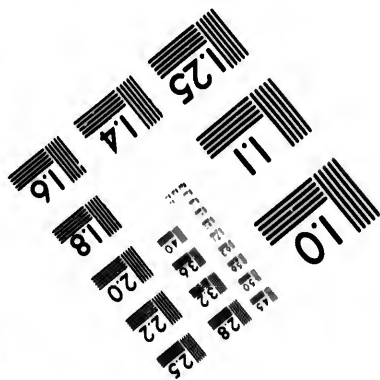
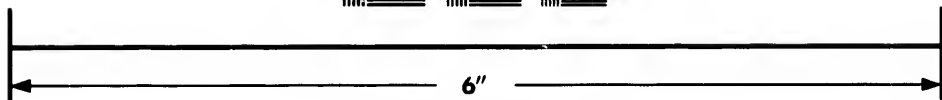
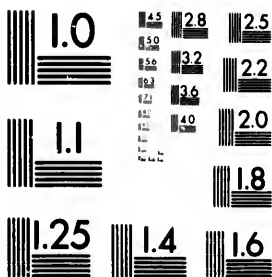


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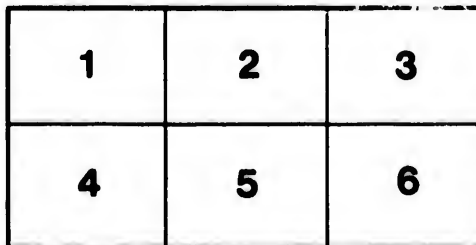
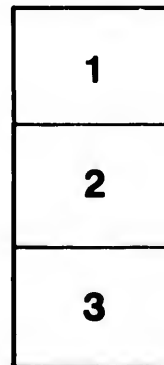
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TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOR OF

The Rev. Thomas Aitken, M. D., A. M.,

CANDIDATE FOR THE

CHAIR OF HEBREW,

Biblical Criticism and Church History,

IN THE

UNIVERSITY OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE,

KINGSTON, CANADA WEST.

Printed by order of the Board of Trustees, 4th June, 1857.

JAMES M. CREIGHTON, PRINTER.

1857.

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From Professors of the University of Glasgow.

GLASGOW COLLEGE, MAY 5, 1846.

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the ability and faithfulness with which the Rev. Dr. Thomas Aitken, Preacher of the Gospel, performed the duties of College Chaplain in the Session now closed. His discourses were always clear and distinct, often eloquent and powerful, exhibiting throughout an intimate acquaintance with the truths of Scripture, and a well-informed and cultivated mind. His talents and acquirements are of a superior kind; and we shall rejoice to hear of his obtaining a situation where they may be usefully employed.

(Signed,)

D. MACFARLAN, Principal.
ALEXR. HILL, Professor of Divinity.
ROBT. BUCHANAN, Prof. of Logic & Retic.
JAMES THOMPSON, Prof. of Mathematics.
GEORGE GRAY, Professor of Hebrew.
WILLIAM FLEMING, Prof. of Moral Philos.

From the Rev. Dr. Barr, of St. Enoch's, Glasgow.

GLASGOW, 8th JUNE, 1846.

Dr. Thomas Aitken has been personally known to me for more than twenty years, during which time I have enjoyed the most favorable opportunities of estimating his character and attainments. It affords me much pleasure to express the very high sense which I have been led to entertain of his literary eminence and moral worth. As a Student his talents and proficiency secured for him some of the most honorable distinctions which the University had to bestow. His subsequent researches have realized an amount of knowledge in the various departments of scientific enquiry which few have attained. In particular, his acquaintance with those subjects which fall under the study of Natural Philosophy, is at once minute, profound, accurate and widely diversified. Of the extent of his acquirements and of his power of communicating them for the instruction of others, some highly satisfactory proofs have been given in the literary productions of which he is the Author, and in the courses of Lectures which he has delivered with great acceptance to large and enlightened audiences. His style is, by its simplicity, vigour and elegance, calculated to render him an exceedingly attractive and eminently useful instructor of youth, whilst the gentleness of his manners, the kindness of his disposition, and the probity of his character, cannot fail to recommend him to the esteem and affection of all, whether young or old, with whom he may be connected.

(Signed,)

JAMES BARR,
Minister of St. Enoch's Parish.

From Dr. William Beattie, London.

18 TAVISTOCK STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE, APRIL 3, 1849.

I hereby certify that Dr. Thomas Aitken, whom I have known upwards of twenty years, studied the Mathematical Sciences, both pure and mixed, under Professors Leslie and Playfair; that he obtained the highest Mathematical honors in the University of Edinburgh; that he delivered with eminent success a complete course of Lectures on Natural Philosophy in the Royal Institution of Liverpool; that he contributed the article Bomouilli to the last edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica; that he is the author of a volume of Sermons, which are held in high estimation, both for purity of doctrine and elegance of composition; and that as an honorable and upright man, he enjoys the esteem and confidence of all who know him.

(Signed,)

WILLIAM BEATTIE, M. D.,
College of Physicians Lond. & Edin.

From Dr. Traill, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, University of Edinburgh.

EDINBURGH, JUNE, 1846.

Dr. Thomas Aitken, during the period of my residence in Liverpool, was for several years employed to give Lectures on Natural Philosophy, in the Royal Institution of that town, many of which I attended with pleasure and advantage. He was if I recollect aright, recommended to the Directors by a letter from the late Sir John Leslie, whose pupil he had been, and his knowledge of his subject did credit to the recommendation of his preceptor.

(Signed,)

THOMAS STEWART TRAIL.

From the late Dr. Carson, Physician in Liverpool.

LIVERPOOL, 18th APRIL, 1841.

I have been intimately acquainted with Dr. Thomas Aitken for fifteen years. As Dr. Aitken during a great part of that time resided in Liverpool, I have had a favorable opportunity of estimating his character, talents and attainments. I attended a course of Lectures which he delivered at the Royal Institution of this place, on Mechanical Philosophy. From those Lectures I received much pleasure and instruction. Of his Botanical knowledge, which I always understood to be very great, I do not venture to speak as that is a source with which I am sorry to say, my acquaintance is limited, but from the perspicuity and soundness of his judgment, from the strength of his reasoning powers, and from the zeal with which he prosecutes every enquiry undertaken by him, and I know Botany to be a favourite one, Dr. Aitken would, I am satisfied, fill the Botanical Chair of Glasgow highly to the honour and interest of that University.

(Signed,)

JAS. CARSON, M. D., F.R.S.

From Members of the Parish Church of Rothsay.

ROTHSAY, DECEMBER, 1843.

REVEREND & DEAR SIR:

We, the undersigned, being Heritors, Tenants, Elders and Communicants of the Parish of Rothsay adhering to the Established Church of Scotland, are desirous of bearing our strongest testimony to your character and qualifications for the Ministerial Office. During two months of the vacancy which lately occurred in this parish in consequence of the secession of the Minister thereof, you afforded official supply, having been invited and appointed to do so from a convic-

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M. D., F.R.S.

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MBER, 1843.

Communicants
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tion of your ability and fitness for discharging the duties thereof in the peculiar and painful circumstances in which the parish was left; and we think it but an act of justice to you to state that we have had every reason to be highly satisfied and thankful for the able and satisfactory manner in which you discharged the duties of the Ministerial office, for so faithful and acceptable was your preaching, so unwearied your attention to the sick, the dying and the destitute, and so assiduous your application to every branch of Pastoral duty during the period of your residence among us, that many have thereby been most favourably impressed and strengthened and confirmed in their attachment to the beloved Church of their fathers; we have always been delighted and instructed by your clear and full disclosure of Gospel truth, and with your impressive application of it to the hearts and consciences of your hearers. Your discourses have uniformly appeared to us to be carefully composed, perspicuous and elegant in style, and in all respects evangelical, and illustrated and applied by clear and impressive arguments; they were such as according to our belief, could not be listened to without much profit and edification. Altogether from the soundness of the Theological views which you entertain and advocate; from your unassuming and modest manners; from your correct and becoming deportment; and from the deep impression of the responsibility of the Ministerial office which you manifest, we are convinced that the longer and more intimately you are known, the more will you be respected and esteemed, and shall sincerely rejoice to learn that you are called to a permanent charge in the Establishment, being under the fullest conviction that you will discharge the sacred and important duties of the Pastoral office ably, zealously and conscientiously.

We are, with regard,

Reverend and Dear Sir,

Your faithful friends,

(Signed,)

ALEXR. IRVINE,
Sheriff substitute of Buteshire and
Elder of Rothsay Parish.
WILLIAM COWPER, M. D.,
WILLIAM KILPATRICK,
AND. A. MACFARLAN,
CHARLES MOORE,
JOHN SHARP,
ROBERT GILLIES,
JOHN NAPIER,
ROBERT ORKNEY,
WILLIAM LOGAN,
JOHN MASLEA,
WM. PATERSON, M. D.,
HENRY SHARP,
ANDREW CAMPBELL,
ALEXR. MCGREGOR,
JAMES HAMILTON,
JOHN MCKERDY,
JAMES MORRISON,
ARCHD. CUNNINGHAM,

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Aitken, }
Edinburgh. }

THOMAS GIBSON,
M. D. and Elder of the Parish of
Rothsay.

JAMES MUIR, Elder,
JOHN WILSON,
ROBERT MACFARLANE,
JOHN BOYD,
JOHN MUIR,
PETER BRYSON,
JOHN SIMPLE,
THOS. D. DOUGLAS,
BENJ. MACINTOSE,
ARCHD. MACLEA,
ALEXR. ANDERSON,
DUNCAN McCORKENDALE,
ARCHD. PRENTICE,
STEWART McALISTER,
JOHN LILLIE,
ARCHD. CAMPBELL,
JAMES LESLIE,
MATTHEW SHARP.

From the Rev. Dr. John Paul, of St. Cuthbert's Parish.

EDINBURGH, 31st JULY, 1850.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Aitken, Preacher of the Gospel, has been long known to me, and I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to his personal worth and professional attainments. He is possessed of good talents and is a person of varied acquirements, of amiable dispositions and sincere piety. His pulpit discourses are distinguished by correct views of divine truth, and are well fitted from the style in which they are written, to subserve the end of general edification, and I am persuaded that when called to the stated duties and labours of a Pastoral charge, he will prove a zealous and useful Minister of the Gospel.

(Signed,)

JOHN PAUL,
Minister of St. Cuthbert's.

From the Rev. Dr. Alexr. Brunton, Professor of Oriental Languages, Edinburgh University.

EDINBURGH COLLEGE, 17th DEC., 1824.

I hereby certify that Mr. Thomas Aitken regularly attended the Hebrew and Chaldee Class in this University, during the Sessions of College 1814-'15 and 1815-'16; and that he uniformly gave me the fullest reason to approve of his conduct and proficiency.

(Signed,)

ALEXANDER BRUNTON, Prof.

EDINBURGH COLLEGE, 18th Dec.

DEAR SIR:

I send you on the other side, a class certificate, in those terms in which I am accustomed to give it to my most attentive and successful Students.

In your present circumstances I have great pleasure in adding—if the expression of such an opinion can in any way be useful—that the impression left upon me by our Academical connections, is in every respect most favourable, and that I shall be much gratified to hear of your success.

I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed,)

ALEXANDER BRUNTON.

Mr. Thomas Aitken,
14 Great George Street, }
Liverpool. }

From the Rev. Dr. James C. Fowler of Ratho.

It affords me sincere pleasure to bear my testimony in behalf of the Rev. Dr. Aitken, who, I think, is possessed of superior and well cultivated talents, extensive acquirements, obliging manners and sound religious principles. He has preached for me several times, and on every occasion his discourse was marked by a strict adherence to the subject of his text, clearness of thought and purity of diction. If appointed to the oversight of a congregation, I believe that he would discharge the duties of the office with fidelity, conscientiousness and zeal.

(Signed,)

JAS. C. FOWLER, of Ratho.

The Manse, Ratho, 12th July, 1850.

St. Cuthbert's Parish.

31st JULY, 1850.

has been long known
 as a person of worth
 and is a person of
 piety. His pulpit
 discourses are well
 calculated to bring
 to the end of general
 duties and labours
 the Master of the Gospel.

JOHN PAUL,
 Minister of St. Cuthbert's.

University of Oriental

17th Dec., 1824.

has studied the Hebrew and
 Arabic in the College 1814-'15 and
 is well qualified to approve of his

EDWARD BRUNTON, Prof.

COLLEGE, 18th Dec.

on the terms in which I
 have received the
 testimonials of the
 several Students.
 I am adding—if the ex-
 pression of the
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 on my mind is
 not most favourable,

EDWARD BRUNTON.

St. Retho.

On behalf of the Rev. Dr.
 who has cultivated talents, ex-
 tensive principles. He
 in his discourse was
 distinguished by
 clearness of thought
 and a congregation, I
 have seen with
 his fidelity, conscien-

WILLIAM WILSON, of Ratho.

I have compared the above copies with the original testimonials, and
 hereby certify that they are true copies.

SIMON S. LAURIE,
 Secretary to Col. Com. Church of Scotland

