

Dr. John Ward's Trust.

(continued)

39. Francis Tucker, 1836-38, Edinburgh. A student from Stepney, elected in the place of C. M. Birrell. Writing from Plymouth, in May, 1838, Mr. Tucker informed the Trustees:—"I have attended the Moral Philosophy Class, a Private Greek and an Anatomy Class. . . . I have gained two prizes—and taken my degree of B.A. with 'honorable distinctions.' Professors Buchanan and Fleming have favoured me with testimonials which, I believe, you would deem satisfactory."

There is a Minute for September '38:—"Mr. Steane read a letter from Mr. Tucker resigning his exhibition under the Trust and stating that he was about to occupy the interval of six months previous to his leaving for India as a Missionary in endeavouring to raise a Church lately formed at Brompton ['Thurloe,' Alexandra Square].

"Resolved that the resignation be accepted, but with the expression of regret on the part of the Trustees that he should not have availed himself of the advantages of the Trust as long as he remained in England, which Mr. Gurney is requested to communicate."

In 1839 the Treasurer reported that "the Rev. Francis Tucker, B.A., and the Rev. Thos. Phillips, late students, had proceeded to India in connection with the B.M.S."

Ill-health, however, compelled Mr. Tucker's return in 1840. He accepted a call from Manchester, where he founded Union Chapel, and remained fifteen years when he was succeeded by Dr. Maclaren. Mr. Tucker then moved to the new church at Camden Road, and, during his ministry of nearly thirty years, the church became one of the strongest in North London. He died in 1886.

40. Wm. Dowling, 1836-38, Edinburgh. He studied under Principal T. S. Crisp, at Bristol, for three years, coming from Reading, where the Rev. J. H. Hinton was his pastor.

41. Edward Smith Pryce, 1837-39, Edinburgh. A Stepney student. In November, 1838, he was asked why he had not attended the mathematical class. In his answer he declared his intention of taking B.A. before he left the University. The following year he thanked the Trustees saying he had determined not to return to Scotland. In 1845 he settled at Gravesend and remained there for twenty years. During part of this time he was a member of the Baptist Union Council.

42. Thos. Phillips, 1838, Edinburgh. His tutors, the Revs.

Murch and Tomkins recommended him from Stepney and he was given a grant for one Session previous to his becoming a Missionary. He resigned from the B.M.S. in 1854. (See 39.)

43. J. C. Butterworth, 1838-42, Edinburgh. He entered Bristol from Maze Pond, London, in 1836. After winning the Gold Medal in the Moral Philosophy Class, in 1842, and graduating M.A., he settled at Weymouth. He moved to Kingstanley, Glos., 1846-50, returning for a second time, 1864-72, after a period at Abergavenny. He spent his closing years in retirement and died in 1894.

44. John Sutcliff Welsh, 1839. A student of Stepney, accepted upon the Trust . . . "but removed by death in September last."

45. Samuel W. Stone, 1839-41, Glasgow. He entered Little Horton College, Bradford, in 1837, and studied for two years at Edinburgh when his private resources failed. The Trust sent him to Glasgow. In a letter of thanks to the Trustees he expressed his regret that he had been prevented by indisposition from taking his M.A. "Being about to take a pastorate at Ashton-under-Line it was his intention also to prosecute his studies and to take that degree at the close of the next Session." He duly graduated.

46. Nathanael Haycroft, 1840-43, Edinburgh and Glasgow. A Stepney student, graduating "A.B." with Honours in 1842, and "A.M." the next year. Later Glasgow conferred on him the D.D. After some years' ministry in Essex, he became co-pastor at Broadmead with T. S. Crisp. He remained in Bristol seventeen years and took an active part in denominational life. For a time he was "a singularly efficient secretary of Bristol Baptist College." In 1866 he moved to Victoria Road, Leicester, where he not only exercised an influential ministry, but was a powerful force in public life. He died in 1873.

JOHN TRAFFORD.

At their meeting in November, 1840, the Trustees agreed to consider John Trafford as a "Candidate for the next vacancy."

One of his testimonials come from John Foster, written from Stapleton, three years before his death. Hitherto unpublished it is characteristic of the great Essayist and letter-writer.

"Stapleton, Feb. 28— 1840.

"Dear Sir,

"I am requested to bespeak your favourable attention and good offices in capacity of one of the Trustees of *Ward's Fund*.

"The person soliciting is one of our Bristol students, of

the name of John Trafford. You will probably receive (or may have received) his own application. For making it he has the approbation of his Tutors, Mr. Crisp and Mr. Huxtable.

"He is from the Church of Mr. Coles of Bourton on the Water, where I have known him as a child and a boy; and I have been sufficiently apprised of his subsequent course and character, previously to and since his admission into the Academy, where he is now passing his third year; though he has still, I think, hardly exceeded the age of 21.

"I can testify that he is a young man of great, I might say, singular merit. He was pious in very early childhood, of amiable and almost faultless character and conduct during his youth, and for a considerable number of years past very desirous, I have no doubt from the worthiest motives, to devote himself to the service of religion. His conduct in the Academy has been exemplary, his industry unremitting, almost to the injury, sometimes, of his health, which unfortunately is not of the firmest character; yet not, as far as I am aware, such as to throw a doubt on the propriety of his being favoured with every advantage (I am, of course, alluding to the matter of *expense*) for the prolonged prosecution of academical studies.

"His progress in learning has been, for the time, highly satisfactory to the Tutors. During several months past he has not unfrequently preached, and some intelligent persons who have happened to hear him have spoken to me with much approbation.

"He is not to be represented as a young man of *extraordinary* talents; but as possessing a sound understanding, applied with earnest thoughtfulness, persevering inquiry and ambition of knowledge. I should reckon on him with confidence as a *perpetual* student; not one who, after a certain measure of attainment, would deem it enough, and take a dispensation from continuous labour for improvement.

"It is to the praise of his modesty and his serious estimate of ministerial duties and responsibility, that he shrinks apprehensively at the idea of taking on him the pastoral office at so very juvenile an age.

"This consideration of his youth, together with that of his earnest desire of a prolonged mental and literary discipline, and larger preparatory attainments, would seem to recommend him to the patronage which you are solicited to favour him with, and use your influence to obtain for him.

"You may possibly have, or have had, other applications for the same favour and advantage. I may venture to say that the claims (if that were a right word to use) must be strong if they are such as to take precedence, unless it were in point of *time*, of those which may be pleaded for Mr. Trafford.

"I am not aware whether it is usual to come to an early decision on applications of this nature.

"I am, Dear Sir, with all good wishes,

"very respectfully yours J. Foster.

"It may not be impertinent to notice that J.T. is entirely dependent on the liberality of institutions for the means of prolonging his studies, his relations (of worthy character) being in humble circumstances."

The letter was sent to Rev. E. Steane, and it bears on it the Bristol postmark and an official "paid" in the year that the Penny Post became general.

John Trafford was never elected a Ward Scholar because when the vacancy occurred "it was ascertained that Mr. Trafford had been sent to Scotland [where he graduated M.A., Glasgow] by another Trust, and the Tutors at Bristol College had no other at that time to propose."

John Foster's recommendation was abundantly justified for after "labouring for a while at Weymouth, Trafford became an agent of the B.M.S. . . . one of the best agents the Society ever had, Principal of Serampore from 1854-1879, worthy to succeed the giants."

47. H. Jerson, 1842-1845, Edinburgh. From Stepney. Another Gold Medallist in Moral Philosophy, in 1843. He graduated in 1845.

48. Spencer Murch, 1843-44, Glasgow. He was recommended from Stepney by Dr. Murch and Mr. Tomkins. In 1844 he "obtained a prize for regular attendance, punctual discharge of duties and honorable acquittal of all neglect, etc." In December, ill-health prevented his return to Glasgow. Writing from Magherafelt, Ireland, the following March, he stated "that he should look back to the season spent at Glasgow as part of the most pleasant and profitable of his life." He held pastorates at Sudbury, Suffolk; Waltham Abbey and Hay Hill, Bath. He appears to have been dogged by ill-health and lived in retirement many years.

49. Charles Short, 1843-46, Glasgow. From Horton College, Bradford. In 1844 he sent to the Trustees the certificate of the Greek Professor "that he had been examined 14 times in the course of the Session, and was an excellent and distinguished student, and had gained the Sixth Prize awarded by the Vote of the Class." He graduated in 1846 and settled at Earls Colne, in 1848, removing thence to Mount Pleasant, Swansea, in 1851, and to Sheffield, in 1866.

50. Henry Dunckley, 1845-48, Glasgow. There is a pile of correspondence concerning this remarkable man recommended by the Rev. Joseph Harbottle, Principal of the Accrington

Academy where H. Dunckley was a student in 1841. Writing to his "dear cousin," J. Angus, Mr. Harbottle describes Dunckley as "one of the first rate men of our age, and I hope one of the most useful. He reminds me of the more characteristic qualifications of brethren Godwin, Aldis and Birrell united in the same person. He came to us two years ago in October knowing scarcely anything of a literary kind. Since that time besides elementary Latin Greek and Hebrew—Theological and logical studies and preaching pretty often—he has read all Virgil's Georgies—Cicero de Senectute—first bk. of Livy—three other books in Homer—and some I think in Horace and Sophocles—of his own accord."

At the close of his first Session at Glasgow he had matriculated and gained two prizes in Logic—"one by the votes of his class-fellows, 1st. Division, for general excellence in the business of the class of 150 youths, and more especially in *viva voce* exams :—the other by the Professor for the best essay, in Socratic-dialogue form, on the subject of Duelling."

The next Session he took his Arts Degree and won two prizes, including the University Silver Medal for the best essay on "the Historical Episode and its conditions, critically considered, illustrated by examples."

He did not get on very well at the first church he attended at Hope Street, and its minister, the Rev. J. Paterson, wrote to Mr. Gurney about Dunckley's attending the theatre with one of the minister's lapsed members. He thought there was room for "improvement in the selecting and educating of young men for the ministry."! So Mr. Gurney wrote to the lively young student about his theatre-going and his short connection with Hope Street; "then running off to Dr. Wardlaw's without saying anything to Mr. Paterson till the close of the Session"!

In his apologia Mr. Dunckley said that he generally heard various ministers, on Sundays, choosing the most eminent men of the Established Free and Secession churches. "I preached twice at Missionary Stations in obscure parts of the city, but as a rule the evening of the Sabbath was devoted to religious reading."

A special meeting was held in '47 to consider correspondence regarding Mr. Dunckley's attending the theatre which he condemned after his visits. The Trustees "are deeply concerned to find notwithstanding the reasons he assigns for it, that he has allowed himself in such a practice, and are of opinion that the best course for them to pursue . . . is to submit the whole matter to his Pastor . . . with a respectful request that he will communicate with him in reference to it."

The next month, after kindly letters were read from and to the Pastor, and a spirited one from the Student, it was "Resolved

unanimously that the Trustees have read with more satisfaction the Student's letter to his Pastor than the one written by him [the Student] to the Treasurer, and trusting that he is awakened to such a sense of the great impropriety of his conduct as under the grace of God may preserve him in future, they are disposed to continue to him the advantages of the Fund, at the same time expressing their earnest hope that what has taken place will serve to show him the importance, while pursuing his intellectual education, of not neglecting the discipline of the heart."

The Student completed his course in '48 and took his M.A. "closing his report to the Trustees by returning thanks for the kindness he had received, stating that the late forbearance of the Trustees invests them with a claim upon his respect which will not be soon forgotten and that the remembrance of the connection it has been his honour to sustain will be a constant stimulus to eminence in the discharge of those sacred duties to which he is henceforth to be devoted."

The post-student career of such a prodigy is interesting. After a few years as Pastor of Great George Street, Salford, "where he won the prize of £250 offered by the Anti-Corn Law League for the best essay on Free Trade," he became a journalist, "Verax," writing for the *Examiner and Times*, and becoming its editor about 1854. "There was a prophetic strain in everything he wrote, and the Press became his pulpit.

"In 1883 his old University awarded him the LL.D."¹

51. T. S. Baynes, 1845-49, Edinburgh. He entered Bristol from Louth, in 1841, one of ten sons of the manse! Owing to the state of his health his doctor considered Edinburgh preferable to Glasgow, but his course was marked by seasons of illness, yet he proved the "most illustrious student" of his time. He was even asked by Sir William Hamilton to assist him in his class.

In a letter of April, 1849, after saying he preferred to graduate in London, where he had matriculated, he went on to say: "As a matter of Education, my graduating here [Edinburgh] would have rendered it necessary for me to have taken some classes from which I could have derived little or no good to the partial neglect at least of others through which the special advantages of a Scotch course are in the highest degree realised:—the classes to wit of Philosophy, to us certainly as students for the ministry the most important part of the Academic teaching, as it is that part which in Scotch Universities generally, and in that of Edinboro' in particular, is most efficiently taught. While therefore not neglecting other classes (since I have taken classes

¹ J. V. Wylie's *The Baptist Churches of Accrington and District*. Pp. 126-128.

in Language, Divinity and Natural Science) I have since the first year given my attention mainly to Philosophy; and have as you will remember in this department taken all the highest prizes which the University offers:—more indeed (though it is awkward to say these things of oneself) than during the time of the present Professors have been taken by any student before, six first prizes to wit. If I had not had the opportunity of graduating in London I should have thought it right, at whatever Educational loss to have done so here; but having that opportunity it seemed unwise to neglect in any sort, branches of study in themselves most important, which while they are not taught at all in England, are most efficiently taught here, for the sake of others, taught far better in England than here. As an incidental testimony to the fact that while attending mainly to Mental, I have not neglected Physical Science.”

With Mr. Baynes' Report was enclosed “The Early History of the Air Pump in England, by George Wilson, M.D., F.R.S.E., Lecturer in Chemistry, Edinburgh.” In a note to this the Lecturer acknowledged the assistance he had received from Mr. Baynes “one of the happily constituted few who combine a knowledge of Metaphysics with a strong relish for the investigation of the higher departments of physical science.”

He was the Gold Medallist in the Moral Philosophy Class against forty-three competitors.

Mr. Baynes became Professor of Logic at St. Andrew's University where he was made LL.D., and in 1884 he edited the new Edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica.

52. Philip Groser, 1847-51, Edinburgh. He attended London University on his own resources. When they were exhausted he was taken on to the Fund as “it appears to the Trustees most expedient that Mr. P. Groser should pursue his course of study in Edinburgh, that he connect himself with one of our Churches there and that he make provision while on the Trust for studying Divinity and Hebrew under the Professors there.”

In letters written in 1849 the student reported:—“During the past session I have taken the classes of Hebrew (under Mr. Liston, the newly-appointed professor in the Old College) of Greek, and of Mental Philosophy . . . I have engaged to assist Mr. Christopher Anderson by preaching for him to-morrow evening at Rose Street. . . . During between four and five months in the past summer I have been engaged preaching at two stations of the Baptist Home Missionary Society—Blakeney and Holt—on the north coast of Norfolk. This engagement I have reason to hope has not been without some advantageous consequences both to myself and to those to whom I preached.

I preached for Mr. Watson who was unwell, one Sabbath evening."

In 1850-51 Mr. Groser attended the Class of Biblical Criticism and Antiquities but ill-health prevented his graduation at Edinburgh.

53. Edward Luscombe Hull, 1848-51, Edinburgh. In 1847 a desire was expressed at a meeting of Trustees "to try the effect of a Student taking his University course first and afterwards the Theological course in one of our Colleges." Mr. Hull, the son of the Rev. Edmund Hull, of Watford, was suggested as suitable for such an experiment. He was sent to Edinburgh. In '51 he reported "he had attended the Classes of Greek and Metaphysics, that he had received the fourth Prize for Metaphysics and certificates from both Professors, that from Sir William Hamilton 'greatly honorable'."

In 1851 ill-health interrupted studies at Edinburgh. Acting on the advice of Mr. Angus "he had come to Stepney not as a College student but in fact to avail himself of the means there afforded for the completion of the course which was necessary in order to his matriculating."

Next year "a letter was read from Mr. E. L. Hull expressing his thanks for the assistance he had received . . . and his regret that he had disappointed their expectations by not having taken his degree."

In 1855 it was "Resolved that £10 be allowed to Mr. E. L. Hull for his graduating fees in the University of London."

In 1856 it is recorded that he had been successful in the first Division, and had become Pastor of the Church at Kimbolton, though he had left College without a call. After two years he went to King's Lynn where he found "the small nucleus of a Church without a place of worship. A handsome chapel was built for him in 1859, but in 1861 he was obliged by severe illness to relinquish the pastorate. The same year the Trustees "resolved that £15 be presented to Mr. E. Luscombe Hull, of Lynn . . . on account of the expenses of long-continued affliction." He died September 8th, 1862, aged 30, and his tombstone at Highcliffe gives his first name as Edward, as our Minutes, though others give it as Edmond or Edmund, like his father.

Giles Hester, a fellow-student said he "read only one sermon at Stepney, during his time." But he became famous for his sermons, most of which were published a good while after his death. Dean Alford, editor of the *Contemporary Review*, wrote most highly of them:—"The book speaks unmistakably of thoroughly good training, supervening on a gentle, but at the same time earnest and aspiring spirit. That body of Christians is happy which possessed such a neophyte, and could so fit him for his

work. We do not know where we have met with sermons in which fervent eloquence and sobriety of judgment are more happily combined." (See his brother, Thomas, No. 57.)

54. David Evans, 1849-50, Glasgow and Edinburgh. A student from Accrington recommended by his tutors, "Mr. Griffiths and Mr. Harbottle." Owing to ill-health he did not pursue his degree work but accepted a unanimous invitation to a church in Manchester.

55. James Bullock, 1851-53, Edinburgh. A Bristol student who, after some preparatory years there, had been sent by his "excellent friend Mr. Sherring" to Glasgow. He continued to assist him on the understanding that Dr. Ward's Fund would help for the last two years of the course. He spent those years at Edinburgh, attending, among other classes, Dr. Nichol's Class on Astronomy. "He obtained the first prize for general eminence throughout the Session," and duly took his M.A. He held pastorates at Wallingford, Abergavenny and Hull, before joining the Independents, in 1872.

56. Thomas Mew Morris, 1851-55, Edinburgh. He was recommended by his Tutors, Dr. Acworth and Mr. Clows from Horton College, Bradford, which he had entered in 1847.

One of his classes in 1853 was Professor Blackie's Second Greek Class. In 1855 illness interfered with his graduation studies but he hoped to take his degree "on a future occasion." He settled at Romsey. After a short pastorate, in 1858 he moved to Ipswich where, first at Turret Green and later at Burlington, he laboured until his retirement in 1901. He was President of the Baptist Union, in 1893.

57. Thos. Henry Hull, 1852-53, Stepney. This brother of E. L. Hull, was elected, when 17½ years of age, "to be maintained in the Baptist Academical Institution at Stepney with a view to his receiving the advantages of a Grammar School education in Latin, Greek and Hebrew under the care of the Rev. Joseph Angus and that he shall take B.A. London, at the end of two years." In 1853, owing to ill-health, he was allowed to stay at home at Blockley, till Christmas, "£10 to be paid to his father for his board, and two guineas to T.H. to meet the expenses of his travelling to the seaside."

Two years later, at a Trustees' Meeting "several letters were read from Mr. T. H. Hull and from his father, the Rev. E. Hull, reporting successively his absence from College on account of indisposition, the means used for the recovery of his health, the hope from time to time entertained of his restoration and return to study,—but at length, his death on the 14th September, 1854."

58.—Frederic Edwards, 1853-57, Bristol, Stepney, Edinburgh. He was prepared for two years at Bristol for London B.A. which

he gained, First Division, in 1855. The following year he was sent to Edinburgh, but he had to leave before the end of the Session owing to ill-health. After resigning from the Trust he was received into Regent's Park in November where "he maintained a high character for piety and diligence, and in 1857 he became pastor at Harlow "with very encouraging prospects of usefulness." Except for a pastorate at South Parade, 1860-62, he ministered at Harlow until his retirement in 1892. .

59. Robert Caven, 1855-58, Regent's. Owing to the state of his health he was excused going to Scotland and allowed to stay in London, where, after a second attempt, he graduated B.A. He settled at Southampton where he became ill, and was given £10 by the Trustees "in his severe affliction." In 1875 he went to Charles Street, Leicester, and held the pastorate for thirty-two years. Despite his initial ill-health he attained the age of eighty-eight and "all Leicester did him honour at his death."

60. E. C. Pike, 1856-61, Stepney. After failing in 1857, in Matriculation, some of the Trustees wanted him to go to Scotland, but Dr. Angus, who was preparing a new Scheme for the Charity Commissioners, urged that Mr. Pike should be allowed to make another attempt at the London B.A., which he took in 1860. After another year at College he settled at West Street, Rochdale, and subsequently held pastorates at Coventry, Birmingham and Exeter. He also served as Secretary of the Devon and Cornwall Association and on the Baptist Union Council.

61. James Skuse Bailey, 1857; 58-60. Owing to illness he had to give up his studies at Bristol, in 1857, and return home to Stroud where "he was a diligent Sunday School teacher and showed talent as an occasional preacher."

In two years he was well enough to return to College, but in 1862 he retired, as his brain "was unfit for degree work, but good for pastoral."! "He preached at Bolton with a view to the pastoral office."

62. James Stuart, 1859-64, Rawdon and Glasgow. After two years at Rawdon he went to Glasgow, and, in his second year there, Professors Buchanan and Nichol stated that he had acquitted himself to their entire satisfaction. The Trustees requested that "he give some attention to Hebrew, and not to make any preaching engagements which might interfere with his usual course of studies." In 1864 he settled at Anstruther. Short pastorates followed at Wolverhampton and Manchester, until in 1880 he settled at Watford where for over thirty years he did outstanding work.

63. Jas. Wilton, 1859-60, Regent's. Although he had matriculated he was not successful in obtaining his degree.

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