

written by the happy hand

Edinburgh 1880.

J. D. H. Edwards, Esq.,
With Mr Young's Camps,

12 October.

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

MR. ANDREW YOUNG,
TEACHER OF DR BELL'S SCHOOL, NIDDRY STREET,
EDINBURGH.

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TO THE
TRUSTEES OF THE MADRAS COLLEGE,
ST ANDREWS.

GENTLEMEN,

Permit me, most respectfully, to offer myself as a Candidate for the vacant situation of English Master in the Madras College; and to refer you to the accompanying Testimonials in support of my qualifications for the office. In the event of my becoming the object of your choice, it shall be my unceasing endeavour to promote the best interests of the Institution over which you preside, and to justify the commendations of my friends.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your very obedient humble Servant,

ANDREW YOUNG.

DR BELL'S SCHOOL, NIDDRY STREET,
Edinburgh, September 1. 1840.

TESTIMONIALS.

I. *From the Right Reverend Bishop Russell, Leith.*

DEAR SIR,

LEITH, 29th August 1840.

Your character and position as a teacher in Edinburgh seem to me to render all other testimonials unnecessary ; but as you attended the Course of Lectures which it is my duty to give on the Madras System of Education, I may take leave to mention, that I had thereby an opportunity of becoming better acquainted than I otherwise should with your talents and acquirements. On that occasion, you wrote a very able Essay on the peculiarities of the Madras System, which gained for you the highest prize provided by Dr Bell for the reward of such exertions.

When attending the examination of your School in Niddry Street, I have been particularly struck with the happy application of the principles of the Madras System to all the branches of modern instruction, so as at once to excite emulation in the pupils, and to convey to them a perfect knowledge of the several subjects to which their attention was directed. In making this statement, I express no more than the opinion of every competent person who witnessed the performances of the children, and, above all, the good order which prevailed in your establishment. I remain, dear Sir, with sincere esteem, your faithful servant,

M. RUSSELL.

Mr Young, Dr Bell's School,
Niddry Street.

II. *From A. R. Carson, Esq., LL.D. Rector of the High School of Edinburgh.*

STIRLING, 29th August 1840.

Mr Young has for many years been most advantageously known in Edinburgh, and by all who take an interest in the progress of education, as one of our most successful teachers of youth. I have enjoyed the pleasure of witnessing only one public examination of his classes; but I saw enough on that occasion to convince me that I had never seen any children in similar circumstances, whose attainments in the various branches of learning to which their attention had been directed, attested more clearly and conclusively the extraordinary merit of their teacher. It was manifest, from the manner in which the whole examination was conducted, that the system pursued so energetically by Mr Young was founded on the best and most solid of all principles,—a constant appeal to the understanding and good sense of his pupils, who, in all their exercises, displayed not only a thorough practical knowledge of the business in which they were engaged, but, at the same time, a most correct, as well as an enlarged perception and apprehension of the beauties and excellences of the authors whose works they perused and analyzed. The impression made upon my mind at that time, and which nothing has since occurred to weaken, was, that it is scarcely possible to surpass Mr Young in the art of communicating instruction on the principles laid down by the late Dr Bell; and I am quite satisfied, that no public body can do a greater service to the young of the community over which they preside, or to which they may belong, than by committing them to the care of a teacher so talented, intelligent, indefatigable, and prudent, as Mr Young has decidedly proved himself to be.

A. R. CARSON.

III. *From John Wilson, Esq. Professor of Moral Philosophy
in the University of Edinburgh.*

6 GLOUCESTER PLACE, August 25. 1840.

Of the many teachers of youth with whose qualifications I am acquainted, not one holds a higher place in my esteem than Mr A. Young. I have known him well ever since he was one of the most distinguished students in the Moral Philosophy Class, a good many years ago, and have watched with deep interest his successful career. Under his management the Niddry Street School—perhaps the most numerously attended in our city—is a model for all such institutions; and as it has been raised by him to its present eminence, his friends have but to point to it as the best of all proofs of his devoted zeal and great talents in instruction.

JOHN WILSON.

IV. *From the Rev. Robert Gordon, D.D., one of the Ministers of
the High Church, Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, 28th August 1840.

I have been long intimately acquainted with Mr Young, Teacher of the Niddry Street School in this city, and have had opportunities of witnessing his method of teaching. Of all the teachers I ever knew, I have no hesitation in saying that Mr Young is, in my opinion, the most distinguished. I cannot express in sufficiently strong terms, my admiration of his talents, skill, and success in conducting his very numerous school. Mr Young is universally esteemed for the excellence of his character, as well as for his extraordinary qualifications as a Teacher.

ROBERT GORDON.

V. *From the Rev. James Marshall, Minister of the Tolbooth Church, Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, 27th August 1840.

I have, in the course of my life, visited many schools, and had opportunities of forming a judgment of the qualifications of many teachers, but I never have been so much struck with the progress made by young persons attending any educational establishment, as by the pupils of Mr Andrew Young. The children of parents in humble life, and having on this account to contend against many disadvantages, they yet give evidence of a proficiency in the different branches to which their attention is directed, that I do not remember ever to have seen equalled. The variety of instruction communicated is not less remarkable, than the degree of advancement attained, and while the various ordinary branches of education have their due place of importance assigned to them, the truths of our holy religion are inculcated, explained, and enforced. Happy shall I be, therefore, if this most deserving and successful teacher should be promoted to a sphere of greater prominence and usefulness. He is eminently fitted, not only for giving instruction to the young himself, but for giving an impulse to others engaged in a similar field of labour; and should any of the Directors of the Institution to which he now aspires wish for a stronger testimonial in his favour than any certificate of this nature can give, they will find it in a personal inspection of Niddry Street School.

JAMES MARSHALL.

VI. *From the Right Hon. Sir James Forrest, Bart. of Comiston,
Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh.*

SIR,

EDINBURGH, August 28. 1840.

I have very great pleasure in expressing my sense of your eminent qualifications as a teacher of youth, and of the high state of perfection to which you have brought the Niddry Street School. It has not been in my power to visit that school so often as I could have wished, but I have always had the greatest satisfaction in witnessing the proficiency of your very numerous pupils, and the great success which has attended your labours. In thus acknowledging your merits, I add my testimony to that of all who have had the best opportunities of appreciating your exertions. I should regret were you to leave your present sphere of usefulness ; but I most cordially wish you every success in any object which you may have in view. I remain, your obedient servant,

JAMES FORREST.

To Mr Young, Teacher.

VII. *From Patrick Neill, LL.D., F.R.S.E., Secretary to the
Wernerian Natural History, and Caledonian Horticultural
Societies, Edinburgh.*

DEAR SIR,

CANONMILLS COTTAGE,
29th August 1840.

Your card of yesterday requesting a certificate from me as one of the Trustees of Niddry Street School, gave me no little uneasiness, as indicating the likelihood of Edinburgh losing your invaluable services. Most undoubtedly, however, you are well entitled to a testimonial in your favour as strong as I can find language to express it ; not only as to your unwearied zeal and happy mode of communicating instruction, but as to the admirable moral discipline maintained in the school, and the very uncommon proficiency of the pupils in the various branches of Educa-

tion,—English reading, grammar, and etymology, geography, writing, arithmetic, history, civil and sacred, and, to crown all, accurate and extensive religious knowledge.

I cannot omit to take this opportunity of saying, that my earnest wish has long been to see you at the head of a complete Normal School in our Scottish capital, chiefly engaged in training young teachers, and inspiring them with your ardour. Nor do I despair, when I consider the general wish for promoting superior education, and particularly the ample Heriot funds which might now (thanks to Mr Maclaren) be so justly and so conveniently appropriated to such a purpose, in one of the new schools yet to be established.

With best wishes for your continued success in your honourable career, I remain, dear Sir, sincerely yours,

PAT. NEILL.

A. Young, Esq.

VIII. *From the Rev. Dr Patrick Clason, Minister of Buccleuch Parish, Edinburgh.*

DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, 28th August 1840.

I fear any testimony I can bear in your behalf as an instructor of youth would be of little avail if it were needed; but as I have been asked to state my opinion of your qualifications, I can have no hesitation in expressing my admiration, which I have ever felt in visiting your school, of the zeal, ability, and energy with which you conduct the whole business of education.

Let any one who wishes to know more, visit Bell's School, Niddry Street, and he will be able to account for the extreme brevity of this note.

I can only farther express my best wishes for your success in life, and my willingness to do any thing in my power to promote your views.

I remain, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

PATRICK CLASON.

IX. *From the Rev. John Sym, one of the Ministers of Old Greyfriars, Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, 28th August 1840.

Mr Young of Niddry Street School, whom I have known for some years, is the most distinguished and successful Teacher with whom I am acquainted.

It is difficult to convey in writing a just idea of the impression which is made by an inspection of his classes. But I may be allowed to state, that he has succeeded in conveying to his pupils an amount of knowledge, in awakening within them a spirit of intelligent inquiry, and in diffusing cheerfulness and good order among them, such as I have never witnessed in any other school.

Mr Young's merits as a Teacher are so well known and so highly appreciated in Edinburgh, that his removal will be regretted by all who are interested in the educational prosperity of the city.

JOHN SYM.

X. *From the Rev. David Brown, Minister of Roslin.*

ROSLIN MANSE, August 28. 1840.

I have great pleasure in stating that, at different times, I have visited the school in Niddry Street, Edinburgh, taught by Mr Young, and, on each occasion, I was delighted to see the admirable discipline and efficiency of the school. Nowhere have I beheld a finer specimen of the working of the monitorial system of tuition than under the management of Mr Young, who appears to me to be one of the most talented and energetic of all the teachers of youth at the present time. Indeed, the movements of the scholars

were conducted with a regularity and a precision which surprised me ; and this feeling was increased when my attention was directed to the fact, that each of the apartments was literally crowded with young people.

But, while a visitor to the Niddry Street School cannot fail to be struck with the fine order and the lively appearance of that school, its truly healthy condition can be completely ascertained only during the progress of one of the minute and searching examinations to which the scholars are subjected. In correct and beautiful reading,—in analyzing the words of the English language,—in the more mechanical, but equally useful, arts of writing and arithmetic,—in the knowledge of the extremely diversified surface of our globe, under the head of geography,—and in the higher departments of algebra and mathematics, we question much if the pupils of any other similar seminary could shew greater proficiency. Much attention is also given to what I consider to be infinitely more important than any of the branches of education to which I have now adverted, viz. the religious instruction of the scholars,—a species of training by which, with the blessing of God, their well-being will be secured in time, and through all eternity. In thus giving my testimony regarding Mr Young, whom I have known for a number of years, I feel that I cannot do justice to his great merit as a most laborious and successful instructor of youth ; and I trust that some others, who are better qualified to judge than I am, will bear testimony to the facts which have now been so imperfectly stated.

DAVID BROWN.

XI. *From John Ramsay, Esq. one the Magistrates of Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, 28th August 1840.

I hereby certify, that, as one of the Magistrates of Edinburgh, I have had frequent opportunities of being in the school in Niddry Street, under the charge of the Town-Council, and which is conducted by Mr A. Young; and I must say, that of all the schools I ever was present at, none gave me greater satisfaction. I consider that any institution will be very fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr Young. His removal from his present situation will be felt a public loss to the City, as I am sure it will be difficult to get any one to fill his place in the same proficient manner. He is a most assiduous and energetic teacher, and a perfect enthusiast in his profession.

JOHN RAMSAY.

XII. *From Robert Grieve, Esq., one of the Magistrates of Edinburgh.*

77 SOUTH BRIDGE STREET, EDINBURGH,
31st August 1840.

MR YOUNG,

DEAR SIR,

Having expressed a wish to have a testimonial from me, it gives me much pleasure to accede to your request. It is now some years since I had first the opportunity of observing your qualifications as an instructor of youth, and I must say, these appear to be of a very high order indeed. At the examinations of Niddry Street School at which I have been present, I was much struck with the promptitude of the pupils in answering the various (often intricate) questions proposed to them, and in a manner, too, which shewed that they thoroughly understood the subject upon

which they were interrogated; indeed, the amount of general knowledge and information they appeared to possess was quite astonishing, and abundantly testified to the untiring energy and unceasing attention of their preceptor. You seem, in an eminent manner, to have the tact of acquiring the affections of your scholars, and at the same time securing their attachment and respect. In conclusion, I cannot forbear remarking, that, should you be removed to a superior situation to that which you at present occupy with so much credit to yourself, and to which your attainments may justly entitle you to aspire, the Trustees of Bell's School will have a task of no ordinary difficulty imposed upon them, in appointing your successor.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

ROBERT GRIEVE.

XIII. *From Sir James Spittal, late Lord Provost of Edinburgh.*

DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, 29th August 1840.

Understanding that you mean to offer yourself as a candidate for the *English Teachership* in the Madras College of St Andrews, I have not the least hesitation in saying, that, in my humble opinion, you are eminently qualified for such a situation, both from your superior knowledge and excellent manner of instilling into the minds of youth, the principles, not only of English, but of every other branch of education of which I have had an opportunity of seeing you teach. Should you be appointed as a Teacher in the Madras College, St Andrews, I am quite satisfied the electors will be most fortunate in their choice.

I remain, dear Sir, yours sincerely,

JAMES SPITTAL.

A. YOUNG, Esq.

XIV. *From the Rev. James Julius Wood, Minister of New Greyfriars.*

EDINBURGH, August 31. 1840.

I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the extraordinary merits of Mr Andrew Young, Teacher of Dr Bell's School, Niddry Street. Possessed of a clear vigorous understanding, a mind well cultivated, and well stored with various branches of knowledge, great skill and ingenuity in arranging and managing the complex machinery of an exceedingly numerous monitorial school, and an extraordinary tact and facility in communicating information, he labours in his profession with an energy, and enthusiasm, and success, that I have never seen surpassed. Whilst the intelligence, accuracy, and readiness of his pupils, have delighted and astonished me, I attach great importance to the habitual liveliness and energy to which he so admirably trains them, as being of very great consequence to their success, whatever may be their future occupations in the world. Indeed, from his talents, his principles, his temper, his tact, and his success, I would place Mr Young in the very first class of teachers.

JAMES JULIUS WOOD.

XV. *From Adam Black, Esq., late Treasurer of the City of Edinburgh.*

MY DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, August 25. 1840.

I have frequently had the gratification of witnessing the efficient system of teaching in the Niddry Street School under your charge, and have been equally delighted with the aptitude and extraordinary acquisitions of the scholars, and the skill and intelligence of the teacher. It was obvious that it was not the fear of punishment that

excited the ardour and mental exertions of the children, but that you had inspired them with somewhat of your own zeal in the acquisition of knowledge ; and that they regarded you with the respect and confidence due to a parent, rather than with the fear and dread too often inspired by a master. I have been so much pleased myself in my visits to the school, that I have frequently recommended it to strangers, as one of the interesting objects of which Edinburgh can boast ; and I have uniformly found that their admiration was not less than my own. You are doing so much good in your present sphere, that, however much I should be gratified by your advancement to a higher, it would not be unmingled with regret at your removal from your present sphere of usefulness.

I am, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

ADAM BLACK.

Mr A. YOUNG.

XVI. *From Alexander Watson, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., Councillor.*

EDINBURGH, 28th August 1840.

I hereby certify, that, as one of the guardians of Dr Bell's School, Niddry Street, Edinburgh, for the last four years, I have had numerous opportunities of witnessing the qualifications of Mr Young as a teacher of the various branches there taught. The ability, zeal, energy, and tact, with which he conducts the whole business of the school, and the progress of the pupils in acquiring useful knowledge, have made a very great impression upon those interested in education in Edinburgh. The most competent judges I have heard speak on the subject, have all been of one opinion, which they have expressed in the most decided manner, that Mr Young has shewn himself to be one of the most talented and best teachers they have known.

The very great number of pupils attending Mr Young's school, amounting to more than 500, seem to be well taught, and easily controlled by Mr Young, without any difficulty ; and the pupils, their parents, and the patrons of the School, have uniformly been well pleased with his exertions and conduct.

ALEXANDER WATSON.

XVII. *From the Rev. Dr Gilchrist, one of the Ministers of Canongate.*

EDINBURGH, 23th August 1840.

For some years past I have had the pleasure of being acquainted with Mr Andrew Young, Master of Dr Bell's School in Niddry Street, Edinburgh.

I regard him as a person of a pure and exemplary moral character ; and it is with great confidence that I give testimony to his uncommon merit as a Teacher. I have repeatedly visited his school at times when the ordinary business of teaching was going on, and when no particular preparation could be made in expectation of a visit ; and it was always with pleasure and admiration that I witnessed the proofs of his skill and diligence. All his scholars appeared animated with an earnest desire of excelling, and shewed great proficiency in the branches of knowledge in which they were severally receiving instruction.

Should it please the Trustees to appoint him to the office of English Master in Madras College, St Andrews, I am persuaded that they will never have cause to regret their choice.

JOHN GILCHRIST.

XVIII. *From James Donaldson, Esq. late one of the Magistrates of Edinburgh.*

46 NORTHUMBERLAND STREET,
EDINBURGH, 28th August 1840.

When holding the office of College Bailie, it was my duty occasionally to visit Niddry Street School, and, for several years in succession, I attended its annual examinations. I had thus many opportunities of becoming acquainted with the discipline of the school, and with the qualifications of Mr Young as a teacher.

I speak not only my own sentiments, but, what is much more to the purpose, I bear testimony to the opinion of several distinguished Professors and Clergymen, known for the interest they take in the cause of education, when I say that, never was better order observed in a school—never greater progress made by the scholars—and never greater assiduity, zeal, skill, and success, shewn on the part of the teacher. There was never any thing to find fault with, but, on the contrary, every thing to be more than satisfied with, and admire. In his province, I consider Mr Young unequalled as a teacher; at least, in my experience, I have seen no one to come up to him.

JAS. DONALDSON.

XIX. *From Mr David Purves, Parochial Teacher, Abbotshall.*

ABBOTSHALL SCHOOLHOUSE,
August 28. 1840.

I have had repeated opportunities of visiting Niddry Street School, taught by Mr Andrew Young, and I have great pleasure in recording my impression, that I never witnessed, in any seminary, a more effective discipline, or a happier combination of vigorous intellectual training, with

all the advantages of the soundest moral and religious instruction.

It gives me pleasure also to state, that many of my professional friends who have had the happiness to witness Mr Young's system, have received impressions similar to my own.

DAVID PURVES.

XX. *From Thomas Sawers, Esq., late one of the Magistrates of Edinburgh.*

MY DEAR SIR, 8 ARCHIBALD PLACE, 28th August 1840.

I have great pleasure in bearing my humble testimony to your superior merits as a teacher of youth, having long considered your attainments and qualifications for the office as of the very highest order. For five years I had occasion to visit the school officially; I had therefore, during that period, ample means of witnessing your method of conducting its business. I have often felt struck with the happy manner in which you communicated instruction, and can truly say that I rarely, if ever, saw so much vigour and zeal combined with a gentleness admirably fitted to captivate and secure the attachment of the scholars; indeed, so impressed have I been with the enthusiasm you at all times displayed in the duties of your profession, that I have ever, as opportunities occurred, pointed to Niddry Street School as a model for the imitation of young teachers.

I am, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

THOS. SAWERS.

To Mr A. YOUNG.

XXI. *From David Maclagan, M.D., F.R.S.E., Vice-President
of the Society of Arts.*

EDINBURGH, 28th August 1840.

I have long known Mr Young, and have great pleasure in bearing testimony to his merits, and to his qualifications as a Teacher. Amidst many disadvantages arising from deficient school accommodation, and the very various grades of advancement among the pupils, I know few persons who have been so successful in adapting instruction to their different capacities, and advancing their intellectual, as well as their moral and religious, knowledge. I can have no hesitation therefore in expressing my conviction, that, from his talents and zeal, tempered as these appear to be with good judgment and kindly feeling, Mr Young is admirably qualified to be an instructor of youth in a more extensive sphere of usefulness.

DAVID MACLAGAN.

XXII. *From Alexander Macaulay, M.D., F.R.C.S., late
one of the Councillors of Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, 29th August 1840.

I have had frequent occasion to be witness of Mr Young's method of teaching, and generally of conducting the education of the young persons attending the Niddry Street School; and I entirely agree in the warm approbation felt and expressed by all, who, by their residence in Edinburgh, have had opportunities of frequently observing the enthusiasm, the ability, and the success of Mr Young's exertions. My conviction of his high talents and great value as an instructor of youth, is founded not only on what I saw when visiting his school officially as one of Dr Bell's Trustees, and as a member of the College Committee of the

Town-Council, but also on private examination of some of his pupils, in whom I was more particularly interested. I am satisfied that he not only is an able teacher on what is called the intellectual system, but, what is essentially necessary to the success of that system, he makes his scholars to read correctly and easily, to spell well, and to understand the grammar and construction of what they read. Above all, I believe him to be much interested in the progress of his pupils, not only in mere secular knowledge, but also in the supremely important concerns of pure morality and Christian piety.

ALEX. MACAULAY.

XXIII. *From William Wallace, LL.D., Emeritus Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh.*

31st August 1840.

I certify that Mr Young distinguished himself as a most diligent student when attending my Mathematical class; and farther, that I have visited his school here in Niddry Street, where I saw with high satisfaction his system in teaching. There was a degree of order and discipline in the school that was truly admirable.

Mr Young's zeal as a teacher was worthy of the highest commendation. The examination of the school was quite a spectacle which received the high approbation of various visitors, among whom were teachers from distant parts, most competent judges. I beg to notice particularly two traits in the management of the school which drew my attention; one was, the friendly sympathy which seemed to subsist between the preceptor and his pupils, and the other the vein of rational religion which ran through the course of instruction. On these grounds, and the high reputation

which Mr Young holds as an instructor in his present position, I with confidence recommend him to the electors.

WILLIAM WALLACE.

XXIV. *From the Rev. James Taylor, St Andrews.*

MY DEAR SIR,

ST ANDREWS, Aug. 28. 1840.

I have great pleasure in complying with your request to state the opinion which I have been led to form regarding your qualifications as an instructor of youth. I have been intimately acquainted with you for a number of years, and have had the most favourable opportunity of forming a correct estimate of your talents and acquirements; and I am sure I only express the sentiments of all who know you, when I say that they are of a very high order. I have frequently heard the seminary over which you so ably preside spoken of by persons whose opinion is entitled to great deference, and they have uniformly bestowed the highest commendation on your energy and zeal, and skilful method of communicating instruction, the admirable arrangements of your school, and the remarkable discipline and proficiency of your pupils. I have only to add, that, to these commendations, I give my most cordial concurrence, and that I regard you as a person pre-eminently qualified to superintend the education of youth. I remain, dear Sir, yours most sincerely,

JAMES TAYLOR.

XXV. *From John Davidson, Esq. A.M., late of Burntisland, Author of a Treatise on Mathematics.*

1 SYLVAN PLACE, EDINBURGH,
31st August 1840.

I have had the pleasure of being personally acquainted with Mr Young, Teacher of Dr Bell's School in this city,

for several years, and, during that time, having been frequently in his class-rooms, I have had good opportunities of judging of his qualifications and success as an instructor of youth ; and, from all I know of him, I can with confidence recommend him as a most zealous, pains-taking, and efficient teacher. Indeed, when I take into consideration the great number of his pupils, the extent, accuracy, and importance of the information they possess,—the good order and cheerfulness which prevail among them,—the kindly feeling which evidently subsists between them and their master,—and the patience and good temper with which Mr Young discharges his laborious duties,—I am free to declare, that I do not know anywhere a better teacher. And if he shall have the good fortune to obtain the situation in the Madras College of St Andrews to which he presently aspires, I have no hesitation in saying, that of all the individuals with whom I am acquainted, I know none more competent or likely than Mr Young to perform the duties of that important charge, with credit to himself, and benefit to the public.

JOHN DAVIDSON.

XXVI. *From William Johnston, Esq., St Andrew's Square.*

ST ANDREW'S SQUARE, EDINBURGH,

29th August 1840.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of yesterday, I have much pleasure in expressing my opinion of your high qualifications as an instructor of youth.

From my position as a Member of the Town-Council, and one of the Patrons of Niddry Street School, I was led, nearly nine years ago, to take an interest in your proceedings, and from that time to the present I have not failed to

mark the very great progress you have made in the science of Teaching. In short, I consider your mode of conveying instruction the most perfect I have ever witnessed; the discipline of your numerous school is admirably maintained, and I have reason to know that your conduct has at all times met the full approval of the Patrons and the public.

As one of the Trustees for Buccleuch Parish School, I may mention the pleasure and benefit we derived from your advice, both as regarded the choice of Teachers, and the course of instruction to be pursued in that extensive seminary.

I am, dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

W. JOHNSTON.

To Mr A. YOUNG, Niddry Street School.

XXVII. *From James Marshall, Esq., S.S.C.*

ARGYLE SQUARE, EDINBURGH,
29th August 1840.

MY DEAR SIR,

Knowing, as I do, that you can command the most influential and strongest recommendatory testimonials, mine can only be of signification by adding to *number*. As nothing but selfish motives could make me regret your advancement, I shall be delighted to hear that you have succeeded to an appointment which holds out sufficient motives for your continuing an Instructor of youth, as your predilection for that avocation appears so rooted, as, in my opinion, to render any prospect of change for the pulpit unadvisable.

The fixed attention and interest, by your peculiar tact, kept up in the minds of such a numerous body of pupils, and their great respect and love for you, could alone account to me for their extraordinary readiness and proficiency in the various branches on which I have seen them

tested. Indeed, few parents who have visited the Bell School under your superintendence, can fail to contrast the recollection of the course of their own education without feeling envious of the advantages which the young there derive.

Yours respectfully,

JAS. MARSHALL.

XXVIII. *From Archibald Thomson, Esq. late Master of the Merchant Company.*

DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, August 31. 1840.

I have just received your note, requesting a testimonial from me as one of the Trustees of Niddry Street School, now the theatre of your valuable labours. I cheerfully comply with your request, but, at the same time, permit me to say, that if any thing could prevent me doing so, it would be the fear of losing you, as one of the very best of our city teachers; and, so far as my opinion goes, I frankly tell you, I am most anxious that your services should be retained. If it was possible to get you appointed to a Normal School in Edinburgh for training young teachers, I would consider it a national benefit.

During the period that I was a member of the Town-Council, I had the pleasure of visiting your school frequently, which contained upwards of five hundred children.— Upon all occasions I was delighted with the discipline maintained (more especially in a school where you was so cramped for room), and the proficiency of your pupils in the various branches of their education.

I had the honour of presiding at one of your annual examinations, and, when the different classes were called up to give their specimens of English reading, of grammar, of geography, of writing, of arithmetic, of history, and of reli-

gious knowledge, &c., there was but one feeling pervaded the audience, which was that of admiration and perfect satisfaction.

From all I have seen of you, I have come to the conclusion, that your talent for instructing youth, your zeal as a teacher, and the distinguished success you have had in producing good scholars, is a sufficient guarantee for your promotion in any appointment you may receive as a teacher.

I am, dear Sir, with much esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

ARCH^d. THOMSON.

To Mr A. YOUNG, Edinburgh.

XXIX. *From D. Macbride, Master of Schaw's Hospital.*

PRESTONPANS, 29th August 1840.

I have no hesitation to bear my humble testimony in favour of Mr Andrew Young, who has been known to me for many years. Ten years ago he took charge of the City's Free School (now Dr Bell's) in Edinburgh, where he has since laboured with assiduity, success, and acceptance. He is a person of much zeal, perseverance, and integrity; and being of sound Christian principles, and correct morals, I have no doubt but he will fully realize the expectations of his friends, and maintain the high character he has already earned to himself, in any similar charge.

D. MACBRIDE.

XXX. *From John Clark, Esq. Convener of the Trades of Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, August 29, 1840.

Mr A. Young has been long known in Edinburgh as the zealous and efficient Teacher of Dr Bell's School, Niddry Street, of which the Town-Council are Patrons.

This school, through his talented exertions, stands con-

fessedly at the head of all those seminaries in the city which have for their object the education of the children of the working classes of the community. Here, at the outset of his career, was presented to him an interesting field of labour, to which, ever since, he has devoted most entirely, and with astonishing success, all the energies of his ardent mind. I have often witnessed with the greatest delight, the process of education which was carried forward in his school, under his immediate and active superintendence, in which he displayed the happiest talent, not only of communicating knowledge to the young in the most engaging manner, but also of eliciting from them, in their ready and intelligent answers to his questions, decisive proofs that this knowledge had not been communicated to them in vain. You beheld, too, in their beaming and happy countenances that they were under the reign, not of terror, but of love ; and here, I believe, the secret lay of the great success of Mr Young's labours. His cheerful affectionate disposition naturally begets, in the susceptible and tender minds of youth, love in return, and this, again, makes the labours of the school both pleasant and profitable. In short, a greater meed of praise cannot be yielded to any teacher than this, to which I think Mr Young justly entitled, viz. that he has, by his exertions in the vineyard of education, immeasurably raised the class of children in Edinburgh to whose benefit they were chiefly directed, in the scale of moral and intellectual being, so that, when the children of the classes of society far above them, have been brought into comparison with them, they have grievously sunk in the comparison in point of many substantial and valuable educational acquirements, and these classes have been compelled, as it were, in self-defence, to take measures to raise the standard of education with them, if perchance they may thereby be able to keep pace in advance with the growing intelligence of those below them.

JOHN CLARK.

XXXI. *From John Milne Marshall, Esq., M.A., Master of Stewart's School, Fintry, Stirlingshire.*

MY DEAR SIR,

FINTRY, 31st August 1840.

You request me to express the opinion I was led to form regarding your qualifications as an instructor of youth—the discipline and proficiency of your pupils. I cannot refuse to comply, but yet I feel a delicacy in writing these particulars to yourself.

I have for the last fifteen years been actively engaged in the business of tuition, and during that period have had an opportunity of testing the abilities of many of our first-rate preceptors in England, Wales, and Scotland, and have also been led to examine the different modes of tuition which prevail in this and other countries, and have carefully weighed their respective merits. But after having for eight months taken some share in the business of your school—after having had daily an opportunity of seeing and employing the working of your system—after having repeatedly expressed to different friends that the discipline which you so happily maintain in Niddry Street School far surpasses any thing of the kind I have ever met with—after having recommended my friends to place their children under your care—after having heard my brother (Mr James Marshall), on witnessing an examination in your school, express his astonishment that the children of the poor should be in possession of advantages which the rich, with all their wealth, had not been so fortunate as to purchase—after having heard many express their amazement at the extent and variety of subjects embraced in your course of instruction, but particularly the attention devoted in your seminary to the doctrinal truths of our most holy religion, and the consequent amount of Bible knowledge possessed by your pupils, I must unhesitatingly pronounce, what I have often

done to others, my well-grounded conviction that you hold the first place as an instructor of youth.

I have often regretted that your accommodation is insufficient, and that, though this inconvenience is prejudicial to the health of the hundreds of children who flock to your seminary, it has never been remedied. In the face of this discouragement you have, nevertheless, maintained your ground.

This certificate I would grant with considerable reluctance, were it not that I feel assured that the best wishes and prayers of the children in whose welfare eight months' experience had taught me to take a most lively interest, will follow you wherever Providence may order your lot. I am, my dear Sir, most faithfully yours,

JOHN MILNE MARSHALL.

XXXII. *From Duncan Maclaren, Esq. late Treasurer of the City of Edinburgh.*

DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, 1st September 1840.

I have much pleasure in complying with your request to state my opinion of your qualifications as a teacher.

During a period of six years, ending at Martinmas last, while I was a member of the Town-Council, I had many opportunities of visiting Dr Bell's School under your charge, and I have no hesitation in repeating, what I have often stated to my friends in private, that from all I have seen of you personally, and all I have heard from others better qualified in some respects to decide on your merits, I consider you the most successful teacher in this city in that department which you have occupied; and while I should rejoice in your promotion, I am satisfied your removal would be a public loss to this city, because your place could not

be supplied by another teacher in all respects so zealous and successful.

With best wishes for your success, I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

D. MACLAREN.

Mr A. Young, Dr Bell's School.

XXXIII. *From Robert Connell, Esq., Blytheswood Hill Academy, Author of several Works on Education.*

WEST CAMPBELL STREET,
GLASGOW, 31st August 1840.

I have repeatedly visited the school in Niddry Street, Edinburgh, conducted by Mr A. Young, and, at each successive visit, I have felt renewed and increased satisfaction. Considering the great number in attendance, I never saw any seminary under better discipline and management, or in which there was, generally speaking, more effective teaching. The whole was so arranged as to move on with the accuracy and precision of a well-constructed piece of machinery ; a little noise no doubt in some of the departments, but not the most distant approach to any thing like bustle, confusion, or irregularity. From the master himself to the youngest of the pupils, all seemed to have their hearts entirely in their work ; and, consequently, the scholars seemed as anxious to receive, as the teacher to impart instruction. Mr Young is indeed a perfect enthusiast in his profession ; but, being an enlightened enthusiast, he does not expend his ardour without producing the happy effects of softening the minds of his pupils, so as to render them easily susceptible of all kinds of good impressions. I never saw a person at the head of an educational establishment, who shewed greater command both over himself and the pupils entrusted to his care, or who had more the power, without any ap-

parent effort, of producing and sustaining that fixity of thought and attention, on which improvement so much depends. With many teachers, youth *may* make, with Mr Young they *must* make, progress ; for, from the oldest to the youngest, the greatest desire of learning seemed to pervade the whole ; while, between master and scholar, the greatest reciprocity of affection was manifested. Fear appeared as much a stranger on the one side, as sternness and reserve were on the other. The mode in which the younger classes were instructed, I did not entirely approve ; but I never, in any seminary, saw a class that exhibited such an amount of accurate, useful, and varied knowledge, as did Mr Young's highest class. The moral and religious discipline and instruction of the school, was no less remarkable than the purely intellectual ; and, accordingly, amidst the greatest ardour and rivalry for pre-eminence in position of the class, there was not the slightest appearance of dissatisfaction, jealousy, or ill temper. I have visited many schools, in all the different parts of the country, and under all the varied methods of tuition, and candour compels me to acknowledge, that, taking all things into account, I have seen none to surpass, few nearly to equal, that carried on by Mr Young ; and this superiority I ascribe exclusively to the tact and talents of the teacher. I conceive that, in Mr Young's hands, education has nearly reached its acmé of perfection, and I despair of ever seeing a school upon a great scale better conducted than the Niddry Street School under that gentleman.

ROBERT CONNELL.

XXXIV. *From John F. M'Farlan, Esq., Surgeon, late one of the Magistrates of Edinburgh.*

DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, 31st August 1840.

I have great pleasure in adding my testimony to those you have already received regarding your qualifications as a teacher of youth. The admirable order which you maintain is not the least striking proof of your superiority as a disciplinarian, while the striking progress of your pupils, the intimate acquaintance they manifest with the subjects which they are taught, the promptness and correctness of their answers in general, and the extraordinary facility with which they solve very difficult and complicated questions in arithmetic in particular, evidence the excellence of the system which is followed, and the ability with which it is conducted, and sufficiently point you out as one pre-eminently qualified for the situation to which you at present aspire. Should you be elected, it will, I conceive, be a most fortunate appointment for the Madras College of St Andrews, securing for it, as it will, the services of a most devoted and successful teacher. Heartily wishing you success, I remain, dear Sir, yours, &c.

JOHN F. M'FARLAN.

XXXV. *From Allan Menzies, Esq.*

DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, August 31. 1840.

Having had occasion, from my connection with the Dick Bequest, to visit your school in Niddry Street, and having, in three successive years, heard classes of your pupils minutely examined by teachers undergoing trial for admission to the Bequest, I am glad of an opportunity to express the high opinion which I entertain of your skill and

success as a teacher. I do not know a more striking instance than your case presents, of the possibility of stimulating children, by the use of agreeable and appropriate methods, to the acquisition of knowledge, which, from its nature and extent, had been deemed beyond the reach of our ordinary schools. No one can have heard you teach, without being struck by a singular combination of energy without harshness, and mildness without inefficiency.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

ALLAN MENZIES.

Mr Andrew Young,
of the Niddry Street School.

XXXVI. *From Andrew Falkner, Esq., late Writing Master, and a Councillor of Edinburgh.*

DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, 1st September 1840.

I received yours of the 28th inst., and feel happy to have an opportunity of expressing the high opinion I entertain of your abilities as a teacher of youth.

I have always considered you as a gentleman who has not only acquired a thorough knowledge of all the branches usually taught in the most respectable seminaries, but as one possessing also, in a higher degree than any individual with whom I am acquainted, the much more rare qualifications of temper, energy, and tact in communicating instruction. Your affability and uniform suavity of manner, cause you to be much beloved and respected by your pupils. I have the utmost confidence, therefore, in recommending you as eminently qualified to discharge the arduous, but to you pleasant, duties of a public teacher with credit to yourself, and advantage to the community.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

AND^w. FALKNER.

XXXVII. *From D. J. Thomson, Esq., one of the Magistrates of Edinburgh.*

Mr A. YOUNG,

EDINBURGH, 1st September 1840.

DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to your eminent talents as a Teacher of Youth. The visits which I have made to Dr Bell's School in Niddry Street, where you have acquired so much deserved reputation, has never failed to impress me with the very important advantages to be derived from a Teacher sincerely devoted to his profession. I am quite sure I only state the opinion of every one who has had like opportunities of judging with myself, that it is impossible to imagine one combining in a greater degree than yourself devotion to the cause of instruction with talents of the very highest order.

I wish the Patrons of Dr Bell's School were prepared to offer you such a remuneration as would secure a continuance of your valuable services, as I cannot contemplate your removal from this city as other than a serious loss to the community.

Wishing you every success, I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
D. J. THOMSON.

XXXVIII. *From Charles Marshall, Esq., Master of John Watson's Institution.*

JOHN WATSON'S INSTITUTION, 1st September 1840.

I have known Mr Andrew Young for many years, and can bear testimony to his talents, his worth, his activity, his zeal, his enthusiasm, as an instructor of youth. His merits are so well known, his character is so fully established by the flourishing condition of the school at present under his charge, that to call the attention of those concerned to that

seminary, is all that seems to me necessary to shew his qualifications for any similar but higher charge.

CHARLES MARSHALL.

XXXIX. *From John Richardson, Esq., one of the Magistrates of Edinburgh.*

SIR,

EDINBURGH, 1st September 1840.

I have very great pleasure in bearing testimony to the efficient manner in which you conduct the school in Niddry Street, at present under your charge, and particularly to the admirable exhibitions on the part of your scholars, which I am sure could not be surpassed by those of any similar establishment; indeed, I would say, without hesitation, that your qualifications as a teacher are of the first order, not more on account of your method of teaching, than from the kindness of your manner to the children, and the great discipline you keep over them, which seems to add so much to their advancement and happiness.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN RICHARDSON.

A. YOUNG, Esq.

XL. *From James Gall jun. Esq., Edinburgh.*

SIR,

Having for several years had the pleasure of visiting your school, it gives me great pleasure to express the very high opinion which I have formed of both it and you. It would be impossible to state the various excellencies which I have observed; but I have no hesitation in saying, that although I have seen many schools, I have never seen one which was its equal, nor have I seen any teacher who united

in himself so many accomplishments for the successful prosecution of a teacher's studies. Your naturally powerful mind has been highly cultivated by extensive reading, diligent study, and great experience. Your manner in teaching and addressing children is fascinating and effective, and this, combined with fervent piety and a strongly missionary spirit, constitute the most important of your qualifications as a teacher, which are of the highest order.

With anxious desires for your increased happiness and usefulness, I remain, dear Sir, yours very faithfully,

J. GALL JUN.

Mr A. Young.

XLI. *From the Rev. Archibald Bennie, Minister of Lady Yesters.*

EDINBURGH, *September 1. 1840.*

I have been requested to express my opinion of the qualifications of Mr A. Young as a teacher, and of the general manner in which the school under his superintendence in Niddry Street, has been conducted. I have had the pleasure of being present at several of his annual examinations, and it is only justice to say, that, considering the great number attending the school,—for several years nearly 500, and this year above that number,—I have never witnessed either more admirable order, or more remarkable and uniform proficiency, in any school. Indeed, the state of discipline, even in the youngest class, was quite astonishing; while the whole appearance of the scholars, the promptitude, accuracy, and spirit, with which they went through exercises in English reading, etymology, grammar, geography, history, arithmetic, and the facts and doctrines of Scripture, afforded most unequivocal testimony to the ability, enthusiasm, and

diligence, of their teacher. It is a most important circumstance to notice, respecting Mr Young's school, that almost all the scholars are the children of the working classes; and therefore it is the more remarkable that they should have been brought into such a state of discipline, as well as enabled to make such striking progress in the various branches of knowledge taught in the school.

While I consider it due to Mr Young to state this, I feel bound at the same time to add, that the education given in his school is suited to the children of the highest classes; and it has often been matter of regret with me, that the school had not been built in a part of the town where a larger proportion of the children of the higher classes might have enjoyed the privilege of attending it.

Mr Young has mentioned to me, that he intends to apply for the situation of Head English Master in the Madras College, St Andrews. I do not know any teacher so well qualified, in all respects, for such a situation; and though I would deeply regret his leaving this City, yet I could not but rejoice in the success of his present application, as a mark of confidence most justly due to his eminent merits.

ARCHIBALD BENNIE.

XLII. *From John Gordon, Esq., Secretary to the University of Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH COLLEGE, 29th August 1840.

I have had opportunities of seeing the School in Niddy Street taught by Mr Young, and can truly say that his manner of conducting it in all respects I never saw excelled. His methods are not always those which are now commonly used in the best schools: they are sometimes peculiar to himself, and when they are so, they are always

strikingly successful. Mr Young has a decided genius for teaching; and elementary instruction is probably nowhere in this country carried nearer to perfection than it is in his seminary.

JOHN GORDON.

XLIII. *From the Rev. Dr Brunton, one of the Ministers of the Tron Church.*

MY DEAR SIR, EDINBURGH COLLEGE, August 31. 1840.

I know no one better entitled than you are, to the strongest testimony which I can bear in regard to qualification and success as a teacher. I have had good opportunities of marking your professional course from its very commencement, and I can very honestly say, that I never saw the business of a school better conducted than it is by you. There are every where intelligence and cheerful activity; admirable order along with endearing kindness. The proficiency of your pupils in every branch of knowledge to which their attention is turned, is very striking, and, assuredly, nowhere more than in the noblest and most momentous of all knowledge. I have had much to do with the management of schools, but never was more entirely satisfied than with what I have witnessed in yours.

Cordially wishing you the success to which I believe you eminently entitled, I am very truly yours,

ALEX. BRUNTON.

XLIV. *From James Boyd, LL.D., one of the Masters of the High School, Edinburgh.*

31st August 1840.

After witnessing, at great length, both public and private examinations of the Bell School in this city, I beg

to state that I have never seen the working of the Madras system so admirably exemplified as in that institution, and that I regard Mr Young, its indefatigable and eminently successful teacher, as entitled to a place among the first teachers of the day. It is unnecessary to enumerate to those who have seen his system in operation, the grounds of my opinion : his enthusiasm in the business of tuition—the kindliness of his manner—the facility with which he imparts the stores with which his own mind seems, as it were, to overflow—the ingenuity and novelty of many of his methods and illustrations—the animation and energy that pervade every corner of the seminary—the perfect order maintained among nearly 600 pupils of all ages and sizes, to whom corporal punishment is almost unknown—the affection with which he is regarded by them—the variety and accuracy of the knowledge he has communicated to them—and the paramount importance which he himself attaches, and which he has taught his pupils to attach, to religious instruction, could not fail to arrest their attention. And it is fortunate, on the present occasion, that those who are interested in ascertaining his character and qualifications, are independent of written testimony. It is in the power of all to satisfy themselves.

In the event of my friend's success, I shall rejoice in his promotion to an appointment of greater emolument, and, it may be, of greater usefulness, than that which he now fills ; but shall certainly regret the loss which the community, and especially the City School, must sustain, by the removal of one who has been for so considerable a period its very life and soul.

JAMES BOYD.

XLV. *From William Pyper, Esq. one of the Masters of the High School of Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, 1st September 1840.

To those who are acquainted with the high character which Mr Young has established for himself as a teacher of youth in this city, any testimony to his extraordinary merits must appear altogether unnecessary. It is sufficient to point to Niddry Street School, which, under the management of Mr Young, has risen to an eminence unsurpassed by any similar establishment in the kingdom. Having had the happiness of witnessing, on more than one occasion, the results of Mr Young's admirable labours, at the public examination of his pupils, I can only express my conviction, a conviction which, I feel assured, I share with every one who has enjoyed the same opportunities of forming a deliberate judgment, that it is impossible to conceive a more efficient mode of cultivating the moral and intellectual powers of youth, than that pursued by Mr Young. He has also succeeded in a pre-eminent degree in uniting mildness of discipline with perfect order and subordination; and has exemplified on a great scale the powers and resources of the method of instruction recommended by the late Dr Bell.

When I consider, then, the high talents and acquirements of Mr Young, his excellent temper, his enthusiasm in the cause of education, and the wonderful success which has attended his professional labours, I feel convinced that in him the Madras College would receive an invaluable acquisition.

WILLIAM PYPER.

XLVI. *From George Knight, Esq., Teacher, George Street,
one of the Authors of the Pronouncing Dictionary, &c.*

EDINBURGH, 1st September 1840.

Having been frequently requested by Mr Andrew Young to visit his school, and as often prevented by my own avocations, I at last called at a time that suited my own convenience, and when there could be no previous opportunity for his making any extraordinary display. The lessons were, at his request, selected by myself, and I bear testimony to the great proficiency of his pupils as well as to the extent of their information. Their pronunciation was just, and their elocution natural and unaffected; their knowledge of Derivation, Orthography, Grammar, History, Chronology, and Geography, minute and accurate, and their recollection of what they had just read was exact and perspicuous. Nothing pleased me more than the complete authority which he has the tact of maintaining, without the slightest appearance of servile fear being produced in the minds of his pupils, and their unreserved prompt obedience and freedom from all envy and jealousy of one another. They lost places without the feeling of degradation, and gained them without any semblance of exultation. There reigned throughout the whole, during the two hours in which I was present, the most complete silence and order, even when a numerous class, under the care of one of his assistants, was entering from another apartment, every thing was conducted with propriety and quietness. My mind was therefore deeply impressed with a sense of his high qualifications, not only to teach in the best manner the various branches of knowledge already mentioned, but to train youth to think and act with propriety and decorum; and I had the pleasure of expressing before Sir James Spittal, formerly Lord Provost, who was a frequent visiter, and who happened to enter be-

fore my departure, my unqualified approbation of all that I had seen and heard in Mr Young's school.

GEO. KNIGHT.

XLVII. Testimonial in favour of Mr Andrew Young, from his Fellow-Teachers in Edinburgh.

We are informed that Mr Andrew Young, of Dr Bell's School, Niddry Street, in this city, has declared himself a candidate for the situation of English Master in the Madras College, St Andrews, vacant by the resignation of Mr Gibson.

While we feel that his removal from his present sphere of usefulness would prove a serious loss, not only to his own school, but to the general cause of education in Edinburgh, we deem it at the same time due to his great merits, to join in the strongest expression of our deep sense of his abilities and worth as a scholar, teacher, and member of society.

We have for years admired, but have never, till now, had an opportunity of publicly paying a tribute of praise to that moral power, which has, from year to year, among a class of the community not the most forward to value and purchase education, collected, trained, and delighted an assemblage of scholars, amounting, by an annual increase, to a number, at the close of the present session, of more than five hundred and fifty.

Mr Young has been the eminent head of Niddry Street School upwards of ten years; and some of us, who know what the school was before his induction, and what it now is, are more than warranted in saying that he has had the entire making of one of the proudest of our Educational Establishments. Niddry Street School, thus made by Mr Young, is known both to Britons and visitors from abroad as one of the objects of greatest interest in our city; and

very many of our most distinguished citizens are ready, if necessary, to bear their heartfelt testimony to his extraordinary educational powers.

The object of the present Testimonial, therefore, is simply to shew that Mr Young's character is equally estimable in the eyes of those who may be considered the most difficult to please, and the least likely to be misled—his Fellow-Teachers in Edinburgh.

While Mr Young's labours have proved so eminently successful among youth, his example and influence have been of inestimable value in stimulating others in the same path of usefulness.

- WILLIAM DUNNETT, Classical Teacher, Heriot's Hospital.
 THOMAS G. BOTHWELL, Teacher, Canongate School.
 ALEXANDER M'INTYRE, M. A., Classical Teacher, Edinburgh.
 GEO. PANTON, English Master, Heriot's Hospital.
 WILLIAM MARR, Mathematical Master, Heriot's Hospital.
 Rev. JOHN OSWALD, English Master, George Heriot's Hospital.
 JAMES LOWE, Canongate Burgh School.
 WILL^M. CLEGHORN, 12 Nicolson Square.
 Rev. WILLIAM WHYTE, Classical Master, George Watson's Hospital.
 Rev. ADAM THORBURN, A.M., late English Teacher, Watson's Hospital.
 W^M. HAMILTON, Teacher, Lady Glenorchy's School.
 GEORGE ANDERSON, Master, Heriot's Hospital School, Heriot's Bridge.
 JAMES PRYDE, Teacher, 36 George Street, Edinburgh.
 JAMES BURNS, Drummond Street Academy, Edinburgh.
 JAMES BELL, Teacher, Dr Bell's School, Greenside, Edinburgh.
 MACADAM GRIGOR, Newington Parish School.
 ROBERT RICHARDSON, Teacher in John Watson's Institution.
 JAMES M'LEOD, Teacher, Morningside Parish School.
 ALEXANDER BALFOUR, Teacher of Dr Bell's School, Leith.
 JOHN BARON BELL, Teacher, 36 George Street, Edinburgh.
 ALEXANDER BROWN, Teacher, Maclean's School, St Andrew's Parish, Edinburgh.
 JOHN RITCHIE, Teacher, St Bernard's School, Stockbridge.
 Rev. SAM. KERR, Chaplain and Teacher, Trades' Maiden Hospital.
 Rev. WILLIAM JOHNSTON, Chaplain and Teacher, Merchant Maiden Hospital.

EDINBURGH, 29th August 1840.

XLVIII. *From the Rev. T. Monro, A.M., Head-Master of
George Watson's Hospital, Edinburgh.*

MY DEAR SIR,

GEORGE WATSON'S HOSPITAL,
2d September 1840.

I have pleasure in bearing testimony to the very high and, I had almost said, unequalled reputation which you enjoy in this city as a Teacher of English.

The moral power you exert over your numerous pupils,—the extent and accuracy of the information with which you store their minds,—the skill with which you draw out their knowledge, and the perfect command you possess over their attention, cannot fail to excite admiration and surprise.

I know no one who excels you in the rare and happy combination of mental powers which have rendered you so eminent as a Teacher.

My dear Sir, yours faithfully,

THOMAS MONRO.

Mr YOUNG, Niddry Street.

XLIX. *From George Dunbar, Esq. Professor of Greek in the
University of Edinburgh.*

DEAR SIR,

ROSE PARK, 2d September 1840.

I have much pleasure in complying with your request to state my opinion of your talents and qualifications as a public teacher. During your attendance in my Second Class a few years ago, I had every reason to be highly satisfied with the zeal you displayed in studying the Greek Language, and the great progress you made during the course of the Session. I afterwards visited your School in Niddry Street, and was very much struck indeed with the energy displayed in communicating instruction in various

branches to the pupils under your charge, with the excellent order maintained in the school, and with the proficiency of every one that was examined. I can safely say, that I scarcely ever witnessed an examination that gave me more pleasure. It gave me a high opinion of your talents and qualifications as a teacher, from the clear and distinct mode of communicating information, the care taken that all should understand it, and the kindly manner in which it was imparted. I certainly think that your merits entitle you to a much better situation; and I shall feel happy if you succeed in the object of your wishes, though your removal from Edinburgh would, in my opinion, be a great loss to the school over which you have so long presided with such distinguished success.

GEORGE DUNBAR.

L. *From the Rev. David Dickson, D. D., one of the Ministers of the West Church, and Convener of the General Assembly's Education Committee.*

ST CUTHBERT'S MANSE, EDINBURGH,
4th September 1840.

Of Mr Young's principles and character, as a man and a Christian, I have long entertained the most favourable opinion; and his high qualifications and great success as a teacher of youth, are so well known, and so universally appreciated, by all who are acquainted personally with his system of tuition in Dr Bell's School, Niddry Street, Edinburgh, as to require no commendation of mine. I cannot, however, refrain from saying, that there are very few, if indeed any, who have devoted themselves to the elementary instruction of the young in the ordinary branches of a useful education, not merely secular, but especially religious, concerning whom I could certify that I believe them to be

superiorly qualified for such an important and interesting office, as that to which Mr Young has hitherto so zealously and successfully devoted his time and talents.

DAVID DICKSON.

LI. *From James Fairbairn, Esq. Rector of Bathgate Academy.*

BATHGATE ACADEMY, 2d September 1840.

MY DEAR SIR,

It affords me the highest possible pleasure to bear my testimony to your abilities as a teacher.

Long previous to my enjoying the gratification of witnessing your mode of teaching, the fame of the Niddry Street School had filled me with an earnest desire to behold in operation, a system of tuition which had commanded alike the admiration both of teachers and of the public. The vacation of 1839 afforded me an opportunity of gratifying my wishes in that respect, and I repaired to your school with my expectations raised, I may say, to the very highest pitch. I found that you had just re-opened your classes, after the usual recess; and although, as was to be expected, many of the children had not yet returned, there were, I think, in actual attendance, above five hundred. On entering the school, the first thing which struck me was the perfect order and repose which prevailed throughout so large a community. All were actively yet quietly employed; and although the rooms were very much crowded, yet, by a series of admirable arrangements, class after class was brought forward for examination, and again withdrawn, without losing a moment of time, or creating the slightest confusion,—indeed, not a whisper was to be heard.

In your examination of the English classes, there was a display, both on your own part and that of your pupils, of all that could be desired. The meaning of the lessons was

admirably developed, and the pointed and sensible answers which were made to a series of questions of the most searching nature, shewed the extreme intelligence of the pupils. Their beautiful style of reading—their accuracy and rapidity of spelling—their knowledge of etymology and grammar—were all such as to excite at once my surprise and admiration.

But, above all, there was one thing which struck me most forcibly, and which forms a principal feature in your method of teaching, that is, the extreme pains which you take in implanting religious principles, in training the dispositions, and forming the moral conduct of your pupils. To this, I should suppose, is to be ascribed that perfect harmony which exists at all times in your class, that extreme propriety of conduct maintained by every pupil, amounting, in short, to self-respect, and that devoted attachment to yourself, which is the sure result of judicious and kindly treatment.

If I came, therefore, with high expectations, these expectations were more than realised ; for I can safely say, that I never was so much delighted with the appearance of any large class, and that the Niddry Street School is, in respect of discipline, precisely what every school ought to be—a model well worthy of the imitation of every teacher in the country.

It is with feelings, therefore, of the highest admiration of your qualifications as an instructor of youth, that I do most conscientiously recommend you to the favourable consideration of the Directors of the English Department in the Madras College, St Andrews, confident that, in appointing you to the situation in question, they will be promoting, in the most direct manner, the best interests of the Institution.

Wishing you that success to which your great merits give you so just a title, I remain, my dear Sir, yours very respectfully and faithfully,

JAMES FAIRBAIRN.

LII. *From George Ross of Woodburn, Esq. Advocate.*

WOODBURN, 4th September 1840.

As I understand Mr Young, Teacher of Niddry Street School, is a Candidate for the appointment of English Teacher in the Madras College at St Andrews, I feel highly gratified in the opportunity thus afforded me of bearing testimony to his merits and qualifications as a teacher. I consider them to be of a very high order indeed; having had repeated opportunities of satisfying myself in regard to them, while he has had the charge of Niddry Street School, which is conducted on Dr Bell's system, in this city. I am fully persuaded that, if appointed to the responsible situation to which he at present aspires, he will give full satisfaction to those in whom the appointment is vested, and who will do credit to themselves, as well as to the Institution under their charge, by his nomination to the present vacancy.

GEORGE ROSS.

LIII. *From John S. More, Esq. Advocate.*

19 GREAT KING STREET,

10th September 1840.

DEAR SIR,

I have just received your note, on my arrival from the country; and though any testimonial I can give can be of little use, I may say to yourself, what I have often said to others, that you are by far the most efficient teacher I ever knew, and that your method of tuition greatly excels, in all respects, any other I ever witnessed. I have uniformly requested all who doubted of this, or who were desirous of seeing the very best system of tuition, to pay a visit to your school; and this, I am confident, will prove a far higher recommendation of your merits than any thing which your

friends can say in your behalf. I shall greatly regret should Edinburgh be deprived of your valuable services; and I had no idea that you would have relinquished your present situation for any other similar appointment. I am, dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

J. S. MORE.

LIV. *From the Rev. Henry Grey, A.M., Minister of St Mary's, Edinburgh.*

28th August 1840.

Having been present at the late examination of the Niddry Street School, I have much pleasure in expressing the high gratification I enjoyed on that occasion, and in bearing my humble testimony to the eminent talents of the teacher, and excellent acquirements of the pupils. The examination of the junior classes had ended before my arrival; that of the higher classes afforded satisfactory evidence of the results of the system of tuition pursued in the school. In passages selected by the examiners, the pupils read with propriety and good taste, and gave proof of their attention and intelligence, by prompt and correct answers to questions founded on the passages, judiciously proposed by the monitors and teacher. Many beautiful specimens of writing were exhibited; and in arithmetic, many questions were wrought out with a dispatch and accuracy that were truly admirable. It gives me pleasure to add, that the pupils appeared to be well-grounded in Scriptural knowledge, and that their whole behaviour bespoke their respect for their teacher, and habitual observance of order and decorum, giving additional attestation to Mr Young's well-established character as an instructor of singular energy, perseverance, and success.

HENRY GREY.

L.V. *From the Rev. Thomas Guthrie, one of the Ministers of Old Greyfriars, Edinburgh.*

MY DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, 8th September 1840.

In answer to yours of yesterday, I have to say, that it gives me great pleasure to bear my highest testimony to your qualifications as a teacher both of Christian and secular knowledge. The tree is known by its fruit,—the teacher by his pupils; and I have never been in your school without being both amazed and delighted with the extraordinary proficiency of the scholars. I can most honestly say, that I never saw an institution of the kind to be compared with yours; and, indeed, I feel it in a sense unnecessary for me to be bearing my testimony to the qualifications of one, the fame and praise of whose school are in all the country. With much esteem, believe me, yours most truly,

THOMAS GUTHRIE.

LVI. *From James Pillans, Esq. A.M., F.R.S.E. Professor of Humanity in the University of Edinburgh.*

MY DEAR SIR,

ABERDOUR, 15th September 1840.

I have had the pleasure of visiting the school which has most deservedly attained a very high character under your management, and have long been accustomed to regard it as one of the best conducted I have ever seen, and yourself as possessing, in a pre-eminent degree, the qualifications required in an able and successful teacher of youth.

The distinguished appearances you made as a member of the Humanity Class, contributed not a little to confirm the high opinion I had formed of your talents and acquirements.

I have therefore no hesitation in expressing my belief, that few men are better fitted than yourself to advance the usefulness and prosperity of any establishment for public instruction. I am, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

J. PILLANS.

LVII. *From the Rev. John Hunter, one of the Ministers of the Tron Church.*

EDINBURGH, 13th September 1840.

I feel great pleasure in bearing my testimony to the uncommon excellence of Mr Young as a teacher of youth. His talents and attainments are evidently of a high order, and he possesses an ease and facility in the communication of knowledge seldom surpassed. It is impossible to visit his numerous school, without being struck with the admirable intellectual and moral training of the pupils; the accuracy and extent of the information communicated; the kindness and firmness of the teacher; the happiness of the children; the order and regularity which prevail; and the unwearied efforts employed for communicating just views of the great doctrines of the gospel, and impressing them upon the heart. I should deem it an inestimable advantage to any seminary of education, to secure the services of so enlightened and admirable an instructor.

JOHN HUNTER.

LVIII. *From the Rev. William Glover, A.M., Minister of Greenside Church.*

MY DEAR SIR,

EDINBURGH, 15th September 1840.

I have great pleasure in bearing my strong and decided testimony to your personal and professional worth and excellence. I have often regretted that it was not in my power to visit as frequently as I could have wished, the school which has profited so long and so largely by your able and faithful superintendence; but I can say truly, that, as often as I did visit it, my feelings were those of unmingled satisfaction; every thing I witnessed only tending to confirm

the opinion which I was first led to form, by reports reaching me from all quarters, of your distinguished qualifications, assiduity, and success, as a teacher of youth. Should you now be removed to another sphere, though the loss sustained by the Niddry Street School will be a serious one, I trust you will be enabled to be still more extensively useful in the discharge of the interesting duties for which you are so eminently qualified. I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

WILLIAM GLOVER.

LIX. *From Alexander Dunlop, Esq. Advocate.*

EDINBURGH, 17th September 1840.

I have very great satisfaction in bearing testimony to the eminent qualifications of Mr Young as a teacher—a testimony in which I feel assured that every one will most cordially concur, who has had an opportunity of witnessing the great proficiency, and admirable discipline, exhibited in the school at present under his charge.

A. DUNLOP.

LX. *From the Rev. Andrew Mackenzie, Minister of Henderson Church, Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, 5th September 1840.

I have had frequent opportunities, during the last six or seven years, of visiting Mr Young's school; and, from what I have witnessed of the uniform good behaviour of his pupils, and their rapid progress in the different branches of education, I can confidently recommend him as a person qualified in a very eminent degree for the important office of an instructor of youth.

AND. MACKENZIE.

LXI. *From William M. Gunn, Esq. Rector of the Haddington Burgh Schools.*

HADDINGTON, 19th September 1840.

I have much pleasure in adding to the many testimonials which Mr Young, of the Edinburgh City School, must have received of his usefulness as a public instructor. Both from what I have heard and witnessed, I conceive him to belong to the first class of teachers in his department, and can bear witness to his zeal, and to his strong desire to adopt all the improvements with which the science and practice of modern education can furnish him.

W. M. GUNN.

LXII. *From the Rev. James Macfarlane, Minister of St Bernard's Parish, Edinburgh.*

44 MORAY PLACE, September 1840.

I have much pleasure in saying, that I entertain the very highest opinion of Mr Young's abilities and energy as an instructor of youth. Some time ago, I had an opportunity of visiting the school taught by him in Niddry Street, and the spectacle was most gratifying. The order of the school was most admirable; the progress of the pupils altogether beyond what I could have anticipated; and nothing could surpass the quickness and talent displayed by the teacher. I left the school under the conviction—a conviction which has been confirmed by much that I have since heard—that, in the whole style of his teaching, Mr Young stands pre-eminent. In the training of the young, he has, I believe, few equals, and no superiors. And I have no doubt that he will prove a great acquisition to any institution to which he may be appointed.

JAMES MACFARLANE.

LXIII. *From the Rev. Charles J. Brown, Minister of the New North Parish, Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH, 21st September 1840.

Having been requested to state the opinion I have been led to form of Mr Young's qualifications as an instructor of youth, and of the discipline and proficiency of his pupils in the Niddry Street School, I may just say briefly, that I have never known a teacher more thoroughly master of his profession in all respects, than Mr Young, and that the order and proficiency of his pupils have, for a long period, been an object of unqualified admiration in this city. To one who has not visited the school in Niddry Street, it would be difficult, without giving to a certificate the air of extravagant eulogium, to convey an idea of the activity and life, combined with perfect harmony and discipline, which pervade that institution; of the extent to which its teacher has succeeded in stimulating the faculties of his pupils, imbuing them with a thirst for knowledge, and thus preparing them to become their own best instructors; of the ardour and energy, the skill and unwearied perseverance, which characterize his mode of teaching. I need only further state, that the scriptural knowledge of the pupils, fully keeps pace with their attainments in other branches; and that their moral and religious culture appears to engage Mr Young's very anxious and constant attention.

CHAS. J. BROWN.

4, Marisroft,
2, Toftad.
Angus.

Oct 9TH 1996

Dear Mary Rust,

Enclosed "Testimonials" as
discussed by telephone.

I trust they will be of
interest as they are of no consequence
to me.

Yours Sincerely,
M.D. A. M. Reid.

p.s. D. H. Edwards (see face of booklet)
was a prolific editor - published of Scottish,
particularly Angus material and resided
in Brechin.