ratification of our Charters, 1617, 1633, and 1670. One of these Acts is so strong that, with permission of the Board, I shall read an extract from it—"And his Majestie, being moved with fervent zeal of the propagation and advancement of religion, and with an earnest love of increase of policie, and having therewith a special regard to the education and upbringing of the youth in this kingdom in piety and learning, and specially within the north parts of this realm, whereof our Sovereane Lord's University and King's College, in Auld Aberdene, has been special instructor for the space of eight score eighteen years, or thereby, since the first foundation of the samin; and, understanding that the said University and College was of old founded and erected be umquhile King James the Fourth, of worthie memorie, for serving the north parts of this realme, and endowed by him with most ample privileges," &c. The other Acts are equally strong, and refer to the same object, the education of the north. It would, indeed, be the first instance in this country of a body, so constituted and so confirmed, being dissolved upon grounds of alleged expediency; and that, when its efficiency, as evinced by the full attendance of students and the prosperous state of its funds, has so recently been acknowledged. How strongly this view of the matter has struck the population of the great district, which would be principally affected by the changes now in agitation, and from which we derive so large a proportion of our endowments (as the list of our benefactors will show), may be gathered from the late unanimous expression of their sentiments. It is, indeed, worthy of observation, that, since the appointment of the late Royal Commission, no additional endowments have been conferred on this College.

In reference to what you have last stated, I would beg leave to ask if there has been any interval of 16 years in the previous history of the King's College, during which you had no endowments?—I cannot say as to that; there may have been.

Have the goodness to proceed with your answer to Question 3.—Finally, while so many objections crowd on my mind, I can see no counterbalancing advantages to the public in changes unsuited to the circumstances of the society which they are intended to benefit;

* See *Prima Erectio*, Evidence, p. 129, l. 13.

especially as, without any extinction of rights, violation of charters, or perversion of trust-funds, any improvements that might be deemed necessary could be carried into effect by the regular existing academical authorities.

4. If you think a union practicable and advisable, would you state your views as to the extent and nature of the arrangements which should be made in that case; in particular, whether the union should be of the Colleges into one Corporation, or only of the Colleges into one University?—This question appears to me to proceed on an assumption of a union being advisable, of which I have already stated my opinion.

5. If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?—To this question I have to make the same reply, conceiving that I have already stated my opinion regarding it.

6. Assuming that the Colleges should be united into one University, be pleased to specify what classes should be taught in each? In particular, if your opinion is that there should be double Chairs for Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, do you think that there are students at present frequenting both Colleges to make it expedient to have double Chairs in any of the other branches?—Without some specific plan before me I could not presume to give any opinion on this head.

7. Are you of opinion that any Professorship at present established in either College can either be abolished, or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent? If so, be pleased to specify what class or classes in either College you would propose to be altered?—Perhaps some modification of the duties of the Professor of Civil Law might be desirable, and, with the consent of parties, obtained. The Medical Chair can be restored to its efficiency without any legislation on the subject; and the extracts of the University minutes, already in the hands of the Commission, abundantly show that the College has not, on this point, been neglectful of its duties.

With the exception of some further regulation of the two classes you have specified, are you of opinion that none of the other classes in King's College require any regulation?—I have mentioned these as being the more striking improvements of easy access; and unless there was a specific plan before me I have no other suggestions to make. In regard to question 8, I conceive it to be answered in my reply to Question 6.

9. Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament, or by the consent of the Colleges at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient, on the plan of the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners?—I conceive that the new Court proposed would be utterly subversive of the discipline of the University and the efficiency of its professors; whilst the existing Rectorial Court may so easily answer every useful purpose. The transfer to extraneous persons of property expressly directed by the founder to be administered by this Society, and which has been advantageously administered, would be equally subversive of our foundation and of the general laws of property.

Do you consider the objections which you have stated as applicable to the union of King's College and Marischal College into one University without interfering with the corporate and patrimonial rights of each College as at present established?—I think my former answers comprehend this—it does not appear to me therefore that any new answer is required.

Do you think it is unnecessary to have a Professor of Logic to complete the curriculum of the Arts?—I do not assert that generally; but I do not feel myself at liberty to give any opinion as to the arrangement of the classes without having some specific plan before me.

Could you explain to the Commission a little more specially what suggestions you would make with respect to the Professorship of Law?—That I conceive depends entirely on the general plan which the Commission may think proper to sketch out.

You have mentioned that any change in the Professorship of Law should be with the consent of parties,—was there any stipulation made with the Professor of Law at the period of his appointment?—No. The consent which I alluded to in my answer to Question 7 referred to the consent of the Crown or the Legislature, and not to the Professor of Law.

It is ascertained by general reference that Latin, Chemistry, and Natural History, are taught by one Professor,—is it your opinion that this is a proper arrangement?—It is not my opinion that this is the best arrangement. That arrangement was at first accidental,—it arose from the peculiar circumstances of the Society at the time it was entered into.

How many years ago is it since that arrangement was gone into?—I think it was about the year 1817 or 1818.

Have any steps been taken to make another arrangement as to these classes since the last Commissioners made their Report?—No attempt has been made since then as to another arrangement, the same circumstances that led to this arrangement have continued down till now.

Do you think that Medicine can be so taught in one class as to enable the University to give Medical degrees upon satisfactory instruction to the graduates?—Degrees were never granted to individuals who had not studied regularly somewhere. With the view of supplying these defects alluded to, the University has lately appointed Lecturers on the different branches of Medical Science.

Have these Lecturers been appointed exclusively by King's College, or by this College in conjunction with Marischal College?—They have been appointed alternately under an arrangement between the two bodies.

Did the Lecturers so appointed lecture here or at Marischal College?—The Lecturers

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

*Professor
Macpherson.*

20 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor
Macpherson.

20 October 1837.

appointed were permitted to lecture where it was most convenient for them, having no salaries from the College.

But, in point of fact, did they lecture in King's College or in New Aberdeen?—Being professional men, and in practice in New Aberdeen, they thought fit to lecture in New Aberdeen.

Perhaps the circumstance may have escaped you for the moment; but recal to your recollection if it was not part of the actual arrangement that the Lecturers should lecture in Marischal College?—If this be the case it has escaped me; but we would have at once acceded to such an arrangement if so proposed.

On the supposition that the Colleges remain separate as they are, do you think that any change in regard to the patronage could be advantageously made, adequate compensation being made to the present Professors?—I have no conception of any compensation that could be made to the Professors for the relinquishment of the patronage bestowed on them by the founder,—I mean any pecuniary compensation.

You have seen, of course, a copy of the Commission appointing the present Commissioners?—I know that they have been appointed.

Have you any suggestions at all to offer to us regarding King's College?—Under the present circumstances I would decline offering any suggestion.

Dr. John Fleming, Professor of Natural Philosophy, called in and examined.

Professor Fleming.

20 October 1837.

1. Have you considered the question as to the union of the Colleges since your examination before the former Commission, and have you seen any reason, in any respect, to alter or modify any opinion which you may have then expressed?—I was not a member of the College at the time of the former Commission, and this question is not therefore applicable to me.

2. Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable; or do you think that the union of the Colleges into one University, for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?—I am of opinion that an entire union of the two into one corporation is expedient and practicable; but I am of opinion that the union of the two Colleges into one University, for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, is a most objectionable course.

3. If your opinion is adverse to a union under any regulations, be so good as explain the grounds of your objections?—My answer to the preceding query supersedes any answer to this.

If you think a union practicable and advisable, would you state your views as to the extent and nature of the arrangements which should be made in that case? In particular, whether the union should be of the Colleges into one corporation, or only of the Colleges into one University?—In regard to the first clause, I answer that I would have communicated my views long before this time to the Commission, in terms of the requisition, had it not appeared to be the general opinion of my colleagues that any such communication was inexpedient in the circumstances of the case; and I was likewise restrained from the circumstance of my being the junior member of the University, and consequently possessed of the least experience respecting the value of existing arrangements. In consequence of the notice of a meeting of the Commission to be held here in connexion with the subject of the union, I did take a general view of the subject in its different bearings, and I put down these views in the form of notes, which I shall read if the Commission wish it, and I shall be happy to give any explanations that may be required. [*Witness then read his notes, which were handed to the Secretary.*]

In the arrangements suggested by you respecting the fees, do you proceed on the assumption of an increase of the present endowments of the Professors?—I do proceed on that supposition; it is distinctly expressed in words, as I consider an additional endowment indispensable.

Does it occur to you that there would be as great an attendance upon a Natural Philosophy Class, if taught at King's College, Old Aberdeen, as there would be if that class were taught within the New Town of Aberdeen, which is the seat of trade and manufactures?—I would not imagine that there could be a great difference; and that would depend very much upon the matter of fact,—the numbers connected with the manufactures who do attend at this moment the present class of Natural Philosophy in Marischal College.

Are you of opinion that there would be any incompatibility, or unpleasant feelings, on the part of a Professor on the foundation of King's College, giving his lectures either within Marischal College, or at any convenient place in New Aberdeen which might be thought most suitable for collecting the greatest number of students of science?—I should think, for many considerations, it would be felt inconvenient, and would be, I have no doubt, disagreeable.

Do you think that a feeling which might be soon got over?—I do not know how long it might be before it would be got over; I am satisfied it would exist in the mean time.

If such an arrangement could be effected, would it not lead to very great economy in the arrangement, by probably saving some of the double Chairs?—It would unquestionably lead to economy if it saved any of the double Chairs.

Are you of opinion that it would be imposing too much labour on any Professor to teach the same elementary classes both at King's College and within Marischal College at the same time?

—I should think it exceedingly inconvenient, and at the same time laborious, considering the session as being in the winter season; and in rain and snow it would be very uncomfortable.

Are not the greater number of students for the classes of Natural Philosophy, and Moral Philosophy, which are classes for advanced youth, to be expected from New Aberdeen?—No, because the Marischal College is, in a great measure, a seat of learning for the inhabitants of New Aberdeen; while King's College is resorted to by the youth of the whole of the North of Scotland.

Are the greater number of students who attend the classes of King's College resident within Old Aberdeen, or are the majority resident in New Aberdeen?—Decidedly the majority reside in Old Aberdeen.

What proportion may at any time come from New Aberdeen?—I could not state their number at present, but I could make out a list of those who reside in New Aberdeen in my own class; I cannot do it in any other class. A return might, however, be furnished as to this.

On the supposition that the Natural Philosophy class were suppressed at Marischal College, as you suggest, do you not think there would be a hazard of a private lecturer establishing himself for Natural Philosophy within New Aberdeen, who might seriously injure the class of Natural Philosophy in the University at King's College, as you propose?—I do not think any injury worth considering would arise from that source; but I am satisfied that as private lecturers have established themselves when there have been two chairs of Natural Philosophy in the Colleges, such lecturers would likely continue to attempt to teach.

In the event of sufficient funds being obtained to endow double chairs in the whole faculty of Arts, are you of opinion that any disadvantage to the cause of education would result from the institution of such double chairs?—Most decidedly, as tending to increase much of the present evils which have been pointed out, such as the rivalry, the jealousy, and the want of co-operation which would inevitably prevail.

Do you think these evils would be either removed, or in any respect mitigated, by the two Colleges being put under the regulation of the *Senatus Academicus* in one University?—I do not consider that these evils would be either removed or mitigated by any such arrangement; but that they would be immeasurably aggravated. The tendency of my opinion is, as already explained, that double Chairs are disadvantageous in all the branches; and I have merely suggested their limited number and continuance in order to obviate existing prejudices.

Are you of opinion that there is any great obstacle to classes connected with Intellectual Philosophy being taught in King's College, and those connected with Natural Philosophy being taught in Marischal College, without reference to the foundations to which Professors may respectively belong?—Leaving out of view the foundations, I am satisfied that the transfer of any class in the Curriculum of Arts from King's College, such as Natural Philosophy, would be keenly opposed by the inhabitants of the North of Scotland, and ought not in prudence to be proposed.

In the proposal which you have made for the union of the Colleges, have you considered whether any additional buildings or accommodation would be required in King's College for a museum, apparatus rooms, or otherwise?—Buildings would be required for a museum, and likewise for a botanical garden.

Have you seen the plans of the new buildings of Marischal College, or are you aware of the number of students that may be accommodated in these buildings when finished?—I have not seen the plans, and do not know the extent of accommodation provided.

Assuming now that when these buildings are completed they shall be sufficient to accommodate the number of students that have hitherto attended College, do you not think it possible that a good number of students that attend King's College from the northern districts may resort to Marischal College?—I cannot perceive any new temptation that would arise to the students from the circumstance of new accommodation being gained there. I am not aware whether the old buildings were or were not sufficient for the accommodation of the students.

Be good enough to attend to the 5th Question; viz., "If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?"—I am decidedly of opinion that the patronage, if a union be effected, ought to be vested in the Crown, and that compensation should be made to the present incumbents who are in possession of the patronage.

Assuming the probability of an union taking place between the two Colleges, would there be any objection, in the event of the death of any of the present Professors, that the vacancy should not be filled up?—If a satisfactory arrangement were entered into, and a probability of the union taking place, I should think such an arrangement expedient in such circumstances.

Do you think that it would be desirable to carry the arrangements into effect immediately, or progressively, as circumstances might admit of?—It would be desirable to carry these arrangements respecting the union of the Colleges immediately into effect, were funds for accomplishing the object to be procured.

[The following Notes were ordered to be added as part of the evidence of the witness.]

Notes in reference to an Union of the King's and Marischal Colleges into one University, to be denominated the "University of Aberdeen."

I. The expediency and necessity of the Union.

1. There is a superfluity of teachers in some of the branches of knowledge and a deficiency

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Fleming.

20 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Fleming.

20 October 1837.

in others, occasioning a mutual starvation in the Colleges, and a stinted supply of education to the public.

2. In consequence of the rivalry between the institutions, there is little or no cordiality among the teachers from the continual clashing of their interests.

3. Without the suppression of the double Chairs, funds might not be obtained for augmenting the very limited salaries of the present incumbents, and for the endowment of those new Professorships which are required.

4. Though accommodations for the Medical School are in the course of erection in Marischal College, that School cannot grant degrees in Medicine unless by virtue of the power of King's College as a *University*.

5. In consequence of the institution in Old Aberdeen having been a *studium generale*, or *University*, from its foundation in 1494; recognised as such, distinctly, in its last Parliamentary Charter, 1670; at the Union being one of the *four* Universities of Scotland; and recognised as such to the present day in several Acts of Parliament, it has full power to grant degrees in *all the faculties* as "the University and King's College of Aberdeen."

The institution in the New Town was a *College* or *Gymnasium* at its foundation in 1593, a century later than the erection of the *University*. It preserved this character of a *College* in its last Parliamentary Charter 1661; and is denominated by an Act of Privy Council of Scotland 1669 (see Evidence, 223), the "Newton College" in contradistinction to the "University, called the King's College of Aberdeen." Although it is acknowledged to have a right to confer *Degrees in Arts*, it is considered as having no authority from Royal Charter, Papal Bull, Act of Parliament, or any other legitimate source of power, ancient or modern, to grant Degrees in Laws, Divinity, or Medicine.

6. Divided interests and consequent defective funds have prevented these institutions from forming a *Museum*, so that the great Commercial City of Aberdeen is, in this respect, greatly inferior to Perth, Peterhead, Banff, Inverness, and many other provincial towns. The same circumstances have likewise prevented a Philosophical Society from thriving.

7. The Books from Stationers' Hall, belonging to King's College, as one of the four Universities of Scotland, are not accessible to the *Students* of Marischal College.

Considering all circumstances in their near and remote bearings, it does not appear unreasonable to suppose that these evils would vanish, were a suitable Union effected between the two institutions.

II. The difficulties to be overcome in effecting the Union.

1. The jealous rivalry between the institutions, which extends to the towns in which they are situate, and is now in some measure hereditary, renders the love of victory stronger, perhaps, than higher sentiments.

2. The very strong feelings of irritation prevailing in King's College arising from the treatment received from the Treasury in reference to the Royal Grant, and by which favouritism towards the institution in the New Town has been considered as strikingly displayed. These feelings were greatly increased by the character of the Bills which have been subsequently introduced into Parliament, relative to the Aberdeen Colleges, and by which the ultimate destruction of King's College was considered as contemplated,—while, in addition to these circumstances, the composition of the present *Commission of Visitation* is viewed as partial to Marischal College, and decidedly hostile to King's College. In these sentiments, a very large portion of the inhabitants of the North of Scotland unreservedly participate, feeling a warm attachment to the University *peculiarly their own*.

3. The existence of venerable and extensive buildings at King's College, and those new buildings in progress at Marischal College, render unavoidable, yet somewhat complex, the distribution of the classes between the two buildings.

4. The existence of funds belonging to each institution, destined for the endowment of the chairs and the support of the bursars, which have been acquired from various sources.

5. The interest of the present incumbents, the adjustment of which may become more complex from their own prejudices, and such as, through their means, may be excited in the public mind.

6. An aversion on the part of many of the inhabitants of the north of Scotland to have the expense of education increased by an addition of chairs to the curriculum, increase of fees, or a lengthening of the Session.

These difficulties may be overcome, and the advantages of an union secured, by the present Commission of Visitation taking an impartial view of the whole case, and adjusting the arrangements with equity and prudence.

III. Principles to be acted upon in arranging the plan of Union.

1. To advance the interests of education and religion in the North of Scotland.

2. To disturb, to the smallest possible amount, Charters, Deeds of Mortification, and other usually respected arrangements.

3. To protect fully the pecuniary interests of the present incumbents, and to respect, as much as practicable, their feelings, and even their prejudices.

4. To keep in view the opinions and even prejudices of the inhabitants of the North of Scotland, without overlooking, on the other hand, the opinions and even prejudices of the inhabitants of the New Town of Aberdeen.

IV. Plan of Union.

Keeping all these circumstances steadily in view, the following plan of union seemsequitable and practicable, on the supposition that no public aid is to be furnished, and that it is necessary to make the best use of present resources.

1. To keep the funds of the two institutions perfectly distinct, and under the management of the Endowed Professors belonging to each College. The two Boards of Management to be termed the *Council of King's College* and the *Council of Marischal College*.

2. In the ultimate distribution of the Chairs, the Professors shall derive their endowments from the funds of the College in which they perform their duties. Thus the members of the Council would be those individuals in daily intercourse with one another, and personally interested in the improvement of the funds under their care.

3. That all the endowed Professors, *i. e.* the members of the two Councils, shall be members of the *Senatus Academicus* of the University, and that this Court shall have the control over the general discipline of the College.

4. That all Lecturers who shall become endowed, under the sanction of the University, shall become members of the Council of the College to which they are attached, with a right to share in any improvement of the funds which may take place subsequent to their entry, without prejudice, however, to the interests of those who are, at present, members of either College.

5. That there shall be no double Chairs in the Faculties of Theology, Law, and Medicine, nor in the Arts, except in the case of Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, if considered expedient.

The latter part of this arrangement, though highly objectionable as occupying upwards of £500 of the funds, which might otherwise be profitably employed, adapts itself to two classes of prejudices.

a. It would prevent the junior and most numerous classes in the Arts from being, as is supposed would be the case, in the event of an union, unmanageably large,—though those by whom such an evil is anticipated and dreaded, have overlooked the present crowded state of the second Greek and Latin Classes in both Colleges, containing, as they do, the accumulated students of the second, third, and fourth Sessions.

b. It would satisfy the inhabitants of New Aberdeen, because the youth of that city would not require to travel during the two first years of their Curriculum to King's College, in the Old Town. This objection to the Faculty of Arts being wholly transferred to the Old Town, as was contemplated in Sir Robert Peel's Commission, vanishes when the site of Edinburgh or Glasgow University, in reference to the distribution of the inhabitants, is considered; and especially when this is viewed in connexion with the fact, that many students voluntarily reside in the New Town, and, disregarding the distance, attend at King's College.

6. That the Principal of the University be supported out of the funds of the two institutions, in the event of the Government refusing to furnish a salary, which would place him apart from the respective College Councils.

7. That the Faculty of Arts and Theology be rendered complete in King's College; that the Faculties of Medicine and Law be established in Marischal College, together with a moiety of the Arts, *viz.*, Latin, Greek, and Mathematics.

The reasonableness of this arrangement is considered as depending on the superior antiquity, chartered rights, and more numerous attendance at King's College, and its being the University of the North of Scotland, taken in connexion with the condition of the New Town of Aberdeen, as the seat of the Infirmary and Courts of Law.

Any attempt to render imperfect the present Curriculum of Arts in King's College would unavoidably rouse the active opposition of the North of Scotland to a measure, which would be viewed as contemplating the ultimate extinction of King's College as a School of Arts. It may be added that parents in the North are exceedingly partial to the retirement of Old Aberdeen, and to the family character of the establishment, reposing great confidence in the value of the professorial inspection of their sons, which prevails.

The proposed arrangement is nearly that which was recommended by Sir Robert Peel's Commission, with the exception of the moiety of the Arts, reluctantly, for the reason stated above, conceded to New Aberdeen.

8. It is presumed that the public grants to the two Colleges will be continued, and may be viewed in reference to the proposed arrangement as a portion of the funds admitting of distribution.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Fleming.

20 October 1837.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE
PRESENT ENDOWMENTS OF KING'S AND MARISCHAL COLLEGES.

KING'S COLLEGE.			MARISCHAL COLLEGE.		
	£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.
I. Principal	280	18 11 ³ / ₄	Principal	324	5 9 ¹ / ₄
Divinity	404	7 6 ³ / ₄	Divinity	119	0 0
Oriental Languages	166	17 2 ³ / ₄	Oriental Languages	67	4 0
Sub-principal and Professor of Greek.	199	2 3 ³ / ₄	Church History	50	0 0
Humanist	188	4 4 ³ / ₄	First Regent, Latin and Natural		
Mathematics	168	12 6 ³ / ₄	History	184	5 8 ¹ / ₂
Natural Philosophy	169	7 3 ³ / ₄	Second Regent, Greek	184	5 8 ¹ / ₂
Moral Philosophy	171	13 11 ³ / ₄	Third Regent, Natural Philosophy .	184	5 8 ¹ / ₂
Civilist	184	10 4 ³ / ₄	Fourth Regent, Moral Philosophy .	184	5 8 ¹ / ₂
Mediciner	201	4 4 ³ / ₄	Mathematics	198	5 10 ¹ / ₂
	2,134	18 9	Medicine	46	11 8
			Chemistry	73	0 0
Faculty of Theology	852	3 7 ³ / ₄	Total Endowment	£ 1,615	10 14
Arts, Law, and Medicine	1,282	15 1 ³ / ₄			
Total Endowment	2,134	18 9			

PROPOSED ALTERATION IN PRESENT ENDOWMENTS.					
KING'S COLLEGE.			MARISCHAL COLLEGE.		
	£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.
Principal from King's College . . .	200	0 0	Principal	200	0 0
I. Divinity	200	0 0	Oriental Languages, transferred .	67	4 0
Biblical Criticism	200	0 0	Church History, ditto	50	0 0
Oriental Languages £166 + 34 . . .	200	0 0			
Church History £50 + 50 + 67 . . .	167	0 0	Civil Law and Political Economy .	100	0 0
Endowment of Theological Faculty	967	0 0	Scots Law	50	0 0
£.					
1. From King's College	852		Latin or First Regent	184	5 8 ¹ / ₂
2. From Marischal College	117		Greek or Second Regent	184	5 8 ¹ / ₂
	967	0 0	Mathematics, as at present	198	5 10 ¹ / ₂
II. ARTS.			Anatomy and Physiology	100	0 0
Latin, as at present	188	4 4 ³ / ₄	Surgery	100	0 0
Greek, ditto	199	2 3 ³ / ₄	Theory and Practice of Medicine .	100	0 0
Mathematics, ditto	168	12 6 ³ / ₄	Materia Medica	100	0 0
Natural Philosophy, ditto	169	7 3 ³ / ₄	Midwifery	100	0 0
Moral Philosophy	171	13 11 ³ / ₄	Chemistry	100	0 0
Logic, Civilist's Salary	184	10 4 ³ / ₄	Botany		
Natural History, Mediciner's Salary .	201	4 4 ³ / ₄			
Endowment of the Faculty of Arts	£ 1,282	15 1 ³ / ₄		£ 1,634	1 3 ¹ / ₂
Excess of Endowment 3s. 7 ³ / ₄ d.			Deficiency of Endowment £18. 11s. 1 ³ / ₄ d.		

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.
Professor Fleming.
29 October 1837.

The following remarks may illustrate the practical character of the plan:—

Theology.

a. Unless the Principal be enjoined to teach one of the Classes, there will be a deficiency of endowment, and even if all the Professors had £200 of salary, their incomes would be inferior to the "small livings" in the church.

b. The present Professorship of Church History could be easily transferred to King's College by the Crown, or, if considered expedient, might remain in the mean time attached to Marischal College.

c. The greatest organical change in this department would be the transference of the Chair of Divinity from Marischal College to King's College, to be ultimately endowed from the funds of King's College.

d. If the Chair of Oriental Languages of Marischal College could not, by an equitable arrangement with the Patron, be incorporated with the one in King's College, it might continue united with Marischal College, and have allotted to it the department of the Modern Oriental Languages.

e. The fees from the Theological Students to be limited in amount. They are rendered necessary by the defective endowments.

Arts.

In the King's College there would be required two organical changes.

1. The conversion of the Civil Law Chair into one of Logic. This, however, may be rendered unnecessary, if two classes of Moral Philosophy were taught by the same Professor; the first or elementary one embracing Logic. In this case the Chair may be transferred to Marischal College, and the Endowment applied to aid the funds of King's College.

2. The conversion of the Chair of Medicine into a Chair of Chemistry and Natural History. The *Chairs* in the Faculties of Law and Medicine of King's College to be thus transferred to Marischal College.

In Marischal College the following changes would be necessary :—

Theology.

The Divinity Chair to be transferred, and ultimately endowed from the funds of King's College. Church History to be transferred to King's College, together with Oriental Languages, or regulated as above.

Arts.

The first Regent to be restricted to Latin, instead of having conjoined with it Civil History, Natural History, and even Greek.

The second Regent and Professor of Mathematics to remain as at present.

The third and fourth Regents, or the Chairs of Natural Philosophy and Moral Philosophy, to be suppressed.

With respect to the Apparatus in Natural Philosophy, which would thus require to be transferred to King's College, compensation could be given from the funds of King's College to the Library of Marischal College.

With respect to the Astronomical apparatus of both Colleges, it would be expedient, with a view to the institution of a class of *Practical Astronomy*, that it should be placed in King's College, and an Assistant to the Professor of Natural Philosophy appointed to conduct that department under his superintendence.

There would be added to Marischal College the Chair of Civil Law, to be endowed with the funds of a Regent's Chair: this, with the addition of the Lectureship on Scotch Law and Conveyancing, would constitute the Faculty of Law in Marischal College.

The Chairs in the Medical Faculty to be instituted could be endowed from the funds set free, which are at present attached to the Principality, the Divinity Chair, and the two Regents' Chairs suppressed.

Until an endowment can be obtained for the Lectureship of Botany, and for the Botanical Garden, an arrangement similar to that which prevails at present, or one with the Professor of Natural History, might be agreed upon.

Museum.

This ought to be attached to King's College, because of the Class, but, above all other considerations, on account of the free air of the site of Old Aberdeen when compared with the New Town, where the smoke from the numerous manufactories would not only render it impossible to preserve many delicate objects suitably, but where, even for ordinary articles, a considerable *annual expense* would be unavoidable to keep them in decent cleanliness.

Library.

It would seem reasonable, in the event of such an union, for each College to receive one half (or rather for Marischal College to receive one-third, as the established rule for division of grants) of the compensation paid by the Treasury for the Stationers'-Hall books, and for all the Professors of the University, Matriculated Students, and Members of the University Court, to have equal access to both libraries.

Perhaps the Colleges might agree to allow all the books on Physical Science and Literature to be placed in the library of King's College, and those on Law and Medicine in Marischal College.

Curriculum.

By the plan of union contemplated, in the two first Sessions, attendance may be given either at Marischal College or King's College;—during the two last, at King's College; that attendance be required on Natural Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, and Natural History, during the *two* last Sessions. This seems of vast importance to give the Students *time* to reflect, and to acquire an *habitual* acquaintance with subjects which, according to the present mode, are *hurriedly* studied, and probably on that account too frequently forgotten.

It has been objected by the Senatus of Marischal College (Ev. p. 326) against the study of Natural and Moral Philosophy in the same year, that by such an union of studies the mind would be filled with "ideas totally opposite to each other;" that it would compel the students "to familiarize themselves at the same time with two totally different kinds of evidence; and, in short, to have, in a manner, two different habits of mind."

The confining of the study of Natural and Moral Philosophy to the last year of the Session would be obviously unsuitable. But surely the incongruity of Greek, Latin, Civil History, Natural History, and Mathematics during the second Session, as at present, in Marischal College, is as obvious as in the case objected to.

The objection to the present plan, as leading to an increase of expense in the Curriculum, is surely of small importance, when it is considered that upwards of £1,600 per annum are expended in the support of Bursars at King's College alone, and that upwards of £250 of that sum are given away to the Bursars by *competition*. Hence it appears that, in order to secure an University education, *poverty* forms no impediment.

Honours.

It is suggested that, at the end of the fourth Session, Students qualified shall receive the degree of *Bachelor of Arts*, and that those Students who, in addition, shall have attended Civil Law, Chemistry, Botany, and Practical Astronomy, and been found qualified, shall

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Fleming.

20 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Fleming.

20 October 1837.

receive the degree of *Master of Arts*; and that the higher honours in Law, Divinity, and Medicine shall not be conferred except on those in possession of the inferior degrees.

Students of Divinity, Law, or Medicine may attend these Supplementary Classes, when they find it suitable, in the course of their professional studies. This arrangement would, in a great degree, remove the evil of adding to the number of Sessions.

All honours to be publicly conferred by the Senatus of the University, the site of which to be *King's College*.

University Court.

Assuming that a University Court, if exercising other powers than those of deciding upon appeals from the Senatus in cases of expulsion, the superannuation of Professors when recommended by the Senatus, and of auditing the Accounts, would prove ruinous to the respectability and efficiency of the Senatus; it is probable that the required control would be sufficient and satisfactory to the public by the following constitution of the said Court:—

1. *Chancellor*, to be a Peer, elected by the members of the Senatus, and to continue in office five years.

This arrangement would form a connexion between the University and the House of Peers, and guard against the injurious consequences of indolence or old age.

2. *Rector*, to be elected annually, on the first week of the Session, by the Students who have entered the classes in the fourth year of the Curriculum, by those of one year's standing, as A.B., and all of A.M. entered in any of the classes of Law, Medicine, or Divinity.

This mode of election would give a popular character to this member of the Court, in reference to the Students, furnish at the same time a sufficiently large and intelligent constituency, and, by fixing the election at the beginning of the Session, avoid the acknowledged existing evil in Marischal College of distracting the attention of the Students at the most important period of the Session.

3. The *Lord Provost* of New Aberdeen.

4. The *Lord Provost* of Old Aberdeen.

The presence of these two officials would, in reference to the property of the Colleges, and the Bursar Funds especially, give the public full confidence in their good management.

5. The *Member of Parliament* for the County.

6. The *Member of Parliament* for the City.

These two members of the Court would render the House of Commons more accessible, in any case, in which the interests of the University might be concerned.

7. The *Moderator* of the Synod of Aberdeen.

There is an objection against the Principal being a member of this Court, on account of his being the head of the Senatus.

In the preceding notes the present funds have been exclusively considered. But surely, when the importance of the object is fully contemplated—the interests of education in the north of Scotland—the expectation seems reasonable that the Royal Commissioners will recommend in their Report that a more liberal scale of endowment be adopted toward the teachers of youth in this University during the period of their active labours; and that provision be likewise made for their retirement when, from old age or other circumstances, their usefulness shall have become impaired.

Plan of a Curriculum for the consideration of the Commissioners:—

I. Session.

	Hours per Day.	Fees.		
		£.	s.	d.
Latin	2	2	2	0
Greek	2	2	2	0
Mathematics	1	2	2	0
	—5		6	6 0

II. Session.

Latin	1	1	1	0
Greek	1	1	1	0
Mathematics	2	1	1	0
	—4		3	3 0

III. Session.

Nat. History	1½	2	2	0
Nat. Philosophy	1½	2	2	0
Mor. Philosophy	1½	2	2	0
	—4½		6	6 0

IV. Session.

Nat. History	1	1	1	0
Nat. Philosophy	1	1	1	0
Mor. Philosophy	1	1	1	0
	—3		3	3 0

Total £18 18 0

Principal's Lectures on the Evidences of Christianity three hours a-week.

Supplementary Classes.

Civil, Law, and Political Economy.
Chemistry.
Botany.
Practical Astronomy.

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Fleming.

20 October 1837.

The fees are here contemplated, as on a reduced scale, on the supposition that a higher endowment will be given to the Chairs. By such an arrangement a more complete system of education would be furnished to the youth of the North of Scotland, *without an increase of expense.*

Duties of the Sessions.

In the first and second Sessions a considerable degree of attention should be bestowed in the Greek and Latin Classes, on Composition, on Greek and Roman Antiquities, and Classical Geography; and, in the Mathematical Class, to practical Triangulation, Levelling, &c.

In the third Session,—

The Natural History might include an elementary view of Chemical Affinity—the *Elementary Bodies*—the union of those constituting *Minerals*—the aggregation of minerals forming *Rocks*—together with a History of the *Air* and the *Waters*.

The Natural Philosophy might include an examination of the Corpuscular Forces, Light, Heat, Electricity, and Magnetism.

The Moral Philosophy might embrace the illustration of the Nature of the Intellectual Powers and their suitable employment.

In the fourth Session,—

The Natural History might include Zoology, Phytology, and the distribution of Organic Remains.

The Natural Philosophy might embrace the illustration of the doctrines of Statics and Dynamics, and their application to Solids, Liquids, and Gases in Nature and Art, and the Principles of Astronomy.

The Moral Philosophy might embrace the Active Powers and Ethics.

The Lectures by the Principal, on the Evidences of Religion, would be an invaluable addition to the present course of study, and would be offered to the Students, after a suitable preparation in the Moral Philosophy of the third Session, respecting the Laws of Evidence.

The distribution of the subjects in the Junior and Senior Classes would necessarily depend on the particular views and experience of the Professors, subject to the control of the Senatus.

In its general character the plan will probably recommend itself, because it preserves the connexion between the Professor and Student for *two Sessions*, and keeps the attention of the latter, during *two years*, continuously directed to the subjects of his study, so as to permit the *influence of time* to operate in fixing his acquirements on the memory.

The Rev. Dr. Duncan Mearns, Professor of Divinity, called in and examined.

1. "Have you considered the question as to the union of the Colleges since your examination before the former Commission, and have you seen any reason, in any respect, to alter or modify any opinion which you may have then expressed?"—I have found reason to express more confidently, and in stronger terms, the unfavourable opinion I had then formed of the measures in question.

2. "Are you of opinion, that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable? or, do you think that the union of the two Colleges into one University, for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?"—I refer to the opinion given in my examination before the former Commission, coupled with the answer given to Question 1.

3. "If your opinion is adverse to a union under any regulations, be so good as explain the grounds of your objections?"—*First*, It seems the business of those who advocate the expediency of changes of system, so important as those included in the measure termed the *Union of the Colleges*, to bring forward reasons in support of it; rather than of those who are satisfied with the existing state of things, to disprove the expediency or practicability of the measure proposed, under all its possible modifications. *Second*, The nature of the measure in question, when understood as implying the union of the two Colleges into one corporation, seems peculiarly to require the production of substantial reasons in its support, since the *ex facie* inexpediency of the scheme is manifest;—inasmuch as, instead of adding to, it diminishes the number of our higher educational institutions. *Third*, But so far are the reasons produced hitherto in justification of this measure from being substantial and convincing, that it has, in the hands of its supporters, been subjected to an endless variety of modifications;—the reasons urged in favour of each particular scheme of union appearing unsatisfactory even to the majority of unionists, and each party considering its own specific as alone safe and salutary. *Fourth*, To the scheme of an Incorporating Union, which now indeed has been almost deserted by its supporters, the leading and insuperable objection is the impossibility of conducting the business of teaching in the same effective manner as at present, were the parallel classes in the two Colleges combined. Were the number of students in the several classes thus doubled, the existing system of individual examination must be so far relaxed, as to prove, in a great measure, ineffective. *Fifth*, Another formidable objection is the

Professor Mearns.

20 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Mearns.

20 October 1837.

difficulty of maintaining order and discipline in such a concourse of youths, from 12 to 18 years of age, as would then compose the several classes. *Sixth*, The only effectual answer to these objections which can be given is the following;—that by adopting measures for enlarging the Curriculum, and otherwise heightening the standard of education afforded, measures involving a large increase of expense, the number of students attending the united College will not be greater than the number now found at each. In other words, the otherwise insurmountable objections to the scheme of union may be removed, by depriving the humbler classes of society throughout the North of Scotland, of the privilege enjoyed by them from time immemorial, of obtaining for a portion of the youth belonging to these classes a liberal education, with all the invaluable advantages which have been shown, to result from that privilege to society at large. *Seventh*, The salutary rivalry hitherto subsisting between the Colleges in a state of separation and independence has afforded no unimportant security to the public, that the duties of both should be faithfully and acceptably discharged. By the measure of union this security would be removed. *Eighth*, No scheme of union has been produced, which has not involved destruction of chartered rights, altogether revolting to those who regard the maintenance of public faith, and the security of public institutions, as matters of importance. *Ninth*, No scheme of union has been proposed, which has not in like manner involved violation of testamentary deeds, conveying funds for the education of poor scholars, and other benevolent purposes; thus tending to prevent or check such bequests in time to come. *Tenth*, The scheme of union of the Colleges into one University may be considered as indirectly introductive of an incorporating union; and under the circumstances of the Colleges could hardly fail, at no distant period, to lead to it. Marischal College, from its locality, particularly if certain proposed medical Professorships are added to its establishment, must always be the more influential of the two. Its students, furnished chiefly from the town, could, without inconvenience, submit to a more lengthened and expensive Curriculum preparatory to degrees, than could be accomplished by the students of King's College; and various measures might easily be devised, harmless in the one case, and distressing in the other, which would silently and gradually work the subversion of the weaker College. *Eleventh*, The case of two Colleges in one University is extremely different from that of a greater number. The domination of any one is, in the English Universities, readily defeated by a combination of the others for mutual defence. *Twelfth*, Impartial, and at the same time qualified examiners for degrees, such as are provided by the English University system, are not to be had here. *Thirteenth*, The moderate and salutary rivalry now subsisting between the Colleges would, by the continual recurrence of causes of irritation, arising out of the connexion thus established, be exchanged for deep-seated hostility. *Fourteenth*, For these and other reasons, the Senatus of King's College, after a full and deliberate consideration of the subject, did, in a communication to the Lord Advocate, of date March 1836, express the following opinion of such a modified union;—an opinion to which I desire to be considered as adhering. "With perfect unanimity do they (the Senatus) disapprove of the union of the two Colleges into one University, consisting of two Colleges, as a measure holding out no prospect of advantage whatever to the interests of education, or the usefulness of professors; but evidently calculated to cripple, impoverish, and ultimately, to effect the entire suppression of this, the University of the North of Scotland." *Fifteenth*, Assuming that immoveable objections to the scheme of union, under all conceivable modifications, did not exist; and that the public interests might be in some degree benefited by its adoption under certain conditions; it is highly inexpedient to press it at present. Recent legislative propositions, having for their object organic changes of the system of University administration and study, and affecting deeply the religious as well as educational interests of all classes of the community, have roused the indignant opposition, not of University men only, but of the Church, and of the country. The scheme of union of the Aberdeen Colleges has been mixed up with those proposed changes; so that it is quite impossible to carry it into effect at present under any modification, with such a cordial feeling of concurrence, either on the part of those most concerned in its adoption and maintenance, or of the people at large, as could afford even a tolerable chance of its proving beneficial or permanent.

4. "If you think a union practicable and advisable, would you state your views as to the extent and nature of the arrangements, which should be made in that case? In particular, whether the union should be of the Colleges into one corporation, or only of the Colleges into one University?"—Considering the scheme of union, under all its modifications, as more or less unjust and injurious, it seems inconsistent on my part to suggest arrangements for its adoption.

5. "If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present; or to be vested in the crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives?"—The scheme of alienation of trust-rights, vested in a corporate body for the public interest, which alienation or surrender is consented to by the existing members of that body, in virtue of pecuniary arrangements, by which they are themselves benefited, seems liable to a general objection, rendering of little comparative importance any specific objections which may be against it.

6. I consider as already answered.

7. "Are you of opinion, that any Professorship at present established in either College can either be abolished, or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature, due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent? If so, be pleased to specify what class or classes in either College you would propose to be altered?"—I am of opinion that no Professorship established in this College—of the other I cannot so confidently speak—can be abolished, or its income appropriated to a different

branch of science or literature. To other reasons sufficiently obvious, may be added, that where there is only a single Professorship in a particular faculty, that Professorship cannot be extinguished without destroying the general character of the seminary as a University.

8. Is already answered.

9. "Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament, or by the consent of the Colleges at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient, on the plan of the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners?"—I think the plan of the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners is unconstitutional; degrading to the Professors, destructive of discipline, by no means conservative of the property or privileges of Universities, and detrimental to the public interests.

I presume you have seen the Commission under which the present Commissioners were originally appointed; and I would beg to ask, if you have any suggestions to make to the Commission in regard to King's College?—No suggestion occurs to me at this moment, which, under existing circumstances, I think it proper to propose.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Mearns.

20 October 1837.

Dr. James Bannerman, Professor of Medicine, called in and examined.

You were examined by the former Commission?—I was.

Have the goodness to give us your answers to the following queries in their order: 1. "Have you considered the question as to the union of the Colleges since your examination before the former Commission, and have seen any reason in any respect to alter or modify any opinion which you may have then expressed?"—I have considered the question, and I beg to say, in answer, that I adhere to the opinion formerly expressed by me to the former Commissioners.

2. "Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable? or do you think that the union of the Colleges into one University for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?"—I do not think that the union of the two Colleges into one Corporation is expedient, and I question if it is practicable. I do not think that the union of the Colleges into one University for the purpose specified is expedient, and I question if practicable.

3. "If your opinion is adverse to a union under any regulations, be so good as explain the ground of your objections?"—I am of opinion that the interests of education—local education here—would suffer by such a union, and that the educational interests also of the surrounding community would suffer by it. This, I consider, answers Query 4.

5. "If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives?"—In the event of such a union I should imagine, perhaps, that vesting the patronage in the Crown would be preferable.

Assuming that the Colleges should be united into one University, be pleased to specify what classes you would recommend to be taught in each; in particular, if your opinion is that there should be double Chairs for Latin, Greek and Mathematics, do you think that there are Students at present frequenting both Colleges to make it expedient to have double Chairs in any of the other branches?"—Under such circumstances I should conceive that the interests of the community would require double Chairs for Latin, Greek and Mathematics; but I would scarcely recommend double Chairs for any of the other branches.

"Are you of opinion that any Professorship at present established in either College can either be abolished, or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature, due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent? if so, be pleased to specify what class or classes in either College would you propose to be altered?"—I would not recommend that any class should be either abolished or altered.

7. "Assuming that Parliament would be disposed to grant a reasonable sum for the endowment of such additional Professorships as might be necessary for improving or completing the Curriculum of Education in the different faculties in the united University, what new Chairs would you suggest as proper in that case?"—Under such an event, perhaps the Medical Faculty should be made to approach as nearly as possible to the Edinburgh Curriculum.

Is this as eligible a situation for teaching Medical classes as Marischal College?—No. As to the faculty of Medicine, every circumstance makes it preferable that the seat of it should be in New Aberdeen, and one in particular, viz., that it is the seat of the hospitals.

9. "Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament or by the consent of the Colleges at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient, on the plan of the University Court, recommended by the former Commissioners?"—I have no particular alteration to suggest.

*Professor
Bannerman.*

20 October 1837.

The Rev. Dr. Patrick Forbes, Professor of Humanity, called in and examined.

1. "Have you considered the question as to the union of the Colleges since your examination before the former Commission, and have you seen any reason in any respect to alter or modify any opinion which you may have then expressed?"—It appears to me that this question resolves itself into two; for it may imply the union of all the Faculties into one University, by which only one Faculty of Arts would remain, or the union of the other Faculties, with the

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

exception of the two Faculties of Arts, preserved distinct and separate, into one University. In regard to the first of these unions, implying the suppression of one of the Faculties of Arts, I have never altered my opinion, having been always most adverse to the suppression of either of the Philosophical Colleges; but in regard to the union of the other Faculties into one University, preserving, however, the two Faculties of Arts distinct, to such a union I was, in my examination in 1826, highly favourable. On this last point, however, I have now altogether altered my opinion.

2. "Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable, or do you think that the union of the Colleges into one University for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?"—I conceive that I have already answered the first part of this question, except in so far as that I must say that the practicability of such an entire union seems to me to be now rendered impossible, without the entire sacrifice of the buildings of King's College. I wish further to express distinctly, that any union of the Colleges into *one corporation* is, in my judgment, not expedient, and I do not think it practicable, without great injustice and without producing the worst effects.

3. "If your opinion is adverse to a union under any regulations, be so good as explain the grounds of your objections?"—In consequence of the Lord Advocate having come here, and requesting the members of the Senatus to state, either collectively or individually, our opinions in regard to the proposals in the former Commission Report; as the University did not immediately give their answer, I thought it necessary, considering my own particular situation, to give an answer by letter to his Lordship, which letter I printed for reasons peculiar to myself. This letter contains my views on this question. It is confined to two points: first, to showing my ideas of the danger of legislative interference with the Colleges altogether, and pointing out how it was possible by the exercise of the powers of the present University authorities to accomplish all that could be desired, except it was meant to make a radical change in the constitution of the Universities; the second part contains my answer to this question. I beg leave, therefore, to produce a copy of this letter; but as it was written on the spur of the moment in consequence of the Lord Advocate's requisition that the answers should be given within ten days or a fortnight, I have made some corrections on it. It explains the views which I still entertain on the subject.—(*Letter handed in.*)

4. Answer to this query superseded.

5. "If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?"—I must acknowledge myself incapable, at present, to give any decided opinion on the difficult question, in what body or persons the patronage of Professors' Chairs ought to be vested. But I must state distinctly that I conceive the vesting of the patronage in the Crown to be attended with serious difficulties. And were it so vested, I deem it absolutely necessary that some sort of *veto* should, at the same time, be vested in the University authorities; for I cannot conceive that any greater hardship could be inflicted on the members of a College than that a Principal or Professor, without a particle of either literature or of science, should be forced upon them; and I beg to state that this is no hypothetical case. I must farther say that whilst I am not unaware of the objections that may be made to the patronage being vested in the *Senatus*, yet I think the public have a very powerful check upon its being improperly exercised: because, in the first place, the interest of the Professors themselves would make them careful not to select a person who was not capable of doing his duty, or who would not also be active, as they believed, in endeavouring to perform it. In the second place, the opinion of the public must have a powerful influence upon such a small body as the *Senatus* of a University; and I beg leave to add a remark in regard to the exercise of the patronage of this University since I came into it,—that I verily believe it has been exercised to the best of the judgment of the electors, and certainly, as the last election shows, without regard to political sentiments. As to the last part of the query, I consider it quite inadmissible that the existing Professors should receive to themselves individually any consideration for the loss of the patronage, should it ever be taken from them; but it might then be matter of consideration whether compensation would not be due to the College.

6. "Assuming that the Colleges should be united into one University, be pleased to specify what Classes you would recommend to be taught in each. In particular, if your opinion is that there should be double Chairs for Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, do you think that there are students at present frequenting both Colleges to make it expedient to have double Chairs in any of the other branches?"—I am fully of opinion that there are students attending all the Classes of the Philosophical Course sufficient to employ two Professors in each of the Classes now taught in the two Colleges, provided that the system that has always been pursued in these Colleges is intended to be kept up, namely, that of strict public and private examination.

7. "Are you of opinion that any Professorship now established in either College can either be abolished or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature, due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent?" If so, be pleased to specify what Class or Classes in either College you would propose to be altered?"—I am not of opinion that any Professorship should be abolished.

"Are you of opinion that medicine can be taught to advantage in the College, when there is only an endowment for one Professor?"—By no means; but I have said something on that subject in my letter to the Lord Advocate, and I shall advert to it in my answer to the next question.

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

8. "Assuming that Parliament would be disposed to grant a reasonable sum for the endowment of such additional Professorships as might be necessary for improving and completing the Curriculum of education in the different faculties in the united University, what new Chairs would you suggest as proper in that case?"—In regard to the Curriculum of Arts, the only additional Chair which I would propose in this College is that of a Professorship of Chemistry. I have always considered it as a most extraordinary thing that, whilst a Chair of Natural Philosophy was deemed indispensable to a Curriculum of Arts, there is no such appointment as a Professorship of Chemistry, a science, to say the least, equally useful and important, attached to the Curriculum of Arts in any University in Scotland; nor is attendance on a Chemical Class required as a part of the Curriculum of Arts in any of the other Universities, except in this. My opinion is, that three different Classes of Chemistry ought to be taught in every University: *first*, that of the General Elements of Chemistry forming part of the Curriculum of Arts; *second*, that of Practical Chemistry, which must be of the nature of a private class, as it can be attended by only a few pupils at the same time with any advantage; and *third*, that of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, which should be attached to the Medical Faculty.

Are you of opinion that a Professorship of Logic, separate from Moral Philosophy, might not be advantageously introduced into the Curriculum of Arts?—I do not think so, except the Curriculum were farther extended than it now is, as the time of the Students is so fully occupied under the present arrangement that I do not see how it could be foisted in.

Are you of opinion that any system should be introduced for teaching the Evidences and Principles of Christianity as a part of general education?—This I should consider of the greatest importance; and we have something of this kind in this University, in what is called the Mistle Lecture, given every Sunday morning to all the Students and Professors in the public school by the Professor of Divinity, on the Principles of Practical Religion, which I apprehend cannot be discussed without frequent references to, and explications of, both Natural and Revealed Religion.

9. "Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament or by the consent of the Colleges at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient on the plan of the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners?"—In regard to the plan of the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners, I have already made some observations in the letter to the Lord Advocate. I conceive that any plan which would take out of the Professors' hands the management of the pecuniary concerns of the College must be altogether destructive of their respectability and usefulness; for supposing that any peer of the realm had his estate taken out of his own management by an Act of Parliament, whilst the whole rents were paid over to him by Commissioners, I would ask whether his respectability and influence would not be greatly diminished? In the only instance too, where this has happened in Scotland, so far as known to me, namely, in Edinburgh, it is believed that the management of the funds has not been very satisfactory, but, on the contrary, that they have been actually alienated. I must here state in the strongest terms that great injustice was done to this University in the Report of the last Commission, in which it was stated that this University was very considerably in debt. The fact is that this University now does not owe one farthing, with the exception of a debt upon the buildings contracted through a long series of time, and for which the buildings and manses of the Professors are at this time answerable.

Have you any suggestions to make to this Commission regarding King's College?—I am not prepared immediately to make suggestions; but I shall probably, in revising my evidence, transmit a paper of notes to the Commissioners on the subject.—[*The witness withdrew.*]

[*The witness, in revising his Evidence, made the following addition.*]

In addition to my answers to Query 8 I beg leave to say that it would, in my opinion, contribute to the success of the Medical School in Aberdeen that the present Lectureships in Medicine should be converted into Regius Professorships, the one half of them to be attached to the Senatus of the one College and the other half to the other. It seems to me that the Professorship in Botany will be comparatively inefficient without a Botanical Garden. A Professor of Natural History, who would teach Zoology and Geology during the *Summer Season*, would no doubt be a valuable addition to the course of general as well as medical education.

As to the query regarding the addition of a Professorship of Logic separate from that of Moral Philosophy to the Curriculum of Arts, I beg to state very briefly my reasons for deeming such an addition unnecessary.

There are two Sciences, or more properly two parts of the Science of Logic: 1st. The Aristotelian Logic, which Archbishop Whately has rightly shown, has nothing to do with processes of reasoning for the discovery of truth, but is wholly confined to teaching the manner of stating correctly propositions in words, and detecting incorrect statements of such propositions or syllogisms in language either written or spoken. Now it is not too much to aver that the elements of this science, as defined and systematized by Whately, may be taught in a fortnight by the Moral Philosophy Professor, and his whole after course and private exercises will furnish abundant opportunities of exemplifying it to the Students and exercising them upon it. 2dly. The Inductive, or, what has been styled by some, Rational Logic. To the use of this Logic, and to a general acquaintance with its principles, the Students who, in this College, have studied Mathematics, Chemistry, and Natural Philosophy, before they enter the Moral Philosophy Class, have been already introduced and therefore well prepared for the study of it, in a systematical and philosophical manner, as soon as it shall have received a systematical and philosophical form, which certainly, as Professor Dugald Stewart often complains, it has

University of
Aberdeen.
King's College.
Professor Forbes.
20 October 1837.

not yet assumed. But at any rate the Professor of the Intellectual and Ethical Philosophy, which are both comprehended in the term Moral Philosophy, as employed in our University, must teach this science as far as it is known, and be continually referring to its principles in every step of his progress. To appoint a separate Professor for these sciences would therefore be unnecessary, and, in fact, improper, as it would be impossible to keep their provinces distinct and separate, and would only induce unnecessary expense and waste of time to the Students.

But it would be a most important and valuable addition to the Moral Philosophy Class, and indeed to all the Classes, particularly the Language Classes, were tutors attached to the Colleges, who, besides teaching privately, should be obliged to assist the different Professors in examining the private written tasks of the Students, and also in assisting in the public examinations for prizes and degrees. The want of such assistants has been so strongly felt in other Universities that it is believed that some Professors have resorted to the futile, and, I am afraid in a University, almost ridiculous substitution of monitors taken from among the Students themselves.

Were, however, salaried tutors, who had gained their situations by merit solely, attached to the different departments, there is little doubt but that such an institution would not only be a high stimulus to learning and science in general, but would also render much more efficient the system of examinations, which in this University is considered to be the most essential part of our plan of education.

P. F.

[The following Letter was ordered to be added as part of the Evidence of the witness.]

MY LORD,

"IN consequence of the invitation given by your Lordship to the Members of the Senatus of King's College, to express their opinions, either collectively or individually, regarding Bills to be brought into Parliament at the commencement of next Session, to make changes on the state of the Universities of Scotland, and of this University in particular, in some degree founded on the recommendations of the Royal Commission of 1826 and 1830, I now take the liberty of addressing a few remarks to your Lordship on this proposed measure, although I am well aware that the sentiments of so humble an individual, and, as some may think, so prejudiced a one, can have little weight on so momentous a subject.

"I must begin with stating, explicitly, that I deprecate all legislative interference with the system of our Universities and Schools, which are so intimately connected in their relations, that what affects the Universities must also deeply affect our Schools, upon the ground of the fact that both of these, as presently constituted, have undeniably produced the effect expected from such institutions, namely, the *general good* education of the people, better than any such institutions in Europe. I am quite aware that there are Universities and Schools in which higher and more extensive education is given, but which is at the same time necessarily attended with much heavier expense, and requires many more years, and is consequently within the reach of but few, comparatively. Such Universities and Schools, every one must see, would be quite unsuited to the circumstances of this country, and are certainly unsuited to the circumstances of the great mass of the population in any country. How few, for instance, have the benefit of a University education in England, in proportion to the population, compared with those in Scotland who have that advantage? But, perhaps, it may be objected, that our University education in Scotland scarcely deserves the name. This, however, is far from being true, for it is, in fact, much more a University education, in the original sense of the term, than that in England; for the greater part of the sciences are taught in most of the Scotch Universities, which is not the case in our sister country. But it has again been objected that it is only the mere elements of erudition and science which are taught in them. This is quite true, and, in my opinion, is the great excellence of the system: for, if the elements of a science be learned under a proper teacher, any person of moderate capacity and perseverance may easily pursue it by himself to any extent. Those, therefore, who have been educated in the Scotch manner, and have been attentive students, are fitted for any situation in life, where Providence may be pleased to place them, and at a very early age too, as they are prepared to acquire completely whatever branch of science or erudition they may find necessary. They are educated in a way which, while it expands their minds by displaying to them the extent, and initiating them into the elements, of human knowledge, at the same time fits them for being practical men. Experience justifies this remark, for we find our countrymen well qualified to push their way in the world, and to distinguish themselves in every line of life. This has been attributed to our national character, and not a few flippant remarks on this point are frequently thrown out. But it would be well were the persons who indulge in these to ask themselves what forms a national character? It cannot be said, in the case of the Scotch, that we have a character derived from our race, and inherent in our nature, such as has been observed to belong to different races of men; for the Scotch are descended from two races of men having very different characteristics, the Saxons and the Celts; yet I do not believe that it will be alleged that, though a marked difference of character be still observable in these two races in Scotland, there is any difference in their being equally well qualified to push their way as *practical* men in the world. By those, therefore, who will take the trouble of investigating this matter, the cause of this allowed quality of the Scotch will be acknowledged to be the general diffusion of good education, not confined to attempted excellence in one or two branches of learning, and they will feel themselves compelled to ascribe it principally to the comparatively little expense of time and money required for a University education

in this country, having put it within the reach of so many, even of the lowest classes, to acquire it during the last two or three hundred years.

"The connexion between the Universities, and not only the parochial schools, but almost all the schools in Scotland, is owing to the cheapness of University education rendering it so common that there is no want of candidates who have been educated at a University for almost any school, however poorly endowed, or even not endowed at all. To doubt that a schoolmaster who has had this advantage is, *cæteris paribus*, much better qualified than one who has not, would be absurd. Hence the schools in Scotland are, undoubtedly, *on the whole*, supplied with very superior teachers to those who are in the same situation in our sister country. While it is readily allowed that in the great schools there very superior teachers are to be found, it is apprehended that the number of schools in England which have teachers bred at the Universities is very limited indeed; and it is well known that a great number go from our Universities to become teachers in the English academies, and to set up schools for themselves, otherwise the want of the general diffusion of University education in that country would become much more severely felt.

"To your Lordship, who, as an Elder of our Established Church, must be well acquainted with the bearings of our Universities on that venerable establishment, it is unnecessary to dwell on the great benefit it has derived from the abundant supply of sufficiently educated persons to serve at its altars. That a country, so poor as Scotland long was, and as many parts of it still are, should have never for any length of time wanted such ministers—and that, too, while no less than eight years' attendance at the University is required of each candidate for that office, is really surprising, considering the poor endowments of the Church, which certainly hold out to no one any tempting objects of worldly ambition; and, undoubtedly, this could not have happened, had not the desire of education been very generally inspired, in consequence of its general diffusion and easy attainment. Any change, then, in a system so well adapted for the purposes of good and general education, and which has produced a national character and condition confessedly allowed by our English neighbours to be of a superior cast, I must earnestly deprecate. Legislative interference by Parliament, however, I do apprehend must either have this view, or be unnecessary. A bill for this purpose might indeed be a mere money bill, for augmenting salaries, &c. But I understood from your Lordship referring us particularly to the propositions made by the Royal Commissioners, that much more was intended.

"With regard to any minor changes, not involving a change of system, I object to legislative interference, because I contend that it is unnecessary, and because it must almost unavoidably be most prejudicial. It is unnecessary, because there is full power in the University Courts to introduce any such minor changes as may, after due deliberation, be deemed advisable; and, in fact, such changes have been going on continually and progressively ever since these Universities were established, as circumstances seemed to require, or the public to demand. And I cannot doubt that each University would, on the recommendation of its higher courts, or of His Majesty, the general visitor, take into consideration, and adopt such changes as should after due deliberation be deemed advisable. In the University to which I belong, many changes have been made during the last 10 years, and many more would have been made, had they not been prevented by the expectation that some great changes were contemplated by the Royal Commission, and that, therefore, it was useless to establish new measures which might be overturned in six months. It must, indeed, be evident to every one that it is so completely the interest of the Universities of Scotland, whose members are in general so dependent on the number of students who attend their classes, to make the changes which they know the public requires, or which they have reason to think may be generally approved, that it seems absurd to doubt whether they would hesitate on the point. Besides, from the number of Universities in this kingdom, and the rivalry which necessarily subsists among them, if any one of them leads the way in any change which approves itself on trial to be a real improvement, the others must follow, otherwise they will suffer in their reputation, and their members in their individual interest. And let any one attend to the great changes which have taken place during the last century, in the education given in our Universities, and he cannot fail to be convinced that any such changes as the present circumstances may require can be accomplished without legislative interference.

"Changes introduced by the University authorities have the great advantage, that they may be introduced gradually, and by way of experiment, which will not be the case if legislative interference be resorted to. On the contrary, great, sweeping, and theoretical changes will too probably be attempted, which will unhinge the whole system under which the education of the country has heretofore been conducted, and greatly flourished. But the chief danger of legislative interference will arise from the circumstance, that very few members in either house of Parliament have, or can have, that thorough practical knowledge of the working of our University system, and its connexion with the schools, the Church, and the general education of the people, which would qualify them for legislating as it were *anew* on a point which all must acknowledge to be of extreme importance and difficulty. The little time and attention which can be afforded by our legislators at present, or indeed almost at any time under the pressure of the business of this great country, is a circumstance which must make every true Scotchman dread the possibility of rash and ill-judged legislation, in what has hitherto been the most valuable possession, and the greatest boast of his country.

"But I shall, no doubt, here be told that this matter has been carefully considered and well matured, by persons highly qualified for the task, and who bestowed every pains in attaining proper information on this subject in all its bearings. It would be highly presumptuous indeed in me, and I certainly have not the slightest inclination to question the faithful-

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.
King's College.
Professor Forbes.
20 October 1837.

ness, impartiality, judgment, and patriotic zeal, with which the Royal Commissioners endeavoured to execute the duty imposed upon them. But they were not unanimous, as I understand, on some great points. And several of them having received their education in England, could not be so intimately acquainted with the workings of the present Scotch system as might have been desired. However this may be, with all due deference, I must be permitted to differ from them in one great and fundamental principle, which, in my judgment, and in that of many others much superior to me, would, if carried into effect, be attended with the most fatal and ruinous consequences. What I allude to is the constitution of a University Court in each of the Universities, having the whole management of the funds, and the most unlimited authority over the members, course of study, discipline, in short, absolute power over the whole University, *without appeal*. Do we, indeed, live in a country where in every case it is our boast that in what concerns our lives, properties, and characters, we have them defended to us by being amenable only to a jury of our peers, or by an appeal allowed from inferior to superior courts in a gradation of three at the least? In all regularly constituted Universities there are three Courts, the Senatus, the Rectorial Court, and the Chancellor, and appeals may be made from the Senatus to the Rectorial Court, and from the Rectorial Court to the Chancellor. By this fair constitution, the rights, properties, and character of the members are rightly, and in the spirit of the constitution of our country, defended. But by this new and unheard of absolute court in our free country, a Professor, if in any way obnoxious to a majority of its members, a case far from unlikely to happen, is exposed to the grossest oppression without a remedy. For this court has power, without appeal, to censure or suspend a Professor for a year—a sentence which must ruin his character and his usefulness ever after, and reduce him to beggary, by thus placing a stigma upon him, and consequently preventing him from having any number of students again in his class. Nay, it has the power also, without appeal, to enforce his resignation, when its majority may judge him *unfit* for the duties of his office, giving him a right to a *certain portion of his salary*; that is a *certain portion* of about £180 per annum in the Aberdeen Colleges of Arts, to support himself in old age or sickness, and his family, if he have one, after he has spent a laborious life, first in qualifying himself for his situation, and afterwards in discharging the duties of it—for the *unfitness* alluded to in the clause of the statutes of the Commissioners is not limited to cases arising from any fault in the Professor, but applies and indeed seems intended principally to apply to cases arising from bad health or old age!!! Thus are Professors placed in a worse situation than any Clergyman of any Church, whether established or not, or even than a Parochial Schoolmaster. In such circumstances, can it be supposed that any person of high or even of moderate attainments will be found to aim at situations which they must hold by so insecure a tenure?

"No less objectionable is the measure proposed by the Commissioners of taking the whole management of the funds of the University, Bursaries, &c., out of the hands of the Senatus Academicus, and vesting them in a University court, of which the majority of the members are, by its very constitution, altogether unconnected by any lasting tie with the University, and who have no personal interest in their good management. The consequence must unavoidably be, that their whole management will fall into the hands of one or more Law agents or factors, and sooner or later they will be wasted and frittered away under various pretences. It is in vain to assert that this will not be the case, in spite of any precautions which may be adopted; for all experience in similar cases justifies the above conclusion.

"The establishment of such a court in the Universities must have, as is very evident, the effect of utterly degrading the Professors from the status they have heretofore held, and of reducing them to the rank of mere interim teachers, without any power or authority, or even security of a livelihood. Whether this will improve the condition of the Universities I leave to the public to judge. But it will have undoubtedly the further effect of rendering the bulk of the Professors the subservient tools of the members of the University Court, and introduce among them a spirit of low intrigue most detrimental to their own respectability, and to the interests of education. It must utterly destroy that independence of spirit, and liberality of sentiment, which whatever those unacquainted with the history of our country may imagine, have been the characteristics of our Scotch Universities ever since their establishment. For it will be found, on inquiry, that these principles have been eminently displayed, even in the worst times, by a large majority of the members of these institutions.

"I should imagine that even the members of the Royal Commission would be somewhat startled at the advantage taken of their having recommended such a Court by the framers of the Bills for the Aberdeen and Glasgow Universities converting it into a political engine. In Aberdeen, it was to be made up of the Rector, the Dean,* the Principal, the Provost of Aberdeen, and three members to be nominated from time to time by the Crown. In Glasgow, it is proposed to consist of the Rector, the Dean, the Principal, two Assessors appointed by the Crown, one by the Senatus and Students, and one by the Magistrates and Town Council. It is impossible, I think, not to see, without any comment of mine, that the prevailing political party of the day must have the whole power of these Universities in their hands, and consequently that party politics must be introduced into the Universities, and the whole education of the country converted into a political engine. Indeed nothing would then be wanting to assimilate our state in this respect to that of Prussia, one of the most despotic countries in Europe, but appointing *one* Chancellor for the whole Scotch Universities, who, under this

* "Nothing can mark the unfitness of the framers of these Bills more strongly than the ignorance here displayed of the constitution of a University, in speaking of the Dean, as if a University was entitled to have only one Dean. They ought to have known that each faculty is entitled to have a Dean; therefore in most of our Universities there may be four Deans."

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

title, would in fact be the Prussian Minister for Public Instruction. Is it possible that his Majesty's present government, who have always professed such a love of liberty, and such an abhorrence of arbitrary power, will lend their aid to the establishment of University Courts, which may so easily be converted into the tools of despotism of the very worst kind; nay, which must, in spite of every precaution, degenerate into this state? I must take the liberty of entreating them to remember, that, unless they be quite satisfied that they shall always continue in power, they are in fact preparing an engine of frightful and overpowering force, which may and will be wielded against themselves by their political opponents when in power.

"I must acknowledge that nothing in the Royal Commission Report has astonished me more, than the proposal to introduce into all the Universities the method of electing the Rector and some of the Assessors by the students; as is the practice in some of our Universities at present. The consequences of this arrangement, where it is adopted, have never, as far as I have heard, been of a beneficial tendency, and it certainly requires no great penetration to discover that it must be attended with some consequences of a very opposite kind. The students at our Universities are in fact mere youths, from 13 years old to 18; at least, the great majority of them. To vest in the hands of such persons absolutely (for such is the proposition, as the Professors have only one vote in common with the youngest student) the election of the absolute governors of the University, is in fact to expose them to the influence of the lowest political agitators, to dispose them to become agitators themselves, and to initiate them into all the despicable arts of political intrigue in their earliest years. Is such the education and training which parents, and the legislators of our country, would wish the most influential part of the rising generation to receive? The election of a Rector and members of a court, clothed with such irresponsible power over the education of the country, and possessing so much patronage, would soon become a more serious contest than the election of a member of Parliament; and we should have to witness the same scenes of bribery, discord, violence, &c., which are so much and so justly complained of by all parties, and which no one has ever yet been able to devise any plausible means of preventing. I will not, indeed, conceal my opinion, that it appears to me quite improper that any one should be called upon to exercise an elective franchise in the state, or permitted to do so, until he has attained the age of 21. Until then he is not held in law to be qualified to manage his own affairs, how then can he be qualified to form a right judgment in a matter of such infinite importance to the state, as that of selecting the most proper governors of our highest seminaries of education? I trust, however, that this proposition will not be adopted by our Legislators; but on the contrary, that this method of election will be abolished where it already exists. For it is not sufficient to show that not unfrequently, as I readily acknowledge, very proper persons have been chosen, in this manner, as Rectors of Universities; but it must also be proved that no serious evils attend this mode of election, and that no better or more unexceptionable mode of attaining the end in view can be devised, which I hesitate not to aver, is quite possible.

"In regard to the suppression of one of the Colleges in Aberdeen, and the incorporation of the two institutions into one University, I have also the misfortune to differ from the opinion given by his Majesty's Commissioners. This measure, if adopted, would indeed require the interference of the Legislature, and could not be otherwise accomplished. The power of Parliament is confessedly unlimited in this country, which circumstance ought to inspire its members with the most anxious desire to restrain its exercise within the strictest rules of equity and justice, and with the utmost caution of not doing anything, or introducing any precedent, by which the rights of property, which are the great bond of society, may be rendered insecure. Perhaps there never was a time when, from the state of men's minds, attention to this maxim was more imperiously required. Were then Parliament, in the plenitude of its power, acting on the advice of the Royal Commissioners, at once, and without the consent of the chartered members of King's and Marischal Colleges, to deprive them of their rights and property, and to give their charters to the winds—can it be maintained that such a step would be in conformity with the laws of equity and justice, and would be a precedent attended with no danger? But further, these institutions, and the bursaries therewith connected, are the birth-right of the people of this part of the country for the education of their children, to which, I apprehend, they have at least as good a right as the Duke of Bedford has to his property—and is not Parliament bound by equity, justice, and, I will add, even expediency (which indeed a heathen, Cicero, to the shame of modern Christians, has fully shown never to be at variance with the strictest justice and most exalted virtue), to have the consent and concurrence of the inhabitants generally of the 12 northern counties, before its members, by their vote, break down these institutions, throw the property belonging to them into the hands of persons different from those appointed by the original legators, and divert it to objects different from those for which they were bequeathed. Who, I ask, after such a precedent, would leave any of his property for public purposes in a country whose supreme legislative assembly would act in this manner?

"The opinion of the members of both these institutions in general, and the almost universal voice of the country, having been, on a late occasion, fully expressed in opposition to the suppression of either of these seminaries as far as the Philosophy Colleges are concerned; I cannot persuade myself that Parliament, much less his Majesty's present Ministers, will be inclined, by the strong hand of power, to do an act so contrary to the wishes of the country and of the great majority of the chartered members of these institutions, as to suppress either of the Philosophy Colleges in Aberdeen. Indeed this matter seems to be set at rest in the mind of Government, by their having complied through the partial and unjust suggestions of Mr. Bannerman, with his request of appropriating the *whole* remainder of the Royal Grant for the repair of the dilapidated Universities to the rebuilding of Marischal College, thus utterly disregarding the urgent claims of King's College to a share of this munificence; and

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

apparently determining against the union recommended by the Royal Commission, or having resolved on the destruction of the buildings of King's College, which would be utterly useless were the Philosophical Classes to be taught in New Aberdeen.

"But while I feel some degree of security that this suppression of one of the Colleges will not take place, I cannot help being greatly alarmed lest many persons who have not duly considered the subject should be led away, by specious proposals of advantages to be gained, to wish for the union of the other faculties, and the incorporation of both seminaries into one University; and should even press upon Parliament and his Majesty's Ministers the propriety of some such measure by legislative interference. And I am the more alarmed on this point, because at one time I was myself favourable to some such arrangement before I had maturely considered the subject. The fact is, that this measure was tried long ago, and was found in practice to be attended with so many disadvantages as to lead to its abandonment. In the year 1640, Charles the First incorporated Marischal College with the University of King's College, by Royal Charter, and the Parliament followed up this step of his Majesty, by an Act, appropriating two-thirds of the Bishop of Aberdeen's revenues to King's College, and one-third to Marischal College; the Bishopric being suppressed. By the Rescissory Act of 1672, when Episcopacy was restored, the Act of Parliament appropriating the revenue of the Bishop to the Colleges was repealed, but not so the King's Charter of incorporation of the Colleges: for in the records of King's College there are still preserved the minutes of three Commissions of visitation, in the reigns of Charles II. and William and Mary, by which it appears that the Commission to the visitors, on these three occasions, was to visit the Caroline University of Aberdeen, and the two Colleges therein. And we find the Bishop of Aberdeen (Chancellor *ex officio* of the University of King's College), sitting as Chancellor of the United University, and the Earl Marischal (Chancellor of Marischal College, by the Charter), appearing according to the phraseology then adopted, simply "*pro suo interesse*." How long this state of things continued I cannot say, as there is a great hiatus in the records in the early part of last century. But it is well known from tradition, and even appears from the records, that the greatest jealousy and open contention existed, which even descended to the students of the rival seminaries, between whom pitched battles took place; which latter deplorable result was not altogether at an end till towards the close of last century. From these causes the two institutions seem to have separated by mutual consent, previous probably to 1715. About the year 1784, a proposal for a union and suppression of one of the Colleges was made, and after long negotiation and discussion was finally abandoned; although under much more favourable circumstances than at present, because the students then at both were not much more numerous than they now are at one of them. These facts seem to demonstrate that any attempt at a union of these institutions is too likely to be attended with, what is most deplorable and pernicious in seminaries of education, jealousy and discord, and will in the end give satisfaction to no one. The cases of the two Philosophy Colleges, formerly in St. Andrew's University, and the numerous Colleges in Oxford and Cambridge, have been quoted as examples in opposition to the view I have now presented. They are, however, by no means analogous. The Colleges in St. Andrew's were in the *same town*, connected in all respects in the same manner with the inhabitants of the town and country, and with the University, and therefore altogether on an equal footing. But things would be widely different with the Colleges in Old and New Aberdeen, under the government of one University. The Colleges and Halls in Oxford and Cambridge are in the same situation with regard to the Universities and the public, as the Colleges in St. Andrew's were. And it ought never to be forgotten, that the Professors in the English Universities are not the principal teachers, and are therefore little dependent on the opinion of the public, or the prosperity of their College for emoluments.

"But let us see what would be the probable working of any union of the other Faculties, and of the incorporation of the whole into one University, supposing the two Colleges of Philosophy kept separate. It is extremely difficult to grapple with this point in all its bearings, particularly as I am in total ignorance of the arrangement and plan of Government which may be proposed—whether by a Rectoral Court, with an appeal to the Chancellor, as at present established, or by a University Court, of the absolute and irresponsible nature recommended by the Royal Commissioners. I must therefore confine my observations to the most general views of this matter,—and the more so, as I am desirous of being as brief as possible in the observations I am taking the liberty of laying before your Lordship, and also because I am prevented, by the very short time allowed by your Lordship, to attempt any full discussion, or even to touch upon many interesting points of this subject, so deeply affecting the best interests of our country.

"Let us suppose, then, the Faculties of Theology, Law, and Medicine united, and the two Philosophy Colleges kept separate, while the whole of these constituted one *Senatus*, under the government of one Rectoral Court. The consequence of this arrangement must necessarily be, that the whole laws, regulations, and statutes, relating to the distribution and management of property, discipline, examinations, privileges, granting of degrees, &c. &c. must emanate from, and be subject to, the control of the United *Senatus* and the Rectoral Court. Now, must it not be evident at once to every reflecting person, that the one Philosophy College will attain more influence in the *Senatus* and Rectoral Court than the other—and can it be believed, unless we suppose these Colleges to consist of members quite superior to human passions, that this influence will not be exerted to establish arrangements favourable to themselves and to their students, and injurious to their rivals?—for it is absurd to suppose that a rivalry does not subsist between these seminaries even at present; but for a long time it has been a generous rivalry tending to public good, by prompting them to more active exertion, because they had no other means of promoting their own advantage but by deserving the

favour of the public. In the altered circumstances, however, which we have now supposed, other means would be within their power, and I aver that they must be far superior indeed to bodies of men in such a situation, if they would not resort to these means. It would be easy for any one, acquainted with the necessary workings of the University or Corporation system, to draw a picture of the heart-burnings, jealousies, strife, and bitter contentions, that would necessarily ensue between two rival seminaries, thus forcibly brought into such close contact, and such violent opposition of interests. It is not, I believe, too much to say, that, in a very short space of time, not one vote would be given, nor one enactment passed, in either the *Senatus*, or Rectoral, or University Court, dictated solely by a wish for the advantage of the public and of education, and untinctured by no mild intermixture of party feeling. It is in vain to talk of the high principles of honour and public feeling, by which, at any rate, the members of the Rectoral or University Courts would be actuated. That this might be true of some of them I readily allow—but we are here speaking of how a number of men, chosen too, be it observed, by the party having most influence, and a succession of such men, during a long series of time, are to be supposed to act under the excitements of flattery, private partialities and enmities, and worked upon by all the low arts of cunning and intrigue; for it is no violent lampoon to suppose that, even in a University, men capable of descending to such means to accomplish their ends will sometimes be found, in spite of all the care which may be used in the selection of them. But should only one firebrand or low intriguer be found in such a society, the whole past history of our race may convince us, what endless broils and discords a person in a small society, with such well-prepared materials to work upon, could excite.

“There seems to be little difficulty in our coming to a decided opinion, which of the two Philosophy Colleges would attain the most influence in the joint *Senatus*, and Rectoral or University Court, for it is allowed by all, that the great majority of the medical classes must be taught in New Aberdeen. There, also, would the Law classes, perhaps, be more properly conducted. Is it, then, for a moment to be supposed, that the Professors in these Faculties, residing in New Aberdeen, and having all their interests connected with that town, should not feel a bias, and that a strong one too, in favour of the Philosophical College at which their children were educated? The whole weight, therefore, of their votes and influence would undoubtedly be in favour of Marischal College, and against King's College, in every question which had a tendency to advance the reputation and interests of Marischal College, even at the expense of depressing its rival. The same bias and partiality in favour of Marischal College would no less certainly be found to exist in the minds of the members of the Rectoral or University Court. No small proportion of them would probably be either inhabitants of, or closely connected with that town, and we cannot doubt what in consequence their leanings would be. But even on those who were more remote, the influence of the inhabitants of a large and populous city, such as New Aberdeen is, having very extended relations with the whole surrounding country, would far overbalance that of the inhabitants of a small village like Old Aberdeen. And though I unwillingly and slightly touch upon the fact, yet I believe it will scarcely be denied, and if so, overwhelming proof may be adduced, that the inhabitants of Old Aberdeen have not infrequently experienced the weight of that influence brought to bear upon them. From these considerations I am fully convinced, that any union of the Faculties of Theology, Law, and Medicine, and the two Philosophical Faculties, into one University, would only be productive of endless broils and jealousies, and finally terminate in the absolute destruction of King's College.

“I am aware of a great objection to the views which I have now been endeavouring to support, and which I know weighs much with many persons. It is the apparent absurdity of continuing to have two Universities in Aberdeen, while there are only two in the whole of England. Nothing has tended more to embarrass this question, or to prejudice our English neighbours in forming a judgment upon it, than this strange, and perhaps unprecedented circumstance. Yet, perhaps, on considering the matter coolly, we shall find nothing so improper or absurd as at first sight may appear. Our English neighbours should recollect, that a University in Scotland is a very different establishment from what bears that name in England, and is intended for the education of quite a different class of persons, and for producing results of an opposite character; for in Scotland, a University has no representative in Parliament, no patronage worth naming, and, in fact, no political power or influence whatever. It is really a great public school, of which the professors are the sole teachers, and is attended generally by persons of the same age with those attending the great public schools in England; while the most of them complete their University education sooner even than an English youth would think of entering their Universities; consequently, the object proposed by an education thus conducted is of an opposite character from that of the education in an English University. There a person is understood to reside, for the purpose of completing his literary and scientific studies, and is intended to have made high proficiency in these before he quits their academic groves; but, in Scotland all that is proposed, or indeed possible in common cases, is that a correct knowledge of the elements of literature and science shall have been attained, by the aid of which the student may, by diligence and perseverance, be enabled by himself to make such advances in all or any of these branches of learning and science, as his situation in life, or his own bias and taste may prompt him. With then the simple exception, perhaps, of the power of conferring Degrees in the different Faculties, of which I shall speak afterwards, the Scottish Universities have, in fact, nothing in common with those of England. And the difference of the class of persons for whom they are intended will sufficiently appear by the statement of the fact, that to my knowledge, young men at this College may defray and have defrayed the whole expense of their education, board, and lodging, during four sessions of College—that is, during their *whole philosophical course*—for the sum of £45, or about 11 guineas per session, and this, too, without the aid of any Bursary.

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

29 October 1837.

"Now, I would beg leave to ask, what harm can possibly arise from the multiplication of such seminaries of education? Is it better to have such schools of literature and science so conducted and governed as the Scottish Universities have hitherto been, or to substitute in their room academies, or Mechanics Institutions?*" But I am aware that I shall be told that there is no objection, among those connected with the Aberdeen Universities, to the continuing the Philosophical Colleges separate; but that great inconvenience is felt from the want of a Medical Faculty, and from the disjunction of the Theological Faculty, which there seems to be no other mode of remedying but by a union into one University. Now, the difficulty is here more apparent than real. Supposing that Government should be disposed to appoint the Medical Lecturers to be Regius Professors, and to attach salaries to their offices, as they have the power of doing without bringing a Bill into Parliament, as exemplified in their late appointment, with a salary, of a Professor of Ecclesiastical History in Marischal College (and I see no other way of getting salaries for such Professors but by direct spoliation), and were an equal number of such Regius Professors of Medicine attached to each of the Colleges, this arrangement would fill up the Medical Faculties in both, and be equally efficient for conducting the Medical education of the Aberdeen students,† as the separate Theological Faculties in these Colleges have been found for conducting the education of the Theological students for a long series of time. And I am far from being satisfied that any evil accrues to the Theological students in Aberdeen, from the disjunction of the Theological Faculties; for the objection that has been frequently urged, that the two Divinity Professors lecture on the same subjects, and may perhaps be doing so the very same Session, does not appear to me to have any weight. These Professors are understood to give a complete Theological course in four Sessions, which is the length of time every student is bound, by the laws of the Church, to attend the Divinity Hall, and no two men lecturing on the same subjects, from their own stores, will either treat them in the same way, or present the same views of them. So far, therefore, will this arrangement be from being detrimental to the students, that I am inclined to consider it as an advantage; and I should consider it as absurd to find fault with a student hearing lectures on the same subject from two Professors, as with his reading two books written by different authors on the same subject. Besides, nothing is more common than for students to attend Halls in different Universities, during their Divinity course, when the same thing must occur. But should some persons still be of opinion, in which, however, I cannot join, that it would be desirable that the Theological Professors should have each a particular department of the science appointed for him to treat, that he might be enabled to enter into a longer discussion of it, surely there could be little difficulty in getting that arrangement made on the appointment of new Professors, or even immediately, without legislative interference. The reason why, however, I cannot coincide in this opinion is, that I deprecate above all things long and minute discussions, addressed to students in the circumstances of those attending these Colleges, for very obvious causes, and because I am deeply convinced, that the more that brevity and condensation, conjoined with perspicuity, are consulted in lecturing, the more comprehensive will be the view presented, and the more deep the impression left upon the mind.

"But it has been frequently said that were degrees or University honours to proceed from the conjoined Senatus of both Colleges, the public would have more confidence in the judgment so pronounced, and be inclined to pay more respect to these honours so conferred. In this sentiment, however, I cannot agree. For if the Senatus, however small, be competent to form a just judgment of the merit of the candidates, their conferring degrees on unworthy persons will proceed from improper partiality, or worse motives, and not from an inability to determine whether the degree ought to be granted or not. The question then comes to be, whether a smaller or larger body of men is most likely to act under the influence of improper motives, on which, perhaps, there might exist a diversity of opinion—although it will not probably be denied that the broad shoulders of a large body would more readily take on them, and more easily bear, the weight of the odium arising from unjustifiable conduct in this, as in every other case. But even this is not the exact statement of the case, with regard to the two Colleges in Aberdeen having the right of conferring degrees. For I apprehend that were this power continued, no more candidates for degrees would come forward claiming these honours than were the two conjoined into one University, and therefore no more would be in their power to grant, unless, which I firmly believe, in common with all well-informed persons with whom I have conversed on the subject, the aggregate number of students in the United University come to be diminished, when, indeed, the number of degrees would necessarily be fewer; therefore, by lodging this power in the hands of two societies, consisting each of a sufficient number of competent judges, so completely under the eyes of the same part of the public, upon which they are, by the circumstances of Scotch Professors, so dependent, and which is so well disposed to criticise their conduct, while, at the same time, by their vicinity, they must entertain no little jealousy of each other—in these circumstances I hesitate

* "The objections which may be raised, that the present arrangement increases the expense to the public, makes, indeed, against the keeping up of the separate Philosophical Colleges, and the rebuilding of Marischal College, but is attended with no other additional expense that I am aware of. The objection, therefore, falls to the ground, if the two separate Colleges are to be kept up, and has no weight against the continuance of two separate Universities.

† "Let me not be misunderstood. It is not proposed that the Medical classes should be taught, the one half of them in New and the other half in Old Aberdeen, although the one half of the Professors were attached to the Senatus of King's College, and the other half to Marischal College. On the contrary, I am fully of opinion that, whether the Colleges be united or not, the Medical classes ought to be all taught in a building quite distinct from that occupied by the other Faculties, and that this building should be at a convenient distance from the Infirmary. For this arrangement I think I could assign cogent reasons; and also show that the increased expense of such a separate building would be a trifle.

not to say that there will be a much greater chance of their exercising this power with caution and discretion, and the public will have a much greater check upon the abuse of this power, than if it were lodged in one *Senatus*. And I would direct the attention of those who may be disposed to question this opinion, to the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, where the numbers composing the *Senatus* of each of these Seminaries is fully greater now than would be the conjoined *Senatus* of the proposed University here; and would ask them whether degrees are conferred in general by those Universities on more worthy persons, and with fewer exceptions of improper persons, than by the Aberdeen Colleges. I am quite aware of what has been talked, and insinuated, on this subject in various quarters; but I believe the Aberdeen Colleges will not shrink from any comparison with others, when called upon to show that the correctness of their own conduct has not been inferior to that of their neighbours, particularly for a series of years past. And from the information which I have received, I much doubt whether it will be found, on searching inquiry, that the English Universities, notwithstanding the number of members of which they are composed, exercise all that care and caution in conferring their initial degree of A. B. (on which, be it observed, all the higher ones with them greatly depend), that many persons in this country are disposed to attribute to them. I am, therefore, by no means disposed to coincide in opinion with those who would persuade us that the degrees proceeding from one *Senatus* in Aberdeen would be more respectable, or more properly conferred, than when they proceed from two such courts, but the contrary.

"I have thus, my Lord, endeavoured, in the best manner in my power, consistently with the short time allowed to me, and with all the brevity I could, to place before your Lordship the reasons which make me strongly opposed to legislative interference with the Scottish Universities. I cannot, indeed, divest myself of the conviction that such interference must, in all probability, prove highly injurious, either by introducing a new and most despotical system of Government, which would utterly degrade and debase the Professors, and consequently the respectability of these Seminaries, and convert them into political engines, and scenes of low intrigue and fierce faction, were University Courts, formed on the model recommended by the Royal Commissioners, grafted on them—or by making and fixing down irreversibly rash and extensive changes, which would be found productive of anything but the advantages which their promoters intended. And I am not aware of any change that may be thought advisable, exclusive of some radical change in their constitution, which may not be introduced by the authority of the present Courts,* the Chancellor, and the King as visitor; and this, too, with the mighty advantage of introducing such changes gradually and experimentally, and of being able to retrace such steps as may be found to lead to bad consequences. And let it not be said that there would thus be no security to the public that such changes as might be desirable would ever be made. The public have a powerful, nay, an irresistible, control over the majority of the Professors, the greater part of whose livelihood depends on its good opinion. And I am fully convinced that were his Majesty to call on each University to lay before him such changes in their Seminary as might, after due consideration, be deemed advisable, very satisfactory results would be obtained. The adoption of these changes might be enforced by his Majesty calling on each University annually, or triennially, for a report of the fact of such changes having been made, and an account of the effects produced.

"With regard to the Colleges in this place, and the ridicule that has been attached to the idea of Aberdeen having two Universities, I entreat your Lordship and the public to consider that the degrees emanating from two distinct Universities in this place would not be more numerous than would proceed from one such institution, and would, in all probability, from the reasons already mentioned, be more, instead of less, respectable—that were the two Philosophical Colleges kept up, and an incorporation into one University enforced, no advantage whatever would be gained, but numerous evils would be entailed on these institutions, which would finally terminate in the destruction of one of the Philosophical Colleges, after the great expense of rebuilding Marischal College had been incurred—and that the Theological and Medical Faculties can be rendered equally efficient in the two Universities, as if they were incorporated into one, of which we have an example in the Theological Faculties, which have always been distinct, and which, I aver, whatever may have been insinuated to the contrary, have been no less efficient in accomplishing the object of such a Faculty, than other, perhaps, more vaunted ones; which would appear on impartial inquiry. And I do farther entreat your Lordship, and the public, to inquire minutely whether students educated at Aberdeen are, on comparison, inferior in acquirements, and extent of knowledge, to those educated in the other Scottish Universities, before an incorporation of the two Universities be insisted on; under the pretence that such an incorporation would, as has been thought by not a few, prove highly beneficial to the interests of learning and science in the North of Scotland. It must, indeed, be allowed, that were one of the Philosophical Colleges suppressed, and the site of the Faculty of Arts and Theology fixed at Old Aberdeen, as recommended by the Royal Commissioners, part of the expense of rebuilding Marischal College might be saved, and the funds belonging to the Faculty of Arts there violently seized upon and applied to other purposes. All that would be gained, however, by this forcible seizure of these funds, would only be a saving to the public of two or three hundred pounds

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

* "The only exception to this averment, perhaps, which exists among the Scottish Universities, is the Edinburgh University, which is destitute of these Courts, in consequence of which it seems to have been subjected to serious evils, the magnitude of which is said to have been the cause or occasion of the appointment of the Royal Commission of Visitation of all the Universities, in 1826. The Magistrates seem to be to them a University Court, exercising an absolute control without appeal. To Edinburgh, therefore, a regular Rectoral Court, and a Chancellor, must be added, to make it a properly constituted University. This change, for aught I know, may require the authority of Parliament.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Forbes.

20 October 1837.

per annum, necessary for filling up the Medical Faculty; for there is not one additional subject proposed, either by the Royal Commissioners, or by Mr. Bannerman's Bill, in the Curriculum of Arts, or in any of the Faculties, which is not already taught in these Colleges. Indeed, were additional subjects and Professors to be introduced into the Curriculum of Arts, it would require ingenuity to discover unemployed hours for the students to attend them, without the addition of a fifth session—and, besides increasing the expense of education, it seems a measure of very questionable expediency to make a great number of hours' attendance on classes incumbent on students.

"It may, perhaps, be imagined, that I am one of those who are averse to all change. I believe, however, that those who know me will rather be inclined to an opposite opinion, and be disposed to give me the character of having not a little tendency to innovation. I have, indeed, cautiously abstained from mixing up any propositions of my own on the present occasion—considering them altogether out of place, as being inconsistent with my present argument—and not because I should not be disposed to several new arrangements, which I believe would be advantageous. One, however, I shall mention as a specimen, which is to be found in Mr. Bannerman's Bill—I allude to the publication of the University accounts; and I would coincide in this proposition not, I believe, exactly with the same views as the proposer of it, but because I am convinced that this measure would fully rebut the base calumnies which have been endeavoured to be propagated against the Universities; and because I have no doubt but that it would excite the sympathies of many who wish well to learning, and induce such of them as were able, to aid in placing these Seminaries, some of them at least, in more flourishing circumstances. This University, at any rate, has reason to be of this opinion, considering the liberal donations received from many to assist in the repair of its buildings a few years ago.

"If, however, your Lordship shall resolutely persist in introducing some legislative measure regarding these Colleges, I earnestly hope that full time will be allowed for the due and deliberate consideration of this subject, in which the whole North of Scotland is so deeply concerned, before it be passed into a law. I shall only add, that reasons personal to myself, of which I have made your Lordship aware, have induced me to print this communication to your Lordship, and not any vain hope that my sentiments will have much weight with any one.

"I have the honour to be, with all due respect, My Lord,

"Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

"PAT. FORBES."

King's College, Aberdeen, 16th November 1835.

Patrick Davidson, Esq., Professor of Civil Law, called in and examined.

Professor Davidson.

20 October 1837.

Will you be so good as to favour us with answers to the queries in their order?—The first question does not apply to me, not having been in office at the date of the former Commission.

When were you appointed Professor?—I was elected Professor of Civil Law in August 1833.

2. Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one Corporation is expedient or practicable; or do you think that the union of the Colleges into one University, for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?—A union of the Colleges may be practicable; but I do not think it expedient, because I am not aware of any benefits likely to be obtained from such a measure of greater importance than those which might be obtained without it. A union of the Colleges into one University, of the nature stated in the question, though liable to several objections, does appear to me to be the preferable course. My opinion, however, is that no legislative measure is necessary or expedient for uniting the Colleges or Universities; but I am far from disapproving of each College agreeing to carry into effect any practicable improvements which may be recommended by the Commissioners, with a view to render the course of education at these Colleges as complete as possible. It has occurred to me that the authorities of each College might, in future, define the departments of knowledge to be taught by its own Professors, with reference to what is taught in the other College; at any rate, in so far as relates to the Faculties of Theology, Law, and Medicine, and that without interfering with the respective patrimonial rights of either College, or with the discipline and course of education in other respects. A working union might then be effected merely by one College giving its sanction to certain Professors in these faculties to lecture for the convenience of the public within the walls of the other. All the advantages of a union seem to me to be attainable in this way; and any modification or alteration of the plan could, from time to time, be made by the University authorities, if it should not be attended with the anticipated benefits.

3. If your opinion is adverse to a union, under any regulations, be so good as explain the grounds of your objections?—A union for the purpose of procuring funds for establishing new Professorships does not appear to me expedient or proper, in so far as it would interfere with charters and endowments, which ought to be held sacred; and because any material extension of the Curriculum would, besides adding to the expense, and thus diminishing the number of students, have the effect of overloading and distracting their minds. If these new Professorships were not to be included in the Curriculum, and were attendance at the additional classes not exacted as a qualification for a degree, or compulsory on other accounts, there is reason to think new Professorships would soon become sinecures. Several instances of the most eminent Professors having failed to get classes, when attendance was left optional, are mentioned in the Report by the former Commissioners. Another objection might be mentioned as appli-

cable to a union of the Universities with the Colleges kept separate; which is, that, in the *Senatus* of the united University, there would be, of necessity, six or eight Medical Professors, who, of course, would teach in New Aberdeen, and be more immediately interested in the full attendance of students at Marischal College; and the preponderance of influence in the united *Senatus*, created by the introduction of these Professors, might therefore eventually lead to the suppression of King's College altogether.

Do you think that the contemplated evil would be averted by making the Medical Professors Professors not either of King's College or Marischal College, but of the united University?—I do not exactly see how they could be Professors of the united University without being members of the united *Senatus*, in which they would have the preponderance apprehended. If the two Colleges are to subsist separately, I think that the Medical Professors should be attached, one-half to this College, and the other half to Marischal College, in the event of its being thought proper to have a full Medical School, which, in my opinion, would be desirable.

You think that the evil would be averted by distributing the Medical Professors between the two Colleges?—Yes; the Colleges remaining separate, and the rights of both remaining distinct. I would attach to each University an equal number of Medical Professors, and let them arrange the course of Medical Education, and have their own meetings as a Medical Faculty, all teaching at Marischal College, and in the same way. The Divinity Professors of both Colleges might meet as a Theological Faculty, and all lecture at King's College.

5. If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors, for the loss thereof, during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?—I have not particularly considered the question of patronage; but I should be inclined to think that it ought to remain according to the original charters and endowments.

6. Assuming that the Colleges should be united into one University, be pleased to specify what classes you would recommend to be taught in each: in particular, if your opinion is that there should be double chairs for Latin, Greek, and Mathematics. Do you think there are students at present frequenting both Colleges to make it expedient to have double chairs in any of the other branches?—I am not sufficiently acquainted with the subjects taught, or the manner of teaching, in the classes referred to, to be able to give an opinion.

7. Are you of opinion that any professorship, at present established in either College, can either be abolished or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature, due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent: if so, be pleased to specify what classes in either College you would propose to be altered?—I cannot say as to the power that may exist in any quarter to abolish a Professorship, or to appropriate its income to another branch of science or literature, if essentially different from that for teaching which it was founded; but I think it could not, at any rate, be done without the consent of all concerned. If anything of this kind could be effected, it might probably be with respect to Professorships instituted by the Crown, the Crown being in a situation to consent; but, as my opinion is asked in regard to the expediency of any alterations, I would say that, if the suggestion I have made was thought fit to be carried into execution, there would be no use for the Professorship of Oriental Languages in this College, which is a Crown appointment. I would suggest that either the salary for that office, or the salary of the Professor of Medicine, should be appropriated for teaching Natural History and Chemistry, for which there is no foundation in this College. I may mention here, also, that if the History and Principles of the Civil Law should not be considered a branch of education sufficiently important, the Professor of Civil Law might be appointed to lecture on Scotch Law, or on the General Principles of Law and Government, with an application of these to the Government of European Nations, as was recommended by the former Commissioners. But, whatever class is appointed to be taught by the holder of this Professorship, attendance at that class, by one description of students or another, should be made compulsory, if possible; else I fear the Professorship will remain in a less efficient state than I think it might be placed in.

8. Assuming that Parliament would be disposed to grant a reasonable sum for the endowment of such additional Professorships as might be necessary for improving and completing the curriculum of education in the different faculties in the united University, what new chairs would you suggest as proper in that case?—I think it is of importance to have Medical Professorships, and also a Professorship for Scotch Law, in Marischal College particularly. One-half of the Medical Professors should be attached to one College, and the other half to the other, as already stated.

9. Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament or by the consent of the Colleges, at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient, on the plan of the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners?—I would rather avoid answering this at present, as I have not sufficiently considered the probable working of the University Court, and it not being a matter on which I have made up my mind.—[*Adjourned to Marischal College.*]

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Davidson.

20 October 1837.

MARISCHAL COLLEGE, ABERDEEN.

*Aberdeen, Friday, 20th October 1837.**University of
Aberdeen.*

Lord CUNINGHAME in the Chair.

*Marischal College.*The Rev. Dr. *George Glennie*, Professor of Moral Philosophy, called in.Professor *Glennie*.

20 October 1837.

Before proceeding to the examination of the Rev. Dr. *Glennie*, Lord Cuninghame stated to him that the questions which had been circulated were prepared chiefly for the examination of those Professors who had not stated hitherto their views as to the union of the Colleges in any shape; but, as the Professors of Marischal College had given in a very full return on this subject to the Commissioners, it would probably be sufficient merely to examine the Professors of this College on those points where they differed from the return which had been already transmitted to the Commissioners.

With this view, Professor *Glennie* was requested to state if he concurred in the said return, or in what points he differed from it.

Professor *Glennie* said:—I did not join in the representation sent by my colleagues, because I could not bring my mind to acquiesce in the union of the Colleges, or to their junction into one University.

Will you have the goodness to advert particularly to the third printed Query, and explain the grounds of your objections to the junction of the Colleges?—My reasons are, that I think the union in either way inconsistent with the privileges of the different institutions, and likewise inconsistent with the advantages that must be derived by the students attending on the different Colleges.

Will you explain more particularly in what respect it would be disadvantageous to the students attending both Colleges?—The circumstances of the students are so various that I do not think they would be so well attended to, if the Colleges were united, as they are under present circumstances; and it does not appear to me evident that the different privileges granted to the students in these two Universities would be so particularly attended to as at present.

On the supposition that a junction might take place, notwithstanding your own individual opinion, advert to fifth Query, "Would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?"—I do not think I have had sufficient time to consider this question, and I would rather decline giving any answer to it.

Have you considered Query 7, "Are you of opinion that any Professorship, at present established in either College, can either be abolished, or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature, due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent? If so, be pleased to specify what class or classes in either college you would propose to be altered?"—I am sorry that I am obliged to decline giving an opinion on this question. I have not considered this and other questions, because I conceived that my views on the three first would have superseded my examination as to the remainder.

Dr. *William Knight*, Professor of Natural Philosophy, called in and examined.Professor *Knight*.

20 October 1837.

You coincided in the Return made by the Professors of Marischal College to the requisition of the Commission in regard to the possible junction of the two Colleges?—I concurred, as far as I recollect, with everything of importance in the Returns which were transmitted to the Commission by this University in May last.

Do you wish now in any respect to alter or qualify the opinion there expressed by Marischal College?—I have nothing to remark on this head excepting that, as no reasons for my concurring in the Returns made in May last by this University are stated in them, I have no objections to mention the reasons which have always weighed with me for uniting the two Colleges, not into one Corporation, but into one University.

I think an entire union of the two Colleges into one Corporation is not expedient or practicable; but that the union of the two Colleges into one University for the purpose of regulating the discipline and course of education, keeping their respective chartered rights separate, is the preferable course. My opinion against a union of the Colleges into one Corporation was founded on the objections which I stated to the Royal Commission in 1827, and partly on the practical one that, in the classes of Arts, the most useful description of teaching could not be given well to numbers greater than 60, 70, or 80 at most, in one class. My opinion was then given in favour of a union of the two Universities into one University, on the ground that such improvements might be the result as were then mentioned; I mean such additional endowments and establishments as would tend greatly to improve the University

education of this part of Scotland (from which all other education ought in some degree to receive its character); as, for instance, an enlarged library, and museum, and a botanic garden; the foundation of more Medical Professorships; and the improvement of the Theological course.

Another reason for a union of the Universities is that it would diminish or take away the present sinecures, and thus place the members of the *Senatus Academicus* more on a footing of equality as to duties than they are at present; the holders of sinecure offices forming, or tending to form, a party by themselves, which has little community of interest with those that teach, and which injures the body to which they belong in the opinion of the public. It is another reason that a union would tend to elevate the standard of University instruction, which I think is required by a large part of the public; that it would prevent the teaching of some subjects to no greater extent than they are taught in many schools; and that it would put a stop to the teaching by one Professor of such a mixture of sciences as is injurious to the interests of education. I hope that no union of any kind will be proposed that would materially increase the present expense of University education, alienate any funds for the education of poor students of good abilities, or destroy the connexion subsisting between the Universities and the Church at present established in this country. I think it exceedingly desirable that, along with the improvements which the present age demands, there be retained as much of ancient charters as is consistent with usefulness.

Any answer to Query 3 becomes unnecessary, from my answer under the previous heads.

4. "If you think a union practicable and advisable, would you state your views as to the extent and nature of the arrangements which should be made in that case? In particular, whether the union should be of the Colleges into one Corporation, or only of the Colleges into one University?"—In regard to the extent and nature of the arrangements which should be made in the case of the union of the two Universities into one University, I have not formed any other opinion than what I stated in 1827, as follows: "A plan that would apparently interfere least with the present vested rights of both Universities would be to annex certain of the old Professorships, and any new ones that might be founded, to the united University, and not to either of the two Colleges," such as Theology, Oriental Languages, Law, Medicine, or, perhaps, Moral Philosophy, if it continued to be the last year of study. The united University could then be considered as a kind of separate collegiate body itself, on a plan not much differing from the constitution of the English Universities.

5. "If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you on the latter plan?"—In regard to this query I think that Government might purchase the patronages alluded to, as advowsons are bought and sold in England; and the money advanced for them might be applied to the improvement and endowment of the University. There is a specific objection to the latter part of the question, which is, that I do not exactly comprehend how the existing Professors can be considered as subject to a loss during their lives from being deprived of the patronage. Their successors may be as much or more losers than they. It is for University purposes alone that I think any such compensation should be demanded or granted.

6. "Assuming that the Colleges should be united into one University, be pleased to specify what classes you would recommend to be taught in each. In particular, if your opinion is that there should be double Chairs for Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, do you think that there are students at present frequenting both Colleges to make it expedient to have double Chairs in any of the other branches?"—I refer to the Return transmitted by Marischal College in May last to the Commissioners, with this addition, that if Natural Philosophy is to be taught on the fourth year of the Curriculum, as proposed by the Royal Commission of 1826, I do not think that more than one Professor would be at all necessary, from the greatly diminished number of students who in all the Universities of Scotland attend a fourth session; but if Natural Philosophy is to continue to be taught on the third year of study, as it has been in these Universities since 1753, two Professors would be requisite.

In regard to queries 7 and 8 I refer to the Returns of Marischal College, with which I coincide.

9. Assuming that the Colleges may be possibly united, either by Parliament or by consent of the Colleges, at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient, on the plan of the University Court, recommended by the former Commissioners?—In regard to this question I also concur in the proposal of a University Court, contained in those Returns; and I am of opinion that to connect the University Courts of Scotland with Town Councils, or other incorporations, would be exceedingly derogatory to their character. I think that Universities are most useful, in a free country like this, when they are left as independent as possible, because then they have a character of their own, and not one made for them by any parties of the day.

In regard to Query 6, in the event of the necessary endowments to make all the chairs in the Faculty of Arts double in the united University not being obtained, which of the classes do you think that it is most important that there should be double chairs?—Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy (with the exception above mentioned), and, according to my views, Chemistry, were it, as it ought to be, taken out of the Medical faculty, and made a branch of general education, to which I consider it has now the same right as any other of the physical sciences. As a University should be so constituted in its professorships as to give equal opportunities of carrying on instruction both in physical and moral science, so the more that this principle is attended to, not only in the third and fourth years, but even in the second year, of the Curriculum, the greater advantages would result. Hence classes of Logic and

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Marischal College.

Professor Knight.

20 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.

Marischal College.

Professor Knight.

20 October 1837.

Belles Lettres, and of Metaphysical Science, might require, under such a proposed arrangement, to be double.

Suppose we were to get endowments for three or four, which do you think would be the chairs?—Latin, Greek, Mathematics, and a Professorship of some branches of Moral Science.

Would there be any difficulty, in your opinion, in teaching the classes of Moral Science in King's College, and those of Natural Science in Marischal College, without reference to the foundations on which the Professorships might stand?—On the present plan of taking Moral Philosophy on the fourth and last year of the Curriculum, and as a class which in both Colleges is attended chiefly by Students of Divinity, I should not see any very great obstacle, in the distance between the two Colleges, to that arrangement.

Have you many Students in the Natural Philosophy class who attend your lectures without the prospect of taking a degree, and without having attended previous classes of Language or Philosophy in the other College?—From the great extent of the apparatus used in teaching Natural Philosophy in Marischal College, there have been for the last half century, during Dr. Copland's incumbency and my own, a considerable portion of Students who have attended that class regularly without intending to go farther, and a small portion who have not attended any other classes, excepting those of Mathematics.

Have you delivered a course of Lectures in any years, adapted for persons engaged in trade and manufactures?—Such courses were commenced by Dr. Copland in 1785, and were continued by him till within 10 years of his death. I have given such courses occasionally; four have been delivered; not to ladies and gentlemen, but to gentlemen only; I have wished to give such courses to ladies also, and have only been prevented by the exceedingly imperfect accommodation in the present buildings.

Are you of opinion that the attendance on your ordinary classes has been in any respect less numerous from the state of the room, and the accommodation you have for lecturing in the present buildings?—Upon the whole, I should think that the disadvantage was very slight, because it happens that my class-room is still the best in the College, although too confined for the numbers that have assembled in it for many years back.

Supposing the Natural Philosophy class were transferred to the King's College, do you think it would tend to diminish the number that would attend it?—I should think it would tend to diminish the number of Students attending a regular course of lectures and examinations exceedingly, as well as nearly altogether to put a stop to the attendance of such as were wishing to receive instructions in Natural Philosophy only. It will be observed, from the returns of the number of Students both in King's and Marischal Colleges, that the number in the Natural Philosophy class in Marischal College has always been fully equal, on an average of years, to that of the Students in the second year, but that in King's College there has been a great falling off between the second and third years of attendance.

Do you think that the transference of the Natural Philosophy class to King's College would have the probable effect of leading to the institution of private Lectureships in New Aberdeen, tending to injure the class?—I should think that such private Lectureships would be immediately attempted.

On the other hand, if there was only one Lectureship of Natural Philosophy in the united College established in New Aberdeen, do you think it likely that there would be a private Lecturer on Natural Philosophy in Old Aberdeen?—In regard to the likelihood of a private Lecturer succeeding in such an attempt, it must depend on a combination of circumstances that could but very rarely occur, viz., the possession by the private Lecturer of an apparatus extensive and of superior quality, and the inefficiency of the Professor in the University.

Is the apparatus of the Natural Philosophy class in this College complete and valuable?—It is exceedingly complete in almost all departments; its value is £1,200 and upwards; I also employ many articles of my own; and it has one character which, in collections of apparatus, is not very common, that almost every article in it is adapted for teaching.

Are you of opinion that it would be advantageous to have the Evidences and the Principles of Christianity made a part of the general course of study in the University, independently of the Theological faculty?—I have always been of that opinion. I may add that in this College, and for the last 50 years, lectures on the evidences have been read in one of the classes of the Curriculum.

Do you think it would be expedient to make it a subject of examination for a Degree in Arts?—I think that, in this respect, there cannot be a better plan followed than what is ordered in the Statutes of 1808, of the University of Oxford, which make a certain degree of acquirement in the evidences of Christianity a *sine quâ non* in the examination for Bachelor of Arts.

Have you any suggestions to make to the present Commission respecting Marischal College?—The chief suggestions which occur to me are the absolute necessity of better endowments for the working Professors, and of funds for the extension of the library, and the increase of the Librarian's salary.

[Addition made by the Witness after revising his Evidence.]

I beg leave further to suggest, for the consideration of the Royal Commission, that the privilege of exemption from militia service, possessed by the students of the Universities of England and Ireland, ought to be extended to those of the Universities of Scotland, and that the want of it seems to imply some kind of stigma on the latter, which ought to be removed.

W. K.

Dr. Thomas Clark, Professor of Chemistry, called in and examined.

Have you any suggestions to give us in addition to those contained in your letter to the Secretary, of 29th April 1837, which has been perused by the Commissioners?—I have no suggestions to make. I adhere to the statements and opinions expressed in that letter.

Have you perused the queries that have been circulated, and is there any of them upon which you wish to give a special answer, in addition to the information contained in your letter; in particular would you favour the Commissioners with an answer to the fifth Query relative to the patronage exercised by the professors, "Would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?"—I beg leave, in the first place, to advert to the clause of this question which refers to adequate compensation being made to existing Professors. I have great difficulty in perceiving the object contemplated by this clause. The right of appointing Professors I hold to be a right in trust, a right which the patrons hold for the public good, for the public good only, and in no part for their own particular and private good. To assume such a patronage, therefore, beneficial to Professors, or any patrons whatever, so as to imply that there is room for compensation on their being deprived of such a trust, seems to involve the supposition that there has been a breach of trust; which seems to me to be no proper ground for claiming compensation on the trust being taken away. I think that the patronage ought not to be in the hands of the Professors, not because they have perpetrated any breach of trust, but because I think, for other reasons, that the patronage is not expediently held by them. That Professors are inexpedient patrons I think is an opinion that is generally held in Scotland by those persons who have had opportunities of knowing the working of patronages by Professors. This opinion is universal as far as my acquaintance goes with such persons; and I hold very light the idea that Professors, as learned men, may be supposed better qualified than other persons for deciding who, for any vacant Chair, is the best qualified candidate, inasmuch as the vacancy to be filled up often occurs in another department than their own, and possibly in a department, the higher branches of which may be unknown to every one of the Professors in the other departments. With Professors, therefore, as with other patrons, mistakes do happen in appreciating the qualifications of the several candidates. Such difficulties I know to have been experienced by Professors. As to vesting the patronage in the hands of the Crown, from any thing that I know of the operation of that system throughout Scotland, I have formed an impression no ways favourable to that mode of appointment. I am thoroughly satisfied that it does not tend in all cases, or in the generality of cases, to obtain the candidate best qualified. I am thoroughly satisfied that other considerations than the qualifications of the Professors have more weight in appointments by the Crown than the qualifications proper to the department they are appointed to teach.

Has any plan occurred to you of vesting the patronages of Universities in other hands than those, either of the Crown or of Professors?—The most eligible plan of any that has been proposed, so far as I am aware, is the plan that forms part of the University Bills of Mr. Bannerman, and Mr. Oswald, in 1835, whereby the appointment of Professors was left to be made by open competition, with a qualification that occurred in Mr. Oswald's amended Bill, viz., that a University court, when unanimous, might appoint Professors without a competition. I do not know whether it is worth mentioning to the Commission, yet the observation bears on the point in question, that, during the agitation of these measures, I had frequent occasion to discuss the subject in company with scientific friends, whose qualifications were of an order that entitle them to be Professors, and some of whom, in fact, have since been so appointed, and the observation struck me as being remarkable, that among my most intimate friends, mostly of course about my own time of life, in no instance did I find one, especially of high scientific attainments, who objected to that mode of appointment. The objections, so far as I heard any urged by persons aspiring to the office of Professor, all came from parties whose expectations were founded mainly on other grounds than qualification for the office.

Then you are under no apprehension that any man of high attainments in science or literature would ever refuse to submit himself to an examination when standing candidate for any of the higher Professorships?—At least I am certain of this, that men of much higher attainments than those who commonly obtain the office of Professors in this country would readily come forward as candidates on those terms. Upon this point we, in Aberdeen, are not wholly without experience. For, I think, two centuries, the Professorship of Divinity in King's College has been filled up by such a competition. Now this is an instance of such a competition taking place in the very department, where before-hand those unaccustomed or inexperienced in that mode of appointment, would hold it as altogether unsatisfactory, perhaps impracticable or impossible; yet the experience of two centuries has, in that very department in this district, so far as I can pretend to know the opinions prevalent here, not produced the impression that this mode of appointment fails in obtaining divines of the highest eminence. Indeed I have never heard the efficacy of this mode of appointing by competition disputed in Aberdeen as an efficacious mode by any reference to the actual working of the system in that peculiar Chair. We have further experience in another Chair in this University, the Chair of Mathematics, which, on several occasions, has been filled up by competition. In the year 1717 several Professorships were made vacant by Royal Commission on account of the political offences of the Professors: among others the Chair of Mathematics. The vacancy on that occasion was filled up by competition, and the person appointed was Colin M'Laurin. On reference to the records, I find that ten years thereafter, in 1727, on a vacancy taking place, an appointment was made without competition, the patrons, in that case being the magistrates and town

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Marischal College.

Professor Clark.

20 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.
Marischal College.
Professor Clark.
20 October 1837.

council of Aberdeen. The person then appointed was the son of a former Provost, and not now known, so far as I am aware, by any other character. I find that in 1766, when the next vacancy took place, the appointment was made by competition. On that occasion no fewer than six candidates came forward. Of these six I shall signalize the names of three: William Trail, late Dean of Raphoe, who proved to be the successful candidate; Robert Hamilton, subsequently Professor, known to the world as the author of the work on the National Debt; John Playfair, late Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. The other three candidates were a teacher of Mathematics in Edinburgh, a teacher in the Grammar-School of Aberdeen, and Robert Stewart, son of the late Professor John Stewart, who was son of a former Provost, when appointed. It would not be a daring conjecture to suppose that, in the year 1766, in the ordinary course of things, the son of the late Professor, and grandson of a late Provost, would have been appointed, or that, but for the competition, William Trail, Robert Hamilton, and John Playfair would not have appeared as candidates from remote places at all. I find that the next material appointment was not made by competition. The person named was the late Dr. Copland of this University, who, I believe, from what little I have heard of past events in Aberdeen, was considered not highly qualified as a Professor in the department of Mathematics. At what particular date I cannot at this moment say, the late Dr. Hamilton, who had appeared as a candidate for the vacant Chair of Mathematics, was appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy. It was, however, found expedient to exchange duties between these two Professors; so that here we have, in the next case of appointment to the Mathematical Chair a gentleman of eminence in another department, but not adequately qualified in this one, appointed to a Chair, to which there is not the slightest chance he would have been raised by competition; while the person who performed, instead of him, the duties of that Chair actually had appeared as a candidate under the system of competition. After such experience I cannot perceive that in future we should, in Aberdeen, have to apprehend that competition would exclude from the candidates of any vacant Professorship men of high eminence. At the same time I am free to admit that the system of competition, inasmuch as it implies great exertions on the part of the candidates, must, on that consideration, occasionally deter, or make backward men in situations not much less advantageous, and of matured standing; but for any such case the power, as was proposed in Mr. Oswald's Bill, of permitting the University Court to make appointments when unanimous, would amply provide.

Does it appear to you that the difficulty of procuring or finding competent examiners would form any hinderance to the plan or method of appointing Professors which you recommend?—No material hinderance. The plan actually acted upon in the case of the competition for the Mathematical Chair, in the two important appointments referred to in 1717 and 1766, seems adequate, which consisted in procuring from other Universities the men distinguished in that department, or professing that department. I think that similar provisions made in that view in the Bills of Mr. Bannerman and Mr. Oswald were adequate to the object.

6. My letter embraces an answer to this question, and also Query 7.

8. "Assuming that Parliament would be disposed to grant a reasonable sum for the endowment of such additional Professorships as might be necessary for improving and completing the Curriculum of Education in the different faculties in the united University, what new Chairs would you suggest as proper in that case?"—My letter embraces this question so far as regards the Faculty of Arts. With the Faculty of Theology it is not for me to meddle; but in the department of Medicine I coincide with my colleagues in their recommendation. I would beg, however, to suggest to the Commission, on the supposition that Parliament is disposed to grant means for adequately endowing additional Professorships, the necessity seems to be implied of also adequately endowing the existing Professorships; for it is a matter not to be concealed from the eyes of observant persons, acquainted with the affairs of the Universities, that, unless provision for this purpose is made in this University, we must be left, in some departments at least, without a reasonable foundation for expecting that this University can hold the place in science or letters which it ought to hold among other Universities, or, indeed, can hold at all a place befitting a University.

9. "Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament or by the consent of the Colleges, at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient on the plan of the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners?"—I refer to my letter in the hands of the Commissioners on this subject.

Are there any suggestions you would wish to make to the Commissioners in regard to Marischal College?—I would beg leave to submit to the Commission the general observation that, judging from all past experience, the course would be exceedingly inexpedient of permanently tying up this University by a code of rules instituted by the authority of the Royal Commission. The rules extant, made by former visitations, prove how soon such regulations, however judiciously formed at the time, become inapplicable to the University under changed circumstances, in fact impracticable; accordingly they stand very much the chance of not being acted on in other respects than those which are impracticable. The thing wanted, I conceive, is a body such as the University Court proposed by the last Commission, with ample authority, and so constituted as to command alike the confidence of the public and of the Professors.

Rev. Dr. Robert James Brown, Professor of Greek, called in and examined.

Professor Brown.
20 October 1837.

Do you concur in the Return transmitted to the Commissioners by Marischal College? or have any views or alterations occurred to you since?—I concur in the Returns. I would wish, however, to add that I concur in them because, under existing circumstances, a complete

union of the two Universities into one College and University would neither be practicable, nor expedient if it were practicable. My opinion, however, on the subject of a complete union is an opinion on the abstract question.

If obstacles had not occurred, are you of opinion that single Professors in all the classes of the Faculty of Arts would have sufficed for the instruction of the students at present sent for instruction to the two Universities, keeping in view the possibility of forming an improved system of discipline and education adapted for the single Chairs?—It is my opinion that single Chairs might have sufficed; but, considering the views entertained by a large body of the community, and by very well-informed persons in this part of the country, I do not think it is a scheme which ought to be pressed.

Be so good as turn your attention to Query 5, viz., "If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being given to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?—It appears to me that the patronage would be better vested elsewhere. I am not friendly to the system of vesting it in the hands of Professors, because, though I believe it has been, in many cases, well exercised, the exercise of it will always be liable to suspicion, and there is a strong feeling against it; but if it is to be vested in the Crown exclusively, there is the objection and the risk that it may be used for political purposes. It is impossible for the Ministers of the Crown to judge themselves if persons are qualified to fill vacant Chairs; they will be guided by persons on the spot, who again may be guided by particular interests. If any mixed system could be adopted I should be friendly to it. I do not know how compensation can well be given to individuals. University patronage is not on the same footing as Church patronage, which can be sold. I do not know that any corporate body can sell their patronage of offices; but still an individual may accept of a University office under the idea that the possession of that patronage will balance to him the advantages which he possessed elsewhere; and, besides, he may attach importance to the possession of the right of selecting his own colleagues to a certain extent, and, therefore, I think some compensation should be given to the University as a body. But in regard to vesting the patronage in the Crown, to which I have expressed an objection, I beg leave to throw out a suggestion. Suppose the University Court were required to make it known that there is a vacancy, and that no such vacancy could be filled up for three months for instance, such individuals as chose might come forward and make applications for it. The University Court might then select a certain number of names, which, perhaps, they might submit to the Senatus to learn if they had any objections to them; and, having made this selection, might transmit it to Government.

6. "Assuming that the Colleges should be united into one University, be pleased to specify what classes you would recommend to be taught in each; in particular, if your opinion is that there should be double Chairs for Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, do you think that there are students at present frequenting both Colleges to make it expedient to have double Chairs in any of the other branches?"—Upon this point I think that, if the Colleges are to be maintained as separate Colleges of Arts, it is absolutely necessary to keep up the double Chairs in Arts, with the Curriculum regulated in the manner we have proposed. In regard to students who attend the Natural Philosophy Class, as they at the same time attend the Mathematical Class (and I prefer that order of teaching), I cannot see how you could separate those two classes. I think that the students attending the Mathematical Class in one College would require also to attend the Natural Philosophy Class in the same College, and this partly from the convenience of the locality; and for another reason, that one Professor of Mathematics might have a different manner of preparing his students from the other. If the Professor of Natural Philosophy were to teach in both Colleges, he would be put to a degree of inconvenience which could not easily be obviated.

On the supposition that two classes for the higher branches of Intellectual Philosophy, such as for Logic and Moral Philosophy, were taught at King's College exclusively, do you see any objection to the class for Natural Philosophy, and Natural History, as the corresponding branch of Natural Science for advanced students, being taught at Marischal College?—I would think, in the first place, there was an inconvenience, as I before stated, in consequence of the locality; next, that the different mode of teaching Mathematics might not be completely adapted to it; and, in the third place, it would give too great an advantage to the College which possessed the class of Natural Philosophy. I do not think that the classes of Logic and Moral Philosophy would by any means balance the Natural Philosophy.

Do you think there is any separate advantage in teaching the Natural Philosophy Class in New Aberdeen over the advantage of teaching it in Old Aberdeen?—There is always a considerable number of persons, who attend no other class, attending that class; but I believe there is also a numerous body of students in Old Aberdeen who attend that class, though not a great number who attend no other class. There are a considerable number of young men who attend here two years, and no more; and some of these attend the second and third classes of the Curriculum.

8. "Assuming that Parliament would be disposed to grant a reasonable sum for the endowment of such additional Professorships as might be necessary for improving and completing the Curriculum of Education in the different faculties in the united University, what new Chairs would you suggest as proper in that case?"—One new Chair is absolutely required in Marischal College, and that is a Chair of Humanity. We have no endowment for that. I am also of opinion that the endowment of additional Chairs, in order to complete a proper Medical Curriculum, is an object of the first importance in so large a community and in so extended a district as this.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Marischal College.

Professor Brown.

20 October 1837.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Marischal College.

Professor Brown.

20 October 1837.

Would you consider it more advantageous to have a separate Professor of Logic?—Certainly I do. Allow me also to add, that the present endowments are entirely inadequate to the support of the Professors in that situation of life which they ought to hold.

9. Answered in the Return.

What is your opinion as to the propriety and expediency of introducing a regular course of instruction on the Evidences and Principles of Christianity, as a part of the course of the Curriculum of Arts?—My opinion is that it is very desirable. I beg, in conclusion, to suggest that in any changes that may be introduced nothing should be done to impair the connexion with the church of Scotland.

Have you any additional suggestions to give to the Commission in regard to Marischal College?—If no union is to take place, I would beg leave to suggest that the Medical School, if it is to be efficient, cannot remain on its present footing. Until there is a regular Medical Faculty that important department will never be properly conducted. It is generally admitted that the endowment of a sufficient number of Medical Chairs, to meet the wants of a good Medical School in the north of Scotland, would be highly desirable. If the Universities remain separate, to one or other of them must these Chairs be attached. The teaching of the Medical Classes must be carried on in New Aberdeen. To make the Medical Professors members of both Universities is impossible. To make them Examiners for the Degree of M.D. in both Universities would be entirely anomalous. If some of them were attached to one College, and some to another, while Examiners, members of neither, were appointed, it seems unjust to exclude the Medical Professors of the other University from the examination of their own pupils, and yet it would be very extraordinary to admit them to the Senatus of a University not their own. In the event of a union these new Medical Professors would, of course, be University Professors, and attached to no particular College; but, if the Universities are to remain separate, it seems to be reasonable to place the Medical Faculty there, where only it can be of real service to the public.

2. A Law Class has existed in Marischal College for nearly 20 years. The numerous and influential Corporation of Advocates have made attendance on that Class necessary for their apprentices. At present the remuneration is quite inadequate and insufficient to command the full services of an eminent professional man. The increased duties likely to devolve on the members of the legal profession, in the provinces, render it an object of great importance that in this University there should be the means of giving a more complete professional education to young men destined for provincial practice.

3. Even in the event of no union taking place, I should still consider it as of very great importance to the interests of education that the Curriculum should be regulated according to the scheme proposed by Marischal College. The institution of a Professorship of Humanity would enable that College pretty nearly to carry that scheme into effect.

4. If the two Universities are to remain separate, it would still be necessary, in my opinion, to make a new arrangement of the Theological department, under the sanction of the church. The students in Divinity at Aberdeen are, at present, required to attend the Professors of Theology in King's and Marischal Colleges. With the consent of the church each might be confined to certain branches, and a course of Biblical Criticism might be rendered imperative. Until a classification of the students takes place, it does not appear to me that the services of even the ablest Professors will be so efficient as might be desired. Two Professors of Oriental Languages seem not to be necessary for the same students. The services of one of them might be made available for some other department of Theology.

5. The standard of teaching might easily be raised, by requiring rather higher attainments, particularly in Greek and Mathematics, than are at present necessary according to the rules of the University; but, with respect to this point, to the extension of the session and to higher examinations for the degree of A.M., I would, with all deference, suggest that it is scarcely possible for one University to carry such changes into effect, while they are not adopted by another in similar circumstances.

6. There is no fund of any considerable amount for the Library of Marischal College. By a decision of the Court of Session in 1738, the books obtained from Stationers' Hall were directed to be deposited in King's College for the use of both Colleges. The Stationers' Hall privilege has lately been withdrawn, and compensation granted for its loss. Over the expenditure of the money granted as the equivalent, Marischal College has no control. The former Commission reported that the Library Fund was inadequate, and that the members and students of Marischal College had not sufficiently the benefit of the Stationers' Hall books. The possession of a good library is obviously so necessary to a University, that a considerable part of its benefits must be lost to real students unless provision is made for supplying this deficiency. To render it accessible at all proper times, too, it is absolutely requisite that there should be the means of obtaining a Librarian's full services. The governments of the continent have reckoned it a matter of great importance to provide their great educational establishments with libraries, I would therefore earnestly, but respectfully suggest the necessity of bringing the inadequacy of the Library Fund under the consideration of Government.

7. The addition of a few scholarships or foundations, to enable young men of talent to prosecute their studies for a few years at the University seat, would be a most material improvement. At present, young men of this description must generally betake themselves, on leaving College, to the most elementary teaching. These scholarships ought to be attainable only by open competition, and for high attainments. Those by whom they were held might be obliged to give proofs of continued diligence and improvement, and, remaining under the superintendence of the Principal and Professors, might be made available for assisting the junior students in their studies, and inspecting their conduct. The number of pupils whom each could take might be limited, and the fees fixed at a moderate amount.—[Adjourned.]

[The Evidence having been sent to the Witness for verbal correction, he made the following Statements explanatory thereof.]

University of
Aberdeen.

Marischal College.

Professor Brown.

20 October 1837.

I beg leave to state that the suggestion, relative to the patronage of University Offices, is offered with very great diffidence, as I am fully aware of the difficulties attending this question. I would propose the adoption of the plan I have sketched out, only on the supposition that the University Court were so constituted as to afford complete security for the judicious and impartial discharge of its important duties.

I conceive it to be necessary to go a little more into detail than I have done in answering the third question, which relates to the Professorship of Natural Philosophy. It appears to me that if Natural Philosophy were taught at Marischal College only, the students attending that Class would naturally prefer a residence in New Aberdeen, and would, therefore, find it more convenient to attend the Second Mathematical Class at Marischal College, than to repair daily to King's College. But, with such a prospect, it would be more advantageous for them to commence their Mathematical studies under the Professor who was likely to conclude the course, than under one whom they were to leave next session. Bursars would, of course, be obliged to conform to the rules of their College, but other students would be induced, I think, to give a preference to the College possessing the Chair of Natural Philosophy. They would find there an unbroken Curriculum for three years. Many young men leave College after studying for three sessions. Thus the possession of two Classes of Intellectual Philosophy would not balance the loss of that of Natural Philosophy.

In my answer to Question 6, I meant chiefly to show that, while I considered it entirely incompatible with the preservation of two Colleges of Arts to remove the Class of Natural Philosophy from King's College, it was indispensable that such a Class should be taught in Marischal College.

R. J. BROWN.

Aberdeen, Saturday, 21st October 1837

Lord CUNINGHAME in the Chair.

The Rev. Dr. *Alexander Black*, Professor of Divinity, called in and examined.

You concurred in the Return made by the Professors of Marischal College, as a body, to the requisition of the Commissioners in May last?—Yes.

Will you favour us with an answer to the printed Queries in their order, which were sent to the Professors by order of the Commissioners?—The first Query does not apply to me, as I was not a member of the College at the time of the examination referred to.

Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable? Or do you think that the union of the Colleges into one University, for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?—On the question of a union, I would first state briefly the views by which I should be disposed to regard a union to a certain extent as desirable. Those who are engaged in the same pursuit find it advantageous to meet together occasionally for mutual conference on the subject of their studies, and thus the scientific meetings that are held from time to time are found to be attended with beneficial results. On this ground it appears to me that those who are occupied in teaching the same department of knowledge would derive mutual advantage from an occasional communication with one another. In regard to the Faculty of Divinity, for example, it would be advantageous for the Theological Professors in the different Universities to have occasional opportunities of meeting together, as in this way the state of Theological education in the several Universities would become mutually known; and hints might be derived by one University from the practice found beneficial in another. With respect to the particular subject of the above inquiry, I do not think that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable. If a union in any degree beneficial can be effected, I believe it will be found to be practicable and useful only for the purpose of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges.

3. If your opinion is adverse to a union under any regulations, be so good as explain the grounds of your objections?—The objection to a union of a closer description arises from the apparent impracticability of adjusting so many conflicting interests, and the questionable nature of the advantages to be expected from making the attempt.

4. If you think a union practicable and advisable, would you state your views as to the extent and nature of the arrangements which should be made in that case? In particular whether the union should be of the Colleges into one corporation, or only of the Colleges into one University?—In stating my views, as to the extent and nature of the arrangements to be made in such a case, I would beg leave to confine myself to the department of the Theological Faculty. In this department a virtual union has long existed between the Universities, and that union might easily be made more effective for the promotion of Theological study by a well defined distribution of the different branches of Theology among the several Professors; and by thus providing an appropriate place for the important branch of Biblical Criticism. On this subject I would avail myself of a passage or two in the Report of the former Commission. One of the greatest improvements to be introduced into the Theological Course would be to give a more prominent place to the subject of Biblical Criticism as recommended in that Report, and which is as follows:—"The second department is one of great consequence, but to which little attention has been paid in the Scotch Universities, with the exception of King's

Professor Black.

21 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.

Marischal College.

Professor Black.

21 October 1837.

College, while the two Dr. Gerards were Professors of Divinity,—the department of Biblical Criticism. As the discussions connected with this subject are eminently adapted to facilitate the interpretation of Scripture, and thus to prepare effectually for the faithful discharge of the pastoral office, it should be assigned to a separate Professor, viz., the Professor of Divinity in Marischal College. Should this arrangement be adopted, it would naturally fall to him to hear that part of the discourses of the students immediately connected with the critical import of difficult passages of Scripture, or what are termed *exercise* and *addition*, because he would apply to these the principles which he had laid down and illustrated." I most heartily concur in the statement given there in reference to the improvement which it would be desirable to introduce into the department of Theology, with the exception of the proposal of allotting only one session to the teaching of Biblical Criticism, for this is a subject of so great importance and extent, as to require at least two sessions for a satisfactory elucidation of its principles and details. Each Professor, according to the general plan recommended in the Report referred to, should have his own department of systematic Theology, of Oriental Languages, of Biblical Criticism, and of Ecclesiastical History; and should teach two classes every day for an hour each time. In regard to the order of succession in which the teaching of the several branches should be arranged, it is evident that, before a student can enter with advantage on the study of Biblical Criticism, he must previously have acquired an accurate knowledge of Hebrew under the Professor of Oriental Languages. Our session here, however, is too short to be effective, and there is no distribution of the different departments of Theological study, according to the respective progress of the students; those of the first, second, third, and fourth sessions are all promiscuously attending the same course of lectures. By assigning one department to each Professor, it would be very easy to adapt the instructions to the progress of the students. While on this subject a suggestion might be made in regard to the advantage of having a provision for a course of Lectures on Hebrew Antiquities, an important subject, requiring extensive research, and obviously adapted to throw much light on many passages of the Hebrew Scriptures that must remain obscure, when the custom referred to is unknown. A general view of the more important parts of Jewish or Rabbinical Literature might be included as subservient to the elucidation of the Hebrew Scriptures, and especially of the Prophecies relating to the Messiah.

You have now stated to us your views as to many arrangements which should be made on the Study of Theology in the two Colleges; and it also appears that the Colleges are at present practically united in the Theological Department, will you have the goodness to state either now, or transmit to the Commissioners your views at length as to any improvement which you think ought to be advantageously made in the Course of Theological Study?—It will give me much pleasure to transmit such information as I can on this subject.

You have made various valuable suggestions for improving the Course of Theological Study, but would not such improvements have the effect of increasing the expense of education to the poorer classes of the community in the North; and are you of opinion that the advantage to be derived from a more complete education counterbalances any disadvantages arising from any additional expense, which might thus be imposed on the students?—I certainly do feel an earnest desire that Theological Education should be as little expensive as possible, and that our Divinity Halls should be completely open to all who are desirous of availing themselves of the opportunity of Theological Education; but the great object of training those who are to be the religious instructors of the people, in as effective a manner as possible for the profitable discharge of the duties of the ministerial office, is of so paramount importance, as greatly to counterbalance any partial inconvenience that may be found to result from establishing a higher standard of Theological Education.

Is it your opinion that any improvement in the system of Theological Education can be devised without imposing a certain additional expense on candidates for the ministry; and have you any reason to know whether this would be grudged by those classes of the community most interested in the advancement and improvement of Religious Education?—Some additional expense would inevitably be incurred by the proposed improvement, at any rate by increasing the length of the Session, and by the purchase of those books which every one engaged in the critical study of the original Scriptures would find it necessary to possess; but the advantages to the cause of religion, and the spiritual good of the people at large would more than counterbalance any objections that might be urged on the mere ground of increase of expense, as far as that increase shall be obviously required for the advancement and improvement of Religious Education.

5. If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to remain as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?—As far as I have been able to consider the matter, I certainly should conceive that to have the patronage resting with the Professors is liable to objections. And, although no plan of lodging the patronage could be devised that would be altogether unobjectionable, yet, on the whole, it might be found that to vest it in the Crown would in practice be less liable to objections than any other; although, in theory, the choosing of Professors by comparative trial might appear to be the best mode.

Have you any additional suggestions to make to the Commissioners in regard to Marischal College?—There can be no difference of opinion with regard to the importance of joining instruction in religion with the general business of academical study. Such a practice must be found highly advantageous for the promotion of the great purpose of University Education. The spirit of true religion is congenial to every laudable operation of the human mind; it

tends to ennoble the nature of man, and it associates itself in the most harmonious manner with every department of learning and science.

There are two ways in connexion with the process of academical instruction in which, by the blessing of God, the salutary impressions of religion may be produced on the minds of youth. The first is when the teachers of the different branches of literature and science embrace every opportunity afforded by the subjects which they teach, to point out the references which these bear to religion, and to make them conducive to engage the youthful heart to the love and service of God. Numberless opportunities for this purpose occur in the study of the remains of classical antiquity, in which so many and so various indications are found that evince the necessity of a Divine revelation for bringing man to the attainment of virtue and happiness, and in which the scattered fragments of truth proclaim the source whence they originated; and in the survey of the arrangements that have been established by the Creator in the material, the intellectual, and the moral world, every step furnishes abundant proof of the existence and perfections of the Great First Cause. The study of science conducted under the continual superintendence of religion is invested with a moral interest which it could derive from no other quarter.

Another way is to have a provision expressly for the purpose of imparting religious instruction to the minds of academical youth. Such a provision would afford an opportunity of entering more directly and fully into the subject. The course of instruction might be so arranged as to embrace a general yet satisfactory view of the evidences of Christianity, which would give ample occupation of the most refined and invigorating nature as an exercise of the reasoning powers. The importance of this subject to those who are engaged in academical studies will be the more apparent from the circumstance that numerous objections to revealed religion have been adduced by infidels from the researches of literature and science, which to the young and uninstructed mind may at first present a formidable appearance, but which have been triumphantly refuted by arguments derived from more accurate and extended investigations in the quarters that have furnished the objections.

It must, therefore, be in the highest degree conducive to the promotion of the most important interests of man, that the minds of the young be fortified against the dangers to which their inexperience exposes them, by the evidence that establishes the truth and Divine origin of Christianity; and as the defence of the Christian faith derives its importance from the inestimable value of that faith itself, it cannot but be appropriate to the object proposed, that a view be presented of those leading principles of Christianity in which all are agreed who reverence the Bible as the Word of God, and who derive their views of revelation from the only infallible record of Divine Truth.

(The Witness afterwards gave in the following Paper agreeably to the request of the Commissioners.)

From the nature and design of the Christian ministry it must be evident that too high an estimate cannot be formed of the importance of securing, as effectually as possible, the adequate preparation of those who are to be engaged in that office. They have to unfold to the people, among whom their pastoral care is exercised, the whole counsel of God as it has been communicated in the revelation of his will. Their own minds must, therefore, be well instructed in that knowledge which they have to impart to others; and, in expounding the Scriptures, they are to deliver nothing as the mind of the Spirit of God which they have not previously ascertained, by an application of the means of sound interpretation, to be the exact sense of the passages successively selected for exposition. The great business then of a Student of Divinity must be the study of the Scriptures; but in reference to the object that he has in view it must be obvious that translations alone will be altogether insufficient to qualify him for performing the duties of the office to which he is looking forward. These are useful auxiliaries in the study of the original Scriptures, but they can never supersede the originals themselves, with which he ought to be habitually conversant; and as an adequate knowledge of the languages in which the Scriptures were originally written can be obtained only by a diligent and long continued application of the resources of Scriptural criticism, it is evident that an effectual provision must be made for ensuring the attainment of so indispensable an acquisition.

The laws of our church accordingly require that a certain number of sessions shall be devoted to the studies included in a course of Theology by those who are to be admitted to the office of preaching the Gospel of Christ; but it is obvious that not only the number, but also the length of the Divinity Sessions ought to be such as to afford sufficient time for the illustration of the topics of theological instruction, to which the attention of the students should be directed, in the course of their preparation for the work of the ministry. The Divinity Session in Aberdeen is shorter than in any of the other Universities of Scotland, and inadequate for the purpose of efficient theological study. To extend it must therefore be one of the first steps to the attainment of any improvement which it would be desirable to introduce into theological education in this place.

But there is another object of still greater importance than that of merely adding to the length of the session. No provision exists at present for arranging the students into classes; and the inconvenience will at once be apparent that must result from the want of such provision, while those who have just entered on their theological studies meet promiscuously with those who are attending for the last session of their course, and while to all the students, at their different stages of progress, the same lectures and instructions are addressed. This inconvenience must be particularly felt in the Hebrew division of the subject of Biblical Cri-

University of
Aberdeen.

Marischal College.

Professor Black.

21 October 1837.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Marischal College.

Professor Black.

21 October 1837.

ticism, in the study of which it is obviously impossible for any one to engage with understanding and advantage who has not previously acquired a knowledge of the language in which those books are written, which it is the province of Hebrew criticism to elucidate. And although the inconvenience may not at first appear to be so great in the case of the critical illustration of the writings of the New Testament, yet as the Greek phraseology of these writings is moulded by the genius of the Hebrew language, and as there are so many references throughout the New Testament to a variety of passages in the Hebrew Scriptures which must be adduced for the elucidation of the places in which the references occur, it is plain that by one who is unacquainted with Hebrew the critical study, even of the Greek Testament, cannot be engaged in with sufficient advantage.

There is no other way of effectually remedying the above inconvenience but by adopting the principle of the division of labour; by assigning to each Professor of the Theological Faculty one of the departments, into which the science of Theology naturally divides itself, and by making such an arrangement of these in point of regular succession as not only to give an opportunity for the exact classification of the students, but also to facilitate their progress by rendering the studies of every session directly preparatory to those of the next.

Many advantages would result from such an arrangement combined with the necessary extension of the length of the session. It would then be possible to introduce the useful practice of oral examination which at present is prevented by want of time and of classification. In the department of Biblical Criticism a variety of exercises might be introduced, in addition to the critical discourses at present required by the laws of the Church, which might give profitable occupation to the students, and be made to include, in the course of attendance on this branch of theological study, a review of those passages in the Old and New Testament that have been the subjects of particular discussion and controversy, or that contribute most to elucidate by examples the leading canons of criticism and interpretation, or that present the clearest and most comprehensive views of the principles and doctrines of Divine revelation. Such passages might, from time to time, be proposed to the students for private investigation with the assistance of the critical works to which they may have access, and they might be appointed in rotation to state the result of their researches either orally or in writing; when, after giving an opportunity to the rest of the students to add any supplementary remarks that may have occurred to them, or to correct what may have appeared erroneous; the Professor could sum up the whole, and state what he regards to be the most accurate criticism and interpretation of the passage in question, pointing out in every case its practical reference to the promotion of the great end for which a revelation from Heaven has been bestowed upon us.

In connexion with this subject, the advantage will be obvious that might be derived by the students of the Hebrew Scriptures from a judicious selection of the more important parts of Jewish literature. The materials that exist for this purpose are abundantly ample, and a more extended course of theological instruction would afford an opportunity of making them available. The subject of Hebrew Antiquities has been investigated with great labour and research by many who have written professedly upon it, and important incidental illustrations are to be found in a variety of critical writings. In the Chaldee Paraphrases, the Rabbinical Commentaries, and other productions of learned Jews, the Hebrew text of the Old Testament is copiously illustrated and discussed; and it is peculiarly interesting to ascertain the views regarding their own Scriptures, and particularly the Prophecies relating to the Messiah, that were entertained by the Jews themselves at different periods of their history. A knowledge of these opinions forms an important element of proof in that part of the evidence of Christianity that is furnished by the prophecies in question; and it is obvious that no attempt to convert the Jews to the Christian faith can promise much success that does not proceed on a reference to the writings, which are regarded by them as of established authority.

Such is the extent of Theological Study that there is scarcely any subject of human inquiry that may not be made conducive to the promotion of its object; and those who are professionally engaged in studying the records of Divine Truth will be prompted by a sense of the supreme importance of that study to avail themselves of every accessible resource within the wide range of literature and science that can enable them more fully to understand the diversified subjects that the Bible contains, which has been happily characterized by a recent eminent commentator as the most learned book in the universe. The academical preparation for the continued and successful prosecution of this study through life ought obviously to bear some proportion to its extent and importance, and should be limited in respect of time and arrangement, only by what may be found to be practicable, with a reference to the condition and circumstances of the country.

Dr. James Davidson, Professor of Natural and Civil History, called in and examined.

Professor Davidson.

21 October 1837.

You concurred in the Report that was made by the Professors of Marischal College in May last?—I did.

Have you any additional suggestions to offer to the Commissioners besides those contained in the Return to the Commissioners?—I have very few to offer.

Could you state any point on which you would wish to make an addition to the Report?—There is one question which I do not think answered in the Report, that is, in regard to the patronage. My opinion on this point is extremely simple, viz., that it should not be with the Colleges.

Where do you think it should be vested?—I think in the Crown.

Should there be any limitation either as to the mode of time or otherwise?—It would be

advisable that, as soon as a vacancy occurred, it should be publicly notified in some mode or other, and that the Senatus might have it in their power to recommend.

Would it be convenient that a certain interval should pass before it was competent for the Crown to fill up the vacancy?—There is a little difficulty there, unless the University has a power of supplying the vacancy for the time being. If that could be readily done, I think some time should elapse, so that things should not be done in a hurry.

You were examined by the former Commission?—Yes.

You then gave full information as to the nature of the class you teach, and your mode of teaching?—Yes.

Has any circumstance occurred since your former examination relative to your own class that you think of importance to communicate?—No, nothing that I think of importance. I thought that, in the report given, a freedom was taken with my evidence. I do not think the report was correct.

Will you have the goodness to state whether any alterations could be beneficially introduced into the class which you teach, supposing new arrangements to be made in Marischal College, either separately or as part of a new united University?—My opinion is, that a Professor of Natural History, or what I would call Elementary Physics, has sufficient occupation in teaching those branches connected with it, without any part of his time being devoted to Civil History.

Have you any additional suggestions to make to the Commission in regard to Marischal College?—None.

Dr. George Gordon Maclean, Professor of Oriental Languages, called in and examined.

Were you examined before the former Commission?—No.

Will you be so good as favour the Commissioners with answers to the queries they sent to you?—I have noted down what I consider chiefly necessary to state; and I request you will have the goodness to hear my statement read.

[The statement was then read, and given in, and is as follows.]

Adhering to my protest formerly given in against a union either of the Colleges or Universities, under any modification whatever, I do not think myself called upon to take notice of any of the "Heads of Interrogation" issued by the Aberdeen Universities' Commission except the third. In reference to it I reply:

The present system answers well; why change it? A system theoretically more full and more perfect might be less suited to the circumstances of the country. Uniting the Colleges would render some of the classes inconveniently large, unless lengthening the Session obviated this inconvenience by the greater evil of diminishing the number of students. I need not say how injurious this would prove to the country in various ways, nor seek to estimate how much merit and genius would thereby be consigned to hopeless obscurity. I shall not have to reproach myself with having consented to any changes that might throw obstacles in the way of the poor. I am convinced that a young man, who makes proper use of the opportunities at present afforded by an Aberdeen University, may very well go on afterwards alone, and prove a most valuable member of society. Of all the poorer students that pass through our Aberdeen Universities, there are very few, I imagine, provided their conduct be good, whose worldly condition is not ultimately better than it would otherwise have been, whilst the public are incalculably benefited by their services. That every subject should be formally taught in a College I do not think necessary. Advantageous it might be to those whose time and money allowed them to attend; but if a good foundation be laid, and the love of knowledge communicated, the great point is gained. The completion of a man's education must always depend on himself.

With regard to a union of the Universities, I think that more evil than good would result from it. In a Senatus composed of the Professors of two Colleges, between whom a certain degree of rivalry must necessarily exist, much unanimity and harmony could scarcely be calculated on.

But though opposed to essential change, I am by no means opposed to improvement. Under the present system various improvements have been introduced, and much may yet be accomplished without the necessity of legislative interference.

(Signed)

G. G. M'LEAN.

Professor of Oriental Languages, Marischal College.

How long have you been Professor of Oriental Languages?—I have taught two Sessions and a-half. I became Professor in 1835.

Dr. John Cruickshank, Professor of Mathematics, called in and examined.

Did you concur in the Return by Marischal College to the Commissioners last May?—I did in all respects as to facts; in two or three trifling matters I differed a little as to opinions.

Are there any points on which you either differed from the opinions expressed in the Return, or upon which you would be disposed to favour the Commission with more full information?—I am one of those who entirely disapprove of the exception to the rule, about entrance examinations, as applied to the first Greek Class, namely, the exception which would

University of
Aberdeen.

Marischal College.

Professor Davidson.

21 October 1837.

Professor Maclean.

21 October 1837.

Professor
Cruickshank.

21 October 1837.

University of
Aberdeen.

Marischal College.

Professor
Cruikshank.

21 October 1837.

permit the examination to be deferred till after Christmas. I also think that, before admission to the first Greek Class, the reading of a little easy Greek should be required, in addition to a knowledge of the grammar; and I think that a complete Medical School should be formed at once by the endowment of Professorships, and that none of the branches should continue to be taught by Lecturers.

Would you explain to the Commissioners more particularly your objections to the establishment of Lecturers?—I think that Lecturers are often not sufficiently respected by the students, because they are not members of the Senatus, and have not the same influence in the University as Professors have; and the students sometimes question their authority to maintain the necessary discipline. I may add, that the Lecturers cannot be supposed to take such an interest in the prosperity of the University as if they were members of it.

Would you be so good as turn to the printed Queries circulated, and favour us with your answers to them?

1. Have you considered the question as to the union of the Colleges since your examination before the former Commission, and have you seen any reason in any respect to alter or modify any opinion which you may have then expressed?—I have considered the subject of a union of the Colleges since my examination before the former Commission; and while I still think that a union of the Colleges would be very prejudicial, I consider a union of the two Universities to be desirable under proper regulations; but I am impressed more deeply, perhaps, than I was then with the necessity of caution in effecting such a union, owing to the danger of rash innovations and the diversity of opinion on the subject among well-informed persons.

2. Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one Corporation is expedient or practicable; or do you think that the union of the Colleges into one University, for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?—An entire union of the Colleges into one Corporation is, no doubt, in one sense practicable; but I regard it as highly inexpedient, and of mischievous tendency, because it would make the classes in the Faculty of Arts too large, and thereby render the daily examinations, which are the best part of teaching, far less effective. I found this opinion on long experience in teaching classes both large and small; and, except in the departments strictly professional, I hold a class of from 60 to 70 to be the largest that it is expedient to commit to the charge of one Professor. I therefore think that a union of the two Universities into one University should alone take place; and this for the purpose of regulating the discipline and course of education, and the mode of conferring honours, leaving the patrimonial rights of the two institutions as far separate as possible.

3. If your opinion is adverse to a union, under any regulations, be so good as explain the grounds of your objection?—My opinion, as already stated, is not adverse to a union, under any regulations.

4. If you think a union practicable and advisable, would you state your views as to the extent and nature of the arrangements which should be made in that case; in particular, whether the union should be of the Colleges into one Corporation, or only of the Colleges into one University?—I think the union should be that of the two Universities into one University, and not of the Colleges into one Corporation; that there should be two complete faculties of Arts, one of Divinity, one of Law, and one of Medicine; that the management of property and endowments should be left, as far as possible, in the same hands as at present; and that all regulations, as to discipline and course of study, should be common to the two Colleges after the union.

5. If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?—I think the question of patronage one of great difficulty, and cannot say that my mind is fully made up regarding it. If patronages be taken from the Colleges and vested in the Crown, there ought to be a compensation given, not to the Professors, but to the funds for public purposes. An objection to the vesting of patronages in the Crown is, that they may be used for political purposes. Upon the whole, it would perhaps be best to leave them in the same hands as at present, appointing new offices, endowed by Government, to be filled up by the Crown from a list of candidates made out by the University Court, and approved of by the Senatus.

6. Assuming that the Colleges should be united into one University, be pleased to specify what classes you would recommend to be taught in each; in particular, if your opinion is that there should be double chairs for Latin, Greek, and Mathematics; do you think that there are students at present frequenting both Colleges to make it expedient to have double chairs in any of the other branches?—In case of a union into one University, I would recommend classes for Latin, Greek, Natural History (including Elementary Chemistry), Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Moral Philosophy and Logic, to be taught in each College. The four classes of Systematic Theology, Oriental Languages, Biblical Criticism, and Church History to be equally divided between the two Colleges, so that students of the same year should not attend at both. The class of Civil Law (if thought necessary), and the classes of Scots Law and Conveyancing, also the classes of Anatomy, Surgery, Chemistry, Materia Medica, Theory of Medicine, Practice of Medicine, Midwifery, Medical Jurisprudence, and Botany, to be all taught in Marischal College, because the situation of the offices where most of the students of Law are apprentices, and of the infirmary, would make it very inconvenient to have any of the Law or Medical classes in King's College. I think that there should also be lectures on the Evidences of Christianity to the students in Arts in both Colleges, and

examinations on these Evidences before admission to the degree of Master of Arts. I think there should be double Chairs for all the departments in the faculty of Arts. Either College, with an incomplete faculty of Arts, would be more thinly attended on that account. If Natural Philosophy is still to be taught in the third year, as I think it ought to be, there is as great necessity for two Chairs in that branch as in any other. If there were a Professor of Natural Philosophy in only one of the Colleges, the students of the second Mathematical class in the other would have to attend classes in both, and to travel daily between the two. I think Moral Philosophy and Logic should be taught to the students of the fourth year in each College; and Rhetoric, for an hour a-day, by the same Professor, to the students of the third year.

7. Are you of opinion that any Professorship at present established in either College can either be abolished or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature, due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent; if so, be pleased to specify what class or classes in either College you would propose to be altered?—One of the Professorships of Oriental Languages should evidently be abolished. One of the Professorships of Divinity should be converted into a Professorship of Biblical Criticism, and the other limited to Systematic Theology. The Professorship of Medicine in King's College should be made effective for the Theory of Medicine; and the Professorship of Civil Law should be abolished, unless it be thought expedient to teach the class here, and require the students of Law to attend it.

8. Assuming that Parliament would be disposed to grant a reasonable sum for the endowment of such additional Professorships as might be necessary for improving and completing the curriculum of education in the different faculties in the united University, what new Chairs would you suggest as proper in that case?—A Professorship of Humanity should be endowed in Marischal College; and, in the united University, there should be endowed a Professorship of Scots Law and Conveyancing, one of Anatomy, one of Surgery, one of *Materia Medica*, one of Midwifery, one of Medical Jurisprudence, and one of Botany. Additional endowments are also necessary for the present Professors, especially for such of them as are prevented by the duties of their offices from adding to their incomes the emoluments of any other profession.

9. Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament or by the consent of the Colleges, at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient, on the plan of the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners?—If a union of the Colleges take place into one University, on the plan which I have recommended, I think there should be added to the University Court recommended by the former Commissioners another member, to be chosen by the Senatus, who might be called the Dean of the University, and who might exercise such duties as have been specified in our Returns. In conclusion, I would beg leave to call the attention of the Commissioners to the Act of Parliament 6 & 7 Will. IV., ch. 110, which repealed the Copyright Act as far as regards the Universities of Scotland, and granted as a compensation only the average annual value of the books which they had actually received during the three years immediately preceding. To those Universities whose poverty prevented them from enforcing the delivery of the books to which they were legally entitled, this Act perpetuates the injustice which they suffered, and ought therefore to be repealed. As only one copy of each book was allowed to Aberdeen by the former Act, one-half of the compensation-money ought, in fairness, to be placed at the disposal of Marischal College, otherwise this College will lose part of its right by having no control over the expenditure of the money.

Have you any additional suggestions to make to the Commissioners, in regard to Marischal College?—Whether a union of the two Universities take place or not, a Professorship of Humanity ought to be instituted, without delay, in Marischal College; and, if the obstacles to a union be found insurmountable, a complete Medical School ought to be formed in this College by the institution of Professorships. The wants of the North of Scotland require this; and local circumstances, which I have already referred to, oppose the establishment of Medical Classes in Old Aberdeen.

It having been suggested, as matter of consideration, whether Mathematics might not be taught with advantage to students of the first year, with a view to prepare them better for the study of Natural Philosophy in the third year, I beg to state, as my opinion, that this could not be done with advantage in the present circumstances of the country. Such an arrangement would be unfavourable both to classical learning and to Mathematics: to the former, by withdrawing too much of the student's attention from it at so early a period; to the latter, by forcing him forward to a task to which, in many cases, his mental powers would be unequal. If students enter the first Mathematical class at the beginning of their second year, with a sufficient knowledge of Arithmetic, and a knowledge (which may be acquired during the vacation) of two Books of Euclid, and Algebra as far as Equations; and, if the session be extended to six months, they will be much better prepared for the Natural Philosophy class than they have, in general, hitherto been.

The present system would be much improved by the addition of a few tutors with salaries. These should, for limited fees, assist students in preparing their tasks. They should be amenable to the University authorities, and their offices should be the rewards of merit alone. The nature of their employment, and their longer residence at the seat of the University, would greatly contribute to their own advancement in learning, and would train them up for becoming respectable and useful teachers in public seminaries.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Marischal College.

*Professor
Cruickshank.*

21 October 1837.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Dr. John Macrobine, Assistant Professor of Medicine, called in and examined.

Marischal College.

Professor Macrobine.

21 October 1837.

You concurred in the Return made by the Professors of Marischal College to the Commission in May last?—Yes.

Have you any thing additional to suggest in reference to the points specified in the printed Queries circulated?—I am more conversant with the Medical department; and in regard to it I would suggest that something should be done to increase the Faculty. At present it consists only of two Professors, the Professor of Medicine, and the Professor of Chemistry; and it would be very desirable to have several others added, so as to form a separate Faculty and body of Examinators for Degrees in Medicine.

But would it not be proper to have such a course as to qualify for Surgeons' Hall?—Yes.

What new Medical Chairs would be required to enable the University of Aberdeen to afford such a complete course of Medical education as would qualify students for Surgeons' Hall, and for graduation?—At present we can qualify for Surgeons' Hall in London, and for graduation in the Scottish Universities by the lectureships. It would be desirable nevertheless to have the lectureships made professorships. We have, at present, the following lecturers:—1st. On Anatomy. 2nd. On Surgery. 3rd. On Materia Medica. 4th. On Theory of Medicine. 5th. On Midwifery. And we have Dr. Knight, the Professor of Natural Philosophy, as a Lecturer on Botany. There are also two Clinical Lecturers, one on Medicine and another on Surgery, under the superintendence of the managers of the infirmary. These courses of instruction are recognised by Marischal College; and I believe the University of Edinburgh has agreed to receive their tickets, provided their course is of equal length with the course required by that University. To qualify fully for the College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, we would require to have a lecturer or Professor of Medical Jurisprudence in addition to those already mentioned. I may further suggest, in regard to the Old Town Professorship of Medicine, that it has never been rendered efficient. No class has been taught by the present incumbent; it would, therefore, be desirable, that that class should now be rendered efficient; or the endowment of that professorship partitioned, so as to endow other professorships.

What is the endowment?—If I mistake not it is £200.

What is your opinion as to what would be a sufficient endowment for these new Medical Professorships?—My opinion is simply this, that Professors of Medicine are supposed to have an income otherwise, being practical men, therefore a comparatively small endowment would be sufficient, say £100.

You think that an endowment of £100, with the advantage arising from practice, would afford the prospect of a suitable income for a man of talents?—I do, provided the school goes on increasing as it has hitherto increased. We have upwards of 100 medical students in Aberdeen.

Have you any additional suggestions to make to the Commissioners in regard to Marischal College?

(The Witness made no other suggestions.—Adjourned to King's College.)

King's College.

KING'S COLLEGE.

Old Aberdeen, Saturday, 21st October 1837.

Lord CUNINGHAME in the Chair.

Mr. James Bentley, Professor of Oriental Languages, called in and examined.

Professor Bentley.

21 October 1837.

A copy of the printed heads of interrogation was sent to you?—Yes.

Have you considered the question as to the union of the Colleges since your examination before the former Commission, and have you seen any reason, in any respect, to alter or modify any opinion which you may have there expressed?—I adhere to my former opinion, so far as it went.

Will you be so good as favour the Commissioners with answers to the printed Queries which were sent to you?

(Witness then read over Answers to the printed Queries, which were given in, and are as follows.)

1. I submitted some opinions to the Lord Advocate in December 1835, to which opinions, in general, I still adhere.

2. I am not of opinion that a union of the two Colleges into one corporation, or one University, would be expedient or beneficial.

3. My opinion is adverse to a union. 1st. Because the founder of the more modern institution did not choose to connect it with the previously existing one. 2nd. Because changes so great ought not to be made in institutions that have so far answered their end; that are still capable of doing so, and of reform. 3rd. Because the foundations or bequests of individuals (especially such as have been established) ought not to be interfered with farther than to conform them to the laws of the country, and the rules and regulations of the founders, since greater diversions of their objects are contrary to the right of a free people to dispose of their property

according to their own pleasure, and are calculated to discourage persons disposed to make bequests for the public good.

4. Seems to be answered before.

5. Though I do not think that the Colleges should be united, I think the patronage of the professors might be modified in a way not to infringe on the original constitution by letting the Crown nominate first, and giving the Senatus a *veto*, or *vice versa*. As to "compensation," if all the offices were properly and permanently endowed, there would be no need of any thing more.

6. I see not that any of the classes in the Faculty of Arts can be suppressed. But I think one Professor of Oriental Languages for the two Colleges may suffice for all the students of Divinity, as in the case of the Professorship of Church History. And I think the Professors of Divinity in the two Colleges, as they already divide the labour, or days of meeting between them, might advantageously divide the subjects between them; one lecturing on Biblical Literature or Criticism, and the other on Systematic Theology. In like manner I think one school of Law and one school of Medicine might suffice for the two Colleges; the Professors already existing in the two Colleges taking different departments or subjects of lectures, and the additional professorships that may be requisite being equally divided between the two Colleges.

7. Having given an opinion in the preceding article, that as there is but one school of Divinity in the two Colleges, the Oriental Professorships might be united, I may state in reference to the seventh Query, that if that suggestion were adopted, the income of the two Oriental Professorships might be appropriated to the one; that he should be a member of the Senatus of King's College; and that an arrangement, as suggested in the seventh head of Inquiry, might be made immediately, or the change deferred till a vacancy occur in one of the Chairs. The patronage of the Oriental Professorship might be settled by the present patrons presenting alternately.

8. Without supposing a union of the Colleges, there would seem to need three additional Medical Professors besides those already founded, there being one in King's College and two (the Professor of Chemistry being one) in Marischal College, and therefore to incorporate them as before suggested, one would be appointed to Marischal College, and two to King's College.

9th. As to University officers besides or over the Senatus, it would seem sufficient to require the existing authorities to do their duty, which they might do by holding stated meetings or courts for supervision. The University Courts formerly proposed would be a degradation of the Colleges.

Have you any additional suggestions to make to the Commissioners in regard to King's College?—(The witness made no suggestions.)

[*Thoughts and Suggestions, by Professor Bentley, in regard to remodelling the Colleges, particularly King's College, Aberdeen, referred to in his Evidence, and ordered to be printed along with it.*]

The Colleges at Aberdeen have hitherto been most useful in the country. Compared with some others, they may be thought to be on a rather limited scale, as they possess not so many Professorships as some Colleges; but they are, in some material points, admirably adapted to the portion of the country they are most connected with. The whole of Scotland, compared with England, may be called a poor country; but the north, where these Colleges are situated, is the poorest part of Scotland. While the education obtained at Aberdeen has been such as to prepare many to fill most important offices and situations, at home and abroad, the expense of time and funds has been on a scale that has enabled many, almost of the poorest of the inhabitants, to acquire those qualifications by which they have risen to eminence, usefulness, and great respectability. These institutions having been attended with such substantial benefits to the nation, care should be taken, in framing changes in their constitutions, that greater injury than benefit be not effected.

Those who have known, intimately, the circumstances of the students at Aberdeen are well aware that it has been with great difficulty, with many delays, struggles, and privations, and in many cases not without assistance from the teachers, that they have attained the object of their ambition—the degree of A.M., or the completion of their academical course. Indeed, it is feared that instances have occurred of ardent students, in a manner, sacrificing their lives by the privations imposed on themselves in the pursuit of learning. To increase the expenses of the students, by additional fees, by lengthening the session of College, or in any other way, would have the effect to put it out of the power of a great proportion of the young men of those ranks of society that have hitherto enjoyed them ever to avail themselves of the benefits of the Colleges. Prolonging the session would operate in another way to diminish the number of students: many of them are teachers in the country (either in parish schools or in families), and obtain leave from their patrons or employers, on finding substitutes, to attend College in winter. This indulgence is frequently denied for the time at present required; but, were six or seven months necessary, how few would obtain the permission; and, though they could obtain it, the income in general of such teachers (perhaps about £50 a-year) would be found inadequate to pay a substitute and support the principal. And who, in this country, where liberty is so much prized and enjoyed, would put a bar in the way of so many well-disposed aspirants to rise to a higher grade in society? Or who would deprive the country of the services of men who in their youth, by necessity, self-denial, and persevering labour, had acquired many valuable qualities and virtues? A collateral evil, of no small magnitude, surely, in the view of those who are concerned for the general interests of society, may here

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

Professor Bentley.

21 October 1837.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Bentley.

21 October 1837.

be mentioned :—If young men attending College could not hold the situations above referred to, it does not appear how country schools could be so well supplied with teachers as at present; nor how so many of the country gentlemen and substantial farmers could obtain tutors for their families, at the rate of £20 or £30 a-year, as they now do. The usual emoluments of a schoolmaster would not be an ultimate object for any person who had been at the expense of a University education. They are, in general, only accepted as a temporary provision by such as are looking forward to clerical appointments, or some more lucrative employment. In short, the expense of every kind and degree of education would be enhanced throughout the country; and (not to dwell on the reduction of the number of tolerably-educated persons, which must follow) would not one of the natural consequences of increased expense in qualifying for them be that the emoluments of offices and situations requiring educated men must also be raised; and so the effect of some of the proposed new measures in the Colleges would be such manifest evils, affecting every grade of society? *

Considering the emoluments and the labours of the professions or situations for which most of the students at Aberdeen are intended, it will in general be allowed that the time and labour and funds they expend are quite commensurate to the pecuniary advantages obtained. If advantages for study are sought which are not to be obtained in this part of the country, may not such be found or provided in richer and more populous and central parts of the country, and the institutions in this quarter be put upon a footing to suit those who repair to them?

From such considerations, and from the very questionable policy of interfering much with institutions founded and regulated by the deeds of individuals, and supported in great measure by their bequests, it appears to me, to say the least, dangerous to innovate in them to any such degree as has been proposed; for instance, to put them under a system of government never before tried in any University, British or Foreign; or to deprive the communities on whom such a boon had been conferred by the public-spirited and benevolent founders of the Colleges of the advantages attending their vicinity. If such liberties may be taken with institutions so founded, may not far greater improvements be made than that of reducing two Colleges to one? If one be sufficient at Aberdeen, would it not be a less infraction of charters and other solemn deeds to transfer the other to the south or to the north, as might be most beneficial for a new locality, than to annihilate it altogether?

It is natural for parents, when they send their sons from home, to prefer situations where the temptations to idleness and vice are the fewest, and where their health is most likely to be preserved; and, surely, the almost rural and retired situation of King's College is better adapted for such objects than the heart of a large town, where extensive manufactories have so much increased within these 40 years. In general, the students, or the majority of them, who attend Marischal College are natives of Aberdeen, while those in the other College are from the counties north of the Clyde and the Tay. Would it be reasonable, then, to deprive the inhabitants of the latter portion of the country of a College in that situation to which they give preference, and where the greatest numbers are found to attend?

If the new-modelling of the Scottish Colleges is to be carried to the length proposed by some, what reason can there be for not interfering in a similar way with the English? If Old Aberdeen (it is taken for granted that the project will not be attempted with regard to Marischal College, as the inhabitants of Aberdeen would never agree to it, and the Government is not likely to resist them) and those counties which are attached to King's College are to be deprived of it, would it not be doing less violence to the Universities of England to disperse their 40 Colleges through the length and breadth of the land, for the accommodation of all the inhabitants,—to render attendance at them less expensive and more general,—and to conduct the teaching by Professors appointed for life, rather than by irresponsible, little-known, and changing "Tutors?" The latter, an improvement in which King's College, Aberdeen, is some centuries beforehand with them? And perhaps other changes might be thought of that might equally increase the usefulness of the far-famed Universities of the south. One of the chief compensating advantages of Scotland, when her circumstances are compared with those of England, is in the extent to which her population is educated; but the putting down of one of her Seminaries would so far go to diminish that advantage. A work far more worthy would be to extend similar advantages to England, by giving her the institution of parochial schools, that her peasants might be educated; and to render every branch of education cheap, that here and there a talented and aspiring peasant might have it in his power to complete his education in a College. Such advantages Scotland already, in a good degree, possesses; and they ought rather to be increased than diminished.

The chief argument for breaking up the charters of the Aberdeen Colleges by uniting them, appears to be the advantages of instituting new professorships and of providing more adequately for the Professors in general. If this be the case, is not the question reduced to one of economy or expense, and would it not be safer, after introducing such changes as present constitutions will admit of, to institute the new professorships necessary, and to provide suitably for the Professors, out of the national funds? Certainly no professorship ought to be left inefficient; and all that seems necessary in regard to the professorships of Law and Medicine in King's College is to make the lectures of the Law Professor supersede those of the lecturer appointed by the Faculty of Advocates in Aberdeen, and to recognize the gentleman who lectures in place of the Professor of Medicine in some such way as is usual in the case of assistants and successors, or as in the case of Dr. Skene and Dr. Macrobain, in Marischal College. The present state of the Theological and Medical Faculties at Aberdeen forms a sort of precedent on which now to establish them, by the proper authority, on a permanent

* Some arrangements are proposed at p. 42, that might supersede the necessity of greater changes.

footing. Already these departments belong, as it were, to both Colleges, and are essentially but one, and there is no necessity for duplicate professorships in Divinity in so close a vicinity, considering the number of students that attend. At present attendance on the two proper Divinity Professors (one belonging to each of the Colleges) is required of students, by presbyteries, in order to their being received as candidates for the ministry, and the pieces of trial given during the divinity course may be delivered in either of the Colleges. In a way somewhat corresponding, the Professors of Oriental Languages lately divided their teaching, one of them taking the advanced class, and the other the elementary. But as to this branch of Theological study (the sacred languages), one Professor would be quite sufficient for all the students that attend, perhaps 20 or 25, in each of two classes. The Divinity Professorships might be advantageously arranged in the way proposed by the Royal visitors. The Professors of Biblical Literature and of Church History might belong to the Senatus of Marischal College, and the Professors of Systematic Theology and of Oriental Languages might belong to that of King's College. Both Colleges at present confer Degrees in Divinity, Law, and Medicine, and they might still do the same. The Colleges might each retain their existing professorships of Medicine, and the additional Medical Professorships to be instituted might be equally divided between the two Colleges. If it were judged preferable that the Law or Medical Lectures should be given in Aberdeen, there appears nothing to prevent such an arrangement; or some of the lectures might be given in each of the Colleges, as is done in the Theological Faculty.

While in the arrangements proposed by some, the Session of College would be lengthened by a month or more, the number of meetings each day in the four ordinary classes of the Faculty of Arts would be reduced by one-third. At present these classes, on most days, meet, or should meet, three times a-day, for one hour. In Marischal College, on Tuesday, and Friday, and Saturday, they meet but two hours; and in King's College they have no Saturday meeting. Now if each of the Colleges were to adopt the same hours of meeting as the other, two hours a-week would be gained by those four classes, and more time would be employed in receiving the Professor's instructions than in the proposed six-months session. Again, the advanced Latin and Greek classes might meet every day, or five days in the week, which would give them double the time they at present employ in these classes. In the Theological Faculty the Professors of Systematic Theology and of Biblical Literature might meet once a-day, as the Professors of Church History and of Oriental Languages do; which would also double the meetings in these departments, without lengthening the Session, and without diminishing the number of students by increasing the expense of a University education. As it often happens to teachers that the length of tasks gone through at any of their meetings is limited by the length of time allowed for their meetings; so it may happen that, in endeavours to make as much as possible of time, the student may be overburdened with tasks. Should that be found to be the case, perhaps two or three weeks might be added to the length of the Session. Here it naturally strikes one how difficult it is to adjust conflicting interests and arguments; and how dangerous it is to interfere with plans that may, on the whole, work well.

If the Legislature of the country is to enact the changes to be proposed at this time, it would seem but reasonable and liberal to include in such Act, a permission to any of the present incumbents who has held a Professorship for 20 or more years, to resign office on such retiring allowance, or pension, as, by the Bill brought into Parliament last Session, was proposed to be put in the power of the Rectorial Court to grant.

As the emoluments of certain Professorships are allowed to be inadequate, and ought therefore to be increased, it seems a good standard for the income of such College offices to fix them at a rate higher than the usual amount of a clergyman's emoluments from stipend, glebe, and manse, so that, in point of income, a Professorship might be preferable to a clerical charge, as it is in that order that the most eligible candidates for Professorships, in most departments, are to be expected. As manses, gardens, and glebes, are enjoyed by some of the Professors in King's College, and as a greater amount of fees is drawn by some than by others, the salaries of all should be so regulated, that, one way or other, their incomes from their College offices should be pretty nearly equal; the Principals and the Sub-principals being somewhat higher than the salaries of the other members.

If the state of the Colleges is to be revised and improved, it might be of advantage to restate or define the powers of the different authorities, and to revive those that may have been less active; to recommend to the higher officers an annual review of the proceedings and of the accounts of the Senatus (the Chancellor employing an auditor, if he should think proper), and an annual visitation by the Chancellor and Rector, at which they might express their sentiments or judgments on any matter directly brought before them, or suggested to them by the records submitted to their review, to afford opportunity of complaint to any person having right, or being aggrieved: in cases of alleged glaring errors in the election of Professors or officers, to empower the Chancellor to inquire into them, and to call for proof of the qualifications of candidates, and, if he see cause, to order a new election; and, as an ultimate resource, if parties are not satisfied, to allow of appeal to the King in Council.

In laying down new, or in confirming existing regulations, it would be an object to prevent the contracting of debt; to extinguish (by payment from the national funds), or put into a course of being extinguished, the existing debts; to require the observance of the rule, that the offices of Common Procurator and Master of Mortifications should be held by different persons.

In case of many or great changes being determined on, there would seem a necessity of lodging somewhere a discretionary power to correct what may be found on trial to be detrimental. And it would seem well, before changes are enacted, to give those who have had

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Bentley.

21 October 1837.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Bentley.

21 October 1837.

experience, and who are likely to form a correct judgment of the effect of changes, an opportunity of expressing their sentiments on what is proposed. As the Colleges of Scotland are very different the one from the other, in situation, in their attendants, and in many other respects, the regulations and plans of any one of them cannot be a standard for the rest, nor can the members of one judge perfectly what may suit another.

JAMES BENTLEY.

Mr. John Tulloch, Professor of Mathematics, called in and examined.

Professor Tulloch.

21 October 1837.

You were examined by the former Commission?—Yes.

Does the opinion then expressed by you remain the same?—Yes, still the same.

1. What do you say to the union of the Colleges?—I adhere to the opinion expressed by me on my former examination.

2. Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable; or do you think that the union of the two Colleges into one University for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is a preferable course?—I consider that the union of the two Colleges into one corporation is inexpedient and, in my opinion, impracticable.

3. If your opinion is adverse to a union under any regulations, be so good as explain the grounds of your objections?—As to the suppression of one of the Colleges. First, I object to this mode of union, because it cannot be carried into effect without the violation of charters and other solemn deeds. Secondly, I conceive it to be most unjust to suppress either of the Colleges, while each of them answers the purpose of its foundation. Now although there are periods in the history of both Colleges where men of higher name filled chairs within them, yet, in my opinion, and, I believe, in the opinion of the public, they never were in a more efficient state as schools of literature and science, at any period of their history, than they are at the present time. Thirdly, this union cannot be carried into effect without the consent of the public. Now it is well known that all the schemes of union ever proposed were supported by very few individuals, while the public have on all occasions uniformly opposed every scheme of union.

Now, as to the union of the two Colleges into one University. First, I have never heard that either of these institutions had done anything to forfeit its independence. Secondly, an attempt of this kind was made in the troublous times of Charles the First, yet so repugnant was this connexion to the members of both Colleges, that they never could be brought to unite in doing anything cordially, but to draw the revenue of the Bishopric of Aberdeen which had been assigned to them. The reason of this repugnance is obvious; they could scarcely meet without their interests coming into collision at almost every point. The only advocates of this union whom I have heard of are a few of the members of the sister College. Now, to any person acquainted with the circumstances of both Colleges, this can be matter of no surprise; for as there is provision in the new buildings of Marischal College for a full Medical Faculty, it could not fail to appear desirable that a body in the immediate vicinity of Marischal College should be prevented both from teaching and granting degrees in Medicine. Secondly, it is desirable that when a diploma is given, the person receiving it shall carry with him the firm conviction that the body granting that diploma have an undoubted right to give it. Thirdly, it may appear desirable to some members of that College to have their rival under some degree of control, which they could not fail to have after the addition of the Medical Faculty. Lastly, I object to this union, because I entertain the strongest conviction that, if carried into effect, the suppression of King's College will be the inevitable result at no remote period.

4. As to the nature and extent of the arrangements which should be made in the case of a union, my answer to it is superseded by my answer to the former Query.

5. If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives? Do any objections occur to you as to the latter plan?—I have taken a most solemn oath to protect the rights of King's College. An Act of Parliament may take from me the right of patronage which I possess, and offer me a compensation for this right; but I trust in God I shall never agree to sell it.

6. Is superseded.

7. Are you of opinion that any Professorship at present established in either College can either be abolished, or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature, due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent? If so, be pleased to specify what class or classes in either College you would propose to be altered?—I cannot agree to any suppression of offices. The suppression of the Faculties of Law and Medicine would be tantamount to the suppression of King's College as a University. Though a Professor of Medicine or a Professor of Law may teach a different class, still he should be recognized as Professor of Medicine, or Professor of Law.

8. Assuming that parliament would be disposed to grant a reasonable sum for the endowment of such additional Professorships as might be necessary for improving and completing the Curriculum of Education in the different Faculties in the united University, what new Chairs would you suggest as proper in that case?—As to the united University, I am quite against it; but as to our own University, as it stands, I should think a Professor of Chemistry, and a Professor of Natural History, to teach Natural History in winter, and Botany in summer, to be desirable. In Medicine we have but one Professor; and a single Professor is not suffi-

cient now for teaching all the branches of medical science, whatever he might have done at the time of the foundation.

9. Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament, or by the consent of the Colleges at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient, on the plan of the University Court, recommended by the former Commissioners?—I think this Court a most extraordinary Court; and I believe many of the powers given to it were not known even to some of the leading members of the last Commission. There is one extraordinary fact, viz., that after our Colleges had gone through all the mighty changes in religion and government during the last three centuries, with all their privileges unimpaired, it should be proposed to put us under the *surveillance* of a Board unknown to any British University; and that too in the face of the recorded testimony of those very Commissioners in our favour as to the management of our funds and every thing else.

There is another remark which I would make on that Board, viz., the only body connected with the Universities against whom a direct charge of misapplying College funds has been brought is the Town Council of Edinburgh. They are connected with the University of Edinburgh as patrons and protectors of its interest; and yet these Commissioners recommend that all the funds of the Colleges should be transferred to a Board in some respects analogous to this same Town Council of Edinburgh. The chief difference between the two bodies being that the Board with us is to have ten times the power of the Town Council of Edinburgh over the University of Edinburgh. This Court is, for instance, to have the power of suspending a Professor for a year, *without appeal*, and thus ruining him for life—of ordering us to surrender to it all our property which we hold by charters and other deeds—and further, disqualifying us from holding any property, in all time coming, for the benefit of the Colleges. There are other powers connected with this anomalous Court which are most extraordinary, and which I have reason to believe were not known to some of the members of that Commission.

While these are your objections to the University Court as recommended by the former Commissioners, can you favour the Commissioners with any opinion as to a more advisable constitution of a University Court?—No; I believe the present University authorities are fully competent for any improvement of that kind.

Have you any additional suggestions to give to the present Commissioners in regard to King's College?—The only suggestion I would now give, is in regard to the endowment of a Medical School at Aberdeen. Although I consider it desirable to have such a school attached to either or to both our Colleges, yet I do not see any great necessity for such an endowment. For England, with six times the population of Scotland, has but one Medical School, viz., that of London. Ireland, with more than three times the population of Scotland, has but one Medical School, viz., that of Dublin; the Belfast lecturers having no power to give diplomas of any kind, whereas Scotland has already two Medical Schools of great eminence, viz., those of Edinburgh and Glasgow. Now if one be sufficient for England, and one for Ireland, why should Scotland not be contented with two such schools as Edinburgh and Glasgow? In my humble opinion, it is more desirable first to complete the Faculty of Arts in each of our Colleges, and then to add a Medical School if funds can be obtained for it.

Mr. *Hercules Scott*, Professor of Moral Philosophy, called in and examined.

You were examined by the former Commissioners?—Yes.

Will you favour us with answers to the printed Queries which were circulated among the Professors?

1. Have you considered the question as to the union of the Colleges since your examination before the former Commission, and have you seen any reason in any respect to alter or modify any opinion which you may have then expressed?—I have considered the question as to the union of the Colleges since my examination before the former Commission; and I have seen reason to modify the opinion which I then expressed.

2. Are you of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is expedient or practicable? or do you think that the union of the two Colleges into one University, for the purposes of regulating the discipline and course of education in the united Colleges, keeping their respective patrimonial rights separate, is the preferable course?—I am not of opinion that an entire union of the two Colleges into one corporation is either expedient or practicable under present circumstances. I have been always opposed to a union of the Colleges into merely one University.

3. If your opinion is adverse to a union under any regulations, be so good as explain the ground of your objections?—My opinion is not adverse to a union under any regulations; but from the great change of circumstances which has taken place since 1827, when I formerly gave evidence on the subject, I am inclined to think that there is no reason whatever to hope for an amicable union, either of the Universities and Colleges into one corporation, or merely of the Universities into one University; unless the union were carried through with the consent of parties, or at least with the consent of a considerable majority of parties, I do not think that it would be either desirable or productive of advantages to the country. When my evidence was last given, as is well known, the buildings of Marischal College were in a ruinous state; and, so far at least as was known to me, little hope was then entertained of a grant from Government for rebuilding them. Since that time, however, a very liberal grant has been made by Government for that purpose; and I cannot doubt that the members of that institution would be as unwilling to compromise or sacrifice its interests as the members of King's College would be to yield up any which belong to them. The introduction of certain Bills into Parliament for the proposed union of the two seminaries has excited a strong and violent

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Tulloch.

21 October 1837.

Professor Scott.

21 October 1837.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

King's College.

Professor Scott.

21 October 1837.

opposition throughout the north of Scotland, a circumstance which must tend very much to increase the difficulty of carrying into effect the proposed measure; and I certainly am not inclined to join in forcing it upon the country, in opposition to their now publicly declared sentiments. I find that the majority of my colleagues continue as adverse to a union as when it was formerly agitated. As no union or amalgamation of the Seminaries can now take place with the consent and approbation of parties, or of the country; and as the chief cause alleged for this is a wish to secure the advantages which result from two rival institutions, I think that the colleges should at once be placed in the circumstances best calculated for producing such advantages. With this view they ought to be made quite independent of each other; the same number of classes ought to be appointed in each, in all the departments; and then, and then only, can there be such a fair and open rivalry as will benefit the interest of education throughout the country.

In reference to what you have last stated, is it your opinion that there is room for two Medical, and two Law Schools in this part of the country, one to be established in each College?—Certainly, I do not think so; but still I think that these are the only circumstances in which there can be a fair and open rivalry.

4. If you think a union practicable and advisable, would you state your views as to the extent and nature of the arrangements which should be made in that case?—I do not think a union practicable or advisable in the present circumstances; and any further answer to this is superseded by my answer to the preceding Query.

5. If you think that the Colleges may be united into one University, would you recommend the patronage of the Professors in the respective Colleges to continue as at present, or to be vested in the Crown, or otherwise settled, adequate compensation being made to the existing Professors for the loss thereof during their lives; do any specific objections occur to you as to the latter plan?—The patronage of the Professors should continue as at present. As an individual, I never could consent to accept of any compensation, and never would do so.

6. My answer to this Query is superseded.

7. Are you of opinion that any Professorship at present established, in either College, can either be abolished, or its income appropriated to a different branch of science or literature, due provision and compensation being made as to the existing interest of the present incumbent, if so, be pleased to specify what class or classes, in either College, you would propose to be altered?—I can merely speak as to the body with which I am connected; and I certainly do not think that any Professorship in this body could be abolished, or its income given to any other branch of science or literature, without destroying our character as a University.

8. Assuming that Parliament would be disposed to grant a reasonable sum for the endowment of such additional Professorships as might be necessary for improving and completing the Curriculum of Education in the different Faculties in the united University, what new Chairs would you suggest in that case?—In this College, as at present constituted, we would be much the better of several new Professorships in the Faculty of Arts. I recommended formerly the institution of a Professorship of Logic and Rhetoric, and to that recommendation I still adhere. I think that our establishment would be much improved by a Professorship of Chemistry separate from Humanity, and likewise by a Professorship of Natural History and Botany.

9. Assuming that the Colleges may possibly be united, either by Parliament, or by the consent of the Colleges at a future period, does any alteration occur to you as expedient, on the plan of the University Court, recommended by the former Commission?—I have merely to say, in answer to this question, that I entirely disapprove of the University Court.

Does any other constitution of a University Court occur to you?—None; I have not turned my attention particularly to that point, as I hold that the University authorities, as at present constituted, are fully sufficient for every purpose intended.

Have you any additional suggestions to make to the Commissioners in regard to King's College?—*The Witness made no suggestions.*—[Adjourned.]

University of
Aberdeen.

King's College.

APPENDIX.

Account of the Emoluments derived by each of the Principal and Professors of King's College, for the Year 1836, from the Ordinary Revenue of the College, Crown Grants, and Fees from Students, &c.

	From College Funds.	From Crown Grants.	Total Emoluments without Fees.	Fees.	Total Emoluments, including Fees.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1. Principal	183 1 11	117 16 8	300 8 7	. . .	300 8 7
2. Professor of Divinity	152 15 6	272 13 4	425 8 10	. . .	425 8 10
3. Professor of Oriental Languages	53 13 0	144 0 0	197 13 0	45 1 0	242 14 0
4. Professor of Civil Law	116 4 0	87 15 3	203 19 3	10 10 0	214 9 3
5. Professor of Medicine	123 12 0	87 15 3	211 7 3	. . .	211 7 3
6. Professor of Latin	123 12 0	87 15 3	211 7 3	239 2 3	450 9 6
7. Sub-Principal and Professor of Greek	133 18 8	87 15 3	221 13 11	252 9 9	474 3 8
8. Professor of Mathematics	110 2 1	87 15 3	197 17 4	157 8 9	355 6 1
9. Professor of Natural Philosophy	109 2 1	87 15 3	196 17 4	163 14 9	360 12 1
10. Professor of Logic and Moral Philosophy	109 12 1	87 15 2	197 7 3	180 10 9	377 18 0
Total Emoluments	£ 1,215 13 4	1,148 6 8	2,364 0 0	1,048 17 3	3,412 14 3

University of
Aberdeen.
Marischal College.

Account of the Emoluments derived by each of the Principal and Professors of *Marischal College*, for the year 1836, from the Ordinary Revenue of the College, Crown Grants, and Fees from Students, &c.

	From College Fund.		From Crown Grants.		Total Endowments without Fees.		Fees.		Total Emoluments including Fees.	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
1. Principal	258	13 0	85	0 0	343	13 0	.	.	343	13 0
2. Professor of Divinity	59	8 4	53	0 0	112	8 4	.	.	112	8 4
3. Professor of Church History . . . . .	.	.	50	0 0	50	0 0	47	5 0	97	5 0
4. Professor of Oriental Languages	35	0 0	33	0 0	68	0 0	29	18 6	97	18 6
5. Professor of Medicine	3	0 0	43	16 8	46	16 8	62	14 0	109	10 8
6. Professor of Chemistry	40	0 0	33	0 0	73	0 0	26	0 0	99	0 0
7. Professor of Greek	140	16 8	52	3 4	193	0 0	183	3 10	376	3 10
8. Professor of Mathematics	128	14 6	43	16 8	172	11 2	162	11 6	335	2 8
9. Professor of Natural and Civil History	140	16 8	52	3 4	193	0 0	139	3 1	332	3 1
10. Professor of Natural Philosophy	140	16 8	52	3 4	193	0 0	142	7 1	335	7 1
11. Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic	140	16 8	52	3 4	193	0 0	135	1 11	328	1 11
Total Emoluments	1,068	2 6	550	6 8	1,638	9 2	928	4 11	2,566	14 1

ACCOUNT of the Endowments of each of the Principal and Professors of the United University, agreeably to the Arrangements recommended in the Report; taking, for illustration, the Endowments in the Two Colleges, as specified in the preceding Tables, for the year 1836.

	To be paid from King's College Revenue.			To be paid from Marischal College Revenue.		
	Ordinary Revenue.		Total.	Ordinary Revenue.		Total.
	£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.	
1. Principal and Professor of Divinity	183	1 11	300 8 7	249	11 5	249 11 5*
2. Professor of Divinity	152	15 6	425 8 10	94	8 4	230 8 4
3. Professor of Divinity	53	13 0	197 13 0	9	1 7	94 1 7
4. Professor of Scottish Law . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.
5. Professor of Anatomy and Physiology . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.
6. Professor of Surgery . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.
7. Professor of the Practice of Medicine . . . . .	.	.	.	3	0 0	46 16 8
8. Professor of Midwifery . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.
9. Professor of Chemistry . . . . .	.	.	.	40	0 0	73 0 0
10. Professor of Materia Medica	123	12 0	211 7 3	.	.	.
11. Professor of Natural History and Botany	123	12 0	211 7 3	.	.	.
12. Professor of Latin, K. C.	133	18 8	221 13 11	140	16 8	193 0 0
13. Professor of Latin, M. C.	110	2 1	197 17 4	140	16 8	193 0 0
14. Professor of Greek, K. C.	109	2 1	196 17 4	128	14 6	172 11 2
15. Professor of Greek, M. C.	109	12 1	197 7 3	140	16 8	193 0 0
16. Professor of Mathematics, K. C.	116	4 0	203 19 3	140	16 8	193 0 0
17. Professor of Mathematics, M. C.	£			1,088	2 6	1,638 9 2
18. Professor of Natural Philosophy, K. C.	1,215	13 4	2,364 0 0	550	6 8	
19. Professor of Natural Philosophy, M. C.						
20. Professor of Moral and Political Philosophy, K. C.						
21. Professor of Moral and Political Philosophy, M. C.						
22. Professor of Intellectual Philosophy and Logic						
23. Professor of Intellectual Philosophy and Logic						
	£					
	1,215	13 4	2,364 0 0	550	6 8	1,638 9 2

* Making together £550.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Endowments of
each of the Principal
and Professors of
the United University,
recommended
in the Report.

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Endowments of each of the Principal and Professors of the United University, derived from the present Funds; and comparative View of the Minimum Endowments recommended in the Report.

ABSTRACT-ACCOUNT of the Endowments of each of the Principal and Professors of the United University, derived from the present Funds; with a comparative View of the *Minimum* Endowments as recommended in the Report, and showing the Increase that would require to be made to each of the present Endowments, were they to continue the same as in 1836.

	Present Endowments.	Proposed Minimum Endowment.	Increase to be made.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1. Principal and Professor of Divinity	550 0 0	550 0 0	. . .
2. Professor of Divinity	425 8 10	300 0 0	. . .
3. Professor of Divinity	230 8 4	300 0 0	69 11 8
4. Professor of Divinity	197 13 0	300 0 0	102 7 0
5. Professor of Scottish Law	94 1 7	100 0 0	5 18 5
6. Professor of Anatomy and Physiology . . . . .	. . .	100 0 0	100 0 0
7. Professor of Surgery . . . . .	. . .	100 0 0	100 0 0
8. Professor of Practice of Medicine	46 16 8	100 0 0	53 3 4
9. Professor of Midwifery. . . . .	. . .	100 0 0	100 0 0
10. Professor of Chemistry	73 0 0	250 0 0	177 0 0
11. Professor of Materia Medica . . . . .	. . .	100 0 0	100 0 0
12. Professor of Natural History and Botany	211 7 3	250 0 0	38 12 9
13. Professor of Latin, K. C.	211 7 3	250 0 0	38 12 9
14. Professor of ditto, M. C.	193 0 0	250 0 0	57 0 0
15. Professor of Greek, K. C.	221 13 11	250 0 0	28 6 1
16. Professor of ditto, M. C.	193 0 0	250 0 0	57 0 0
17. Professor of Mathematics, K. C.	197 17 4	250 0 0	52 2 8
18. Professor of ditto, M. C.	172 11 2	250 0 0	77 8 10
19. Professor of Natural Philosophy, K. C.	196 17 4	250 0 0	53 2 8
20. Professor of ditto, M. C.	193 0 0	250 0 0	57 0 0
21. Professor of Moral and Political Philosophy, K. C.	197 7 3	250 0 0	52 12 9
22. Professor of ditto, M. C.	193 0 0	250 0 0	57 0 0
23. Professor of Intellectual Philosophy and Logic	203 19 3	250 0 0	46 0 9
Total Increase required, if the present Endowments continue as in 1836. . .			£ 1,422 19 8

*Oath administered to the Students at King's College, on obtaining the Degree of
Master of Arts.*

*University of
Aberdeen.*

Ego coram omniscio et omnipotente Deo, doctrinam et fidem Christianam quousque Dei verbo palam proponitur, ab omnibus Hæresibus longe abhorrentem, publice profiteor.

Insuper Academiæ huic Almæ Parenti, cui hanc ingenii culturam debeo, nutricia (uti potero) liberaliter relaturum, solemniter promitto.

Oath administered
at King's College,
on obtaining the
Degree of Master
of Arts.

*Oath administered to Students of Marischal College, on obtaining the Degree of
Master of Arts.*

Ego testor Deum omnipotentem, me puram Religionem Christianam profiteri; Papæ Romani tyrannidem abhorre, omnesque Romanas hæreses odio habere. Deinde huic Academiæ, cui ingenii culturam debeo, benevolentiam, quam potero, me relaturum, sancte promitto.

Oath administered
at Marischal
College, on obtain-
ing the Degree of
Master of Arts.

SECOND REPORT

By the
Faculty of the
University of California, Berkeley

The Faculty of the University of California, Berkeley, in its meeting of the 10th day of June, 1907, adopted the following resolution: That the Faculty of the University of California, Berkeley, do hereby recommend to the Board of Regents the appointment of the following persons to the positions of Professors of the several departments of the University of California, Berkeley, to-wit:

THE FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Resolved, That the Faculty of the University of California, Berkeley, do hereby recommend to the Board of Regents the appointment of the following persons to the positions of Professors of the several departments of the University of California, Berkeley, to-wit:

APPOINTED BY HIS MAJESTY WILLIAM IV

IN 1830

AND RE-APPOINTED BY HER MAJESTY VICTORIA

IN 1840

UNIVERSITIES OF KING'S COLLEGE AND
MARSHALL COLLEGE, ABERDEEN

Printed by the University of California Press, Berkeley, California

1907

Published by the University of California Press, Berkeley, California

Printed by the University of California Press, Berkeley, California

SECOND REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS

APPOINTED BY HIS MAJESTY WILLIAM IV.,

NOVEMBER 23rd, 1836 ;

AND RE-APPOINTED BY HER MAJESTY VICTORIA I.,

OCTOBER 2nd, 1837 ;

FOR VISITING THE

UNIVERSITIES OF KING'S COLLEGE AND
MARISCHAL COLLEGE, ABERDEEN.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY W. CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1839.

SECOND REPORT

CONTENTS

THE GOLDMIDGTONS

THE GOLDMIDGTONS IN THE GOLDMIDGTONS

THE GOLDMIDGTONS IN THE GOLDMIDGTONS

THE GOLDMIDGTONS IN THE GOLDMIDGTONS

THE GOLDMIDGTONS IN THE GOLDMIDGTONS

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THE GOLDMIDGTONS IN THE GOLDMIDGTONS

THE GOLDMIDGTONS IN THE GOLDMIDGTONS

THE GOLDMIDGTONS IN THE GOLDMIDGTONS

CONTENTS.

SECOND REPORT:—

<i>General Contents:—</i>		PAGE
INTRODUCTION	i	
Sinecures	ii	
Administration of Funds	ii	
I. KING'S COLLEGE.		
Accounts of Funds and explanation of Titles	ii	
Procuration Account	iii	
Cairntradlin Rents	iii	
Spoon Money	iv	
Bishop's Rents	iv	
Right to receive them	iv	
Apparent misapplication	v	
Superiority Account	v	
Edilis Account	v	
Particulars of Debt on Buildings	v	
Funds for support of Buildings	v	
Burse Funds	vi	
Abuses in Administration	vi	
Increase of number of Bursaries	vi	
Mortification accounts	vi	
Moir's	vi	
Watt's	vii	
Adam's	vii	
Fullerton's	vii	
Fraser's	vii	
Redhyth's	viii	
Braco's	viii	
Coll's	viii	
Grant's	viii	
Macpherson's	viii	
Bruce's	ix	
Founded	ix	
Leys'	ix	
Complaint by Sir T. Burnett	ix	
Answer by the College	ix	
Hutton's	x	
Murray's	x	
Finlay's	x	
Library and other Accounts	x	
II. MARISCHAL COLLEGE.		
Accounts of Funds	x	
Locality Accounts	xi	
Mortification Accounts	xi	
Sir W. Fordyce's	xi	
Stuart's	xi	
Burse Fund	xi	
What Mortifications it contains	xi	
Suggestions for Payment of Debt	xii	
Paterson's	xii	
Adam's	xiii	
W. Lorimer's	xiii	
J. Lorimer's	xiii	
Ruddiman's	xiii	
Cruikshank's	xiii	
Gray's	xiii	
Turner's	xiii	
Henderson's	xiii	
Davidson's	xiii	
Martin's	xiv	
Burnett's	xiv	
Blackwell's	xiv	
III. KING'S COLLEGE AND MARISCHAL COLLEGE.		
Mortifications common to both Colleges	xx	
King William the Third's	xx	
Forbes of News	xx	
Suggestions for preventing Abuses	xx	
and for remedying Abuses	xxi	
Debts of Colleges	xxi	
King's College	xxi	
Marischal College	xxii	
Property of Colleges	xxii	
King's College	xxii	
Marischal College	xxii	
Patronage	xxii	
Representation by Marischal College	xxii	
Modification of former recommendation	xxii	
Curriculum	xxiii	
General suggestions in reference to new professorships	xxiii	
New Professorships and Endowments	xxiv	
Statistical Details		
I. King's College.		
Building and other Accounts	xiv	
Burse Funds managed by Aberdeen Town Council	xiv	
Johnston's	xiv	
Cargill's	xiv	
Liddel's	xv	
Reid's	xv	
Ross's	xv	
Crombie's	xv	
Rolland's	xv	
Cummine's	xvi	
Milne's	xvi	
Fraser's	xvi	
Lorimer's	xvi	
Gordon's	xvi	
Cruden's	xvii	
Mather's	xvii	
Copland's	xvii	
Reid's	xvii	
General Remarks on the above Class	xvii	
Burse Funds managed by Incorporated Trades	xviii	
Guild's	xviii	
Moir's	xviii	
Burse Funds managed by Sir A. Ramsay	xviii	
Ramsay's	xviii	
Burse Funds managed by Mr. Irvine of Drum	xviii	
Irvine's	xviii	
Part sold and not accounted for	xix	
Grassum taken from Tenants	xix	
Small part of Rents paid to Bursars	xix	
Balance applied to Patron's own purposes	xix	
Burse Funds managed by Bishop Skinner, &c.	xix	
Scott's	xix	
I. King's College.		
Emoluments of Professors	xxiv	

	PAGE		PAGE
Houses of Professors	xxv	Grants for College Buildings	
Lectureships	xxv	since 1826	xxviii
Instruction to Students in Arts re-		Bursaries	xxix
commended on Evidences of		Endowments since 1826	xxix
Christianity	xxv	Education	xxix
Edilis Fund	xxv	Alterations since 1826	xxix
Bursaries	xxv	Number of Students	xxx
No Endowments since 1826	xxv	Degrees	xxxi
Education	xxv	Library	xxxi
Alterations since 1826	xxv	Claim for share of compensation	
Fees of Students	xxvi	for Stationers' Hall privilege	xxxi
Number of Students	xxvi	University Regulations	xxxi
Degrees	xxvii	Inexpedient for Commissioners of Visi-	
Library	xxvii	tation to make them	xxxii
II. Marischal College.		Suggestions to improve constitution of	
Emoluments of Professors	xxvii	Rectorial Court	xxxii
Lectureships	xxviii	And leave the reformed Authorities to	
Endowment for Lectures on Agri-		make Rules, &c.	xxxii
culture &c.	xxviii	Union of Universities	xxxii
Building Fund	xxviii	Suggestions to provide for interests of	
		Education till a union can be effected	xxxiii

APPENDIX, Part I. King's College Returns.

Orders and Returns.		of Entrants to College	106
General Contents.		36. Alterations as to qualifications for De-	
1. Sinecures	1	grees	106
2. Inefficient Professorships	1	37. Alterations as to examinations for De-	
3. Principal's lecturing	1	grees	107
4. Lectureships	15	38. Conferring of Degrees without exami-	
5. Lecturer's teaching	16	nation, &c.	107
6. Length of Divinity Session	16	39. Honorary Degrees	108
7. Offices to which no duties are attached	16	40. Number of Graduates since 1825-26	108
8. Regulations for performance of Duties.	16	41. Alterations on Fees for Graduation	109
9. Regulations for temporary Absence	16	42. Difference of Fees when the Candidate	
10. Alterations in Classes taught	16	is examined and when he is not	109
11. Alterations in College Session	17	43. Expenditure on Buildings for 11 years	109
12. Institution of additional Professorships	17	44. Astronomical Observatory	110
13. Increase or diminution of Properties	17	45. Museum or Botanical Garden	110
13.*Enumeration of alterations of Properties	17	46. Alterations on Rules of Library	110
14. Permanency of Income	18	47. Volumes borrowed by Principal and	
15. Mode of Investment of Funds	18	Professors	110
15.*Enumeration of Properties and Invest-		48. Inspection of Library	110
ments	18	49. List of Books lost	110
16. Fees; or Alienations of Properties	20	49.*Compensation for lost Books	110
17. Feu of Cairntradlin	21	50. Fees of Students	112
18. Additional Endowments for Bursaries	21	51. Fees payable by Bursars	112
18.*Bruce's Deed of Mortification	21	52. The period during which these Fees	
19. Investment of Bursar Funds	22	have been paid	112
19.*Enumeration of Bursar Funds	22	53. Income of Principal, Professors, and	
20. Expense of managing Bursar Funds	23	Lecturers	112
21. Disposal of Revenue of Bursar Funds	23	54. Number of Students in each Faculty	120
22. Names of Bursars for four Sessions	23	55. Number of Students in each Class	120
23. Additional Endowments to the College	25	55.*Number of Students in Arts, stating	
24. Abstract Accounts for 1825 and 1835,		the residence of their parents	122
and intervening years	25	56. Number of Students in Theology, dis-	
24.*Account showing the fee income in		tinguishing regular from partial	
each of these 11 years	80	attendance	122
24**Abstract accounts for the said years		57. Election and Examination of Bursars	122
of the Library and other Funds	80	58. Funds for Prizes	122
25 Full Account of Income and Expendi-		59. Subscription of Confession of Faith by	
ture for 1832	87	Professors and Lecturers	122
26. Alterations in Management and Distri-		60. Subscription of Confession of Faith by	
bution of Funds	100	Chancellor, Rector, &c.	122
27. College Debt	100	61. Subscription of Confession of Faith by	
28. Particular account of Debt for each		Graduates, Bursars, &c.	122
Year since 1825	100	62. Controversies in regard to powers of	
29. Procurator, Mortification, Superiority,		College Members	122
and Edilis Accounts for 1832	105	63. Controversies as to Senatus, &c.	122
30. Professorships appointed to be filled		64. Controversies as to rules for Graduation	122
up by competition	105	65. Complaints before University Author-	
31. Cases of competition for Professorships	105	ities	122
32. Appointments of Assistants and Suc-		66. Particulars in which the state of the	
cessors	105	University was misapprehended in the	
33. Alterations in general course of study	106	Report of 1830	123
34. Alterations in mode of teaching	106	Returns regarding Findlay's Mortification	123
35. Alterations in rules for examination			

APPENDIX, Part II. Marischal College Returns.

	PAGE		PAGE
Orders and Returns.		50. Period for which these fees have been paid	204
<i>General Contents.</i>		51. Income of Principal, Professors, and Lecturers	204
1. <i>Sinecures</i>	126	52. Number of Students in each Faculty	209
2. <i>Inefficient Professorships</i>	126	53. Number of Students in each class	209
3. <i>Principals lecturing</i>	126	53.* Number of Students in arts, with the residences of their Parents or Guardians	210
4. <i>Lectureships</i>	126	54. Number of Students in Theology, distinguishing regular from partial attendance	211
5. <i>Lecturers teaching</i>	129	55. Examination and election of Bursars	211
6. <i>Length of Divinity Session, King's College</i>	129	56. Funds for prizes	211
7. <i>Offices to which no duties are attached, &c.</i>	129	57. Subscription of Confession of Faith by Professors and Lecturers	211
8. <i>Regulations for performance of duties</i>	129	58. Subscription of Confession of Faith by Chancellor, Rector, &c.	211
9. <i>Regulations for temporary absence</i>	130	59. Subscription of Confession of Faith by Graduates or Bursars	211
10. <i>Alterations in classes taught</i>	130	60. Controversies as to powers of office-bearers	211
11. <i>Alterations in College Session</i>	130	61. Controversies as to Senatus or Faculties	211
12. <i>Institution of additional Professorships, &c.</i>	130	62. Controversies as to rules for Degrees	212
12.* <i>Deed of Institution of Professorship of Church History</i>	131	63. Complaints before University authorities	212
13. <i>Increase or diminution of properties</i>	131	64. Particulars on which state of University was misapprehended in Report of 1830	221
13.* <i>Enumeration of alterations on properties</i>	132		
14. <i>Permanency of income</i>	134	Aberdeen Magistrates' and Town Council Returns:—	
15. <i>Mode of investment of funds</i>	134	1. Abstract of Accounts of Mortifications for 1825, and 1835, and intervening years	222
16. <i>Fees, or alienations of properties</i>	135	2. Full Accounts of Income and Expenditure for 1832	226
17. <i>Additional endowments for Bursaries</i>	135	3. Copies of Deeds of Mortification, or Excerpts from same	229
18. <i>Investment of Bursary funds</i>	137	4. Account of original, and present investment of Funds	243
19. <i>Expense of managing Bursary Funds</i>	138		
20. <i>Disposal of revenue of Bursary funds</i>	138	Trades' Hospital Returns,—	
21. <i>Names of Bursars for four Sessions</i>	138	1. Dr. W. Guild's Deed of Mortification	254
22. <i>Additional endowments to College</i>	142	2. John Moir's ditto	225
23. <i>Abstract accounts for 1825 and 1835, and intervening years</i>	142		
23.* <i>Account of free income of funds for the several University purposes for the last eleven years</i>	176	Mr. Irvine's Returns,—	
24. <i>Full accounts of income and expenditure for 1832</i>	178	1. A. Irvine's Deed of Mortification	256
25. <i>Alterations in management, and distribution of funds</i>	187	2. Registered Bond by Sir A. Irvine in favour of Bursars	256
26. <i>College debt</i>	187	3. Rental of part of Mortified Lands	256
27. <i>Particulars of debt for each year since 1825</i>	187		
28. <i>Professorships appointed to be filled up by competition</i>	188	Sir Charles Forbes's Returns,—	
29. <i>Cases of competition for Professorships</i>	188	1. Extract Will of John Forbes	256
30. <i>Appointments of assistants and successors</i>	189	2. Accounts of Bursary Fund from 1822, 1823	257
31. <i>Alterations in course of study</i>	197		
32. <i>Alterations in mode of teaching</i>	197	Sir A. Ramsay's Returns,—	
33. <i>Alterations in examinations of Entrants</i>	199	1. Reverend G. Ramsay's Mortification, 1714	260
34. <i>Alterations in qualifications for Degrees</i>	199	2. Excerpt from ditto's Testament	261
35. <i>Alterations in examinations for Degrees</i>	200	3. Excerpt from Decree of Court of Session regarding Divinity Bursars	263
36. <i>Degrees conferred without examination, &c.</i>	200	4. Not printed.	
37. <i>Honorary Degrees</i>	201	5. Act of Court of Session regarding investment of Funds	264
38. <i>Number of Graduates since 1825-26</i>	201	6. Account of Investment of Funds	267
39. <i>Fees of Graduation</i>	202	7. Sir A. Irvine Ramsay's Mortification	267
40. <i>Difference in such Fees when the Candidates are examined, and when they are not</i>	202	8. Abstract Account of Mortification from 1829-30.	268
41. <i>Expenditure on Buildings for last 11 years</i>	202	Particulars of Accounts for 1832	269
42. <i>Astronomical Observatory</i>	202		
43. <i>Museum or Botanical Garden</i>	202		
44. <i>Alterations in rules of Library</i>	203		
45. <i>Volumes borrowed by Principal and Professors</i>	203		
46. <i>Inspection of Library</i>	203		
47. <i>List of books lost</i>	203		
48. <i>Fees of Students</i>	203		
49. <i>Fees of Bursars</i>	204		

APPENDIX, PART III.—Additional Documents laid before the Commissioners.

	PAGE		PAGE
1. William III.'s Grant out of Bishop's rents, 1699	270	23. Letter Marischal College, enclosing the following Memorial	312
2. George III.'s Grant of 700 <i>l.</i> to King's College, 1808	271	24. Memorial by Marischal College regarding Stationers' Hall privilege . .	312
3. Ditto's Grant of 337 <i>l.</i> to Marischal College, 1812	272	25. Letter, Lord John Russell on same subject	313
4. Ditto's Grant of 150 <i>l.</i> to Dr. Mearns, 1817	273	26. Letter, the Duke of Richmond, enclosing the following Remarks . . .	313
5. Queries to King's College in regard to Vacant Bursaries	273	27. Remarks by Marischal College on First Report	313
6. Letter, with answers to said Queries . .	274	28. Letter, the Earl of Aberdeen, enclosing the following Resolution . . .	318
7. Answers by King's College to Queries . .	274	29. Resolution by King's College in regard to First Report	319
8. List of Presentations to Vacant Bursaries	275	30. Letter, A. Bannerman, Esq. to Lord Aberdeen	319
9. Petition by Sir T. Burnett, of Leys . .	277	31. Letter, Lord Aberdeen to Mr. Bannerman	319
10. Mortification for Leys' Bursaries . . .	278	32. Letter, Lord Aberdeen to Lord Cunningham	319
11. Correspondence between Sir R. Burnett and King's College	280	33. Letter, the Moderator of the General Assembly	320
12. Petition by Sir R. Burnett to former Commissioners	283	34. Extract Minute of Commission of General Assembly	320
13. Answers by King's College	284	35. Letter, the Lord Advocate to Presbytery of Aberdeen	321
14. Copy of King's College Minute, regarding Leys' Bursaries	286	36. Letter, the said Presbytery to Lord Advocate	321
15. Replies for Sir Robert Burnett	287	37. Minutes of Evidence :	
<i>The last six numbers produced with No. 9.</i>		Dr. T. Chalmers	323
16. Answers for King's College for Petition No. 9	288	Dr. R. Gordon	328
17. Replies for Sir Thomas Burnett	291	Dr. D. Welsh	329
18. Memorial by Mr. Andrew Murray to Commissioners	292	38. Letters, Principal Jack apologising for not attending the meeting of the Commissioners, when the Second Report was agreed to.	333
19. Answers for King's College	294		
20. Replies for Mr. Murray	295		
21. Outlines of Plan of Union Regulations, and proposed by Marischal College . .	296		
22. Letter by Dr. Clark in regard to Plan of Union	309		