

10<sup>th</sup> December 1897.



their pursuits are eminently scientific, mistakenly suppose that they belong pre-eminently to the great army of scientific workers, because the facts or formulæ which they use have been scientifically deduced. This distinction was indicated with delicacy and tact by the late Professor Clifford, who told his hearers at the Brighton meeting of the British Association in 1872 that that Society contained three classes of members. First, scientific thinkers — persons whose thoughts very frequently evince the ability to infer the unknown from the known in a systematic and truly scientific manner. Second, people engaged in work upon what are called scientific

subjects, but who generally do not think about those questions in a scientific manner, and are not expected to do so. Third, individuals who suppose that their work and their thoughts are unscientific, but who would like to know something about the business of the other two classes of folk. At the date of this address the British Association was already five times as old as the Australasian Association is now; but in the succeeding quarter of a century it has done a great deal more to attract the attention of the third class of adherents than it did during the first forty years of its existence. Thinking men in all grades of society and in every kind of trade and profession are becoming impressed with the fundamental truth that the real distinction between the scientific and the unscientific lies in the mode of applying thought rather than in the topic concerning which thought is exercised. The most homely farmer is unconsciously bringing science to his aid when, by reasoning out a matter for himself and "putting this and that together," he is convinced that a particular defect in a certain crop will be remedied by the adoption of a different style of culture. On the other hand, the surveyor who measures this farmer's paddocks, and impresses the simple man by his use of logarithms and tables of sines and cosines, may really have far less of the scientist in him, because his employment of these aids is guided merely by rule of thumb. Science asks a man "Why?" and if he cannot give an intelligent reason for his practice or for his belief—or, at least, if he does not endeavour to discover such a reason for himself—it does not class him among its true votaries.

The avowed objects of the Australasian Association are similar to those of its British prototype, and are stated in the prospectuses and notices in terms almost identical with those in which Sir David Brewster first formulated the programme of the world-famed Association in 1831. In substance they are—



(1) To give an impulse and a direction to scientific enquiry; (2) to promote intercourse between scientific people; and (3) to secure a more general public attention to the objects of science and the removal of any disadvantages under which it may labour. Grants of money are made at each meeting to defray the actual expense of work undertaken for the settlement of some scientific question. The sums voted in Australia are necessarily very small, and yet they often serve their purposes remarkably well. In 1893, for instance, the Association allotted a trifling amount to the payment of the pick-and-shovel men who cleared away some of the débris from the rocks at Hallett's Cove, and the result was to considerably elucidate the very interesting problems of ancient glacial action in South Australia, and to prepare the way for still more remarkable discoveries. Many of the papers read at each meeting represent the results of enquiries instituted with the definite object of imparting to the world the conclusions arrived at after long periods of careful investigation, but some other essays are of very little use to anybody. The original rules of the Association provided that, in addition to the £1 subscription payable annually, membership should entail an entrance-fee of a similar amount. This latter levy, being required from any former member before he could rejoin the Association, acted as a kind of fine for the offence of dropping out of its ranks, and to some extent it debarred some people from re-enrolling themselves. When, for instance, the annual Congress was held so far afield as in New Zealand many former members, seeing no particular advantage in contributing towards the expense of meetings which they could not attend, omitted to pay their subscriptions. The rule concerning entrance-fees has now been suspended by the Council in Sydney, and it might with advantage be dropped altogether. The Association should attract really scientific workers, whether rich or poor. Self-advertising politicians and other notoriety-hunters may join principally for the sake of the prominence which membership sometimes confers, while society personages may enter its ranks mainly on account of the social engagements at which the visitors to each city are entertained; but the real life of the Association depends on the adherence of the actual scientific workers of the Australasian Colonies.



The Advertiser" 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1897.

THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

The commemoration will be held at the University next Wednesday afternoon. Up till 3 o'clock only ticketholders and members of the council and senate will be admitted, and then the doors will be opened to the public. His Excellency the Governor will be present and the Chancellor will preside. The candidates from the University who will be admitted to degrees are:—M.A. degree, Mr. R. S. Rogers; LL.B. degree, Messrs. F. W. Young and H. A. Angas; B.A. degree, Messrs. W. C. Annells, A. S. Devenish, I. E. Giles, and E. C. Padman; B.Sc. degree, Mr. C. F. Stephens; Mus. Bac. degree, Miss F. W. Campbell. The graduates of other Universities who are to be admitted *ad eundem gradum* are:—Mr. F. W. Richards, LL.D. (London), Mr. R. S. Sanders, M.D. (Edinburgh), the Rev. L. P. Crawford, M.A. (Oxford), the Rev. A. G. B. West (Oxford), the Rev. A. Wheeler (Cambridge), Mr. J. W. Salmond (London), Mr. J. F. Souter, M.B. (Aberdeen), Mr. E. A. Johnson, M.B., Ch.B. (Melbourne), Mr. A. E. Randell, M.B., Ch.B. (Melbourne), Miss Violet May Plummer, M.B. (Melbourne), Mr. H. M. Evans, M.B. (Melbourne), Mr. F. J. Chapple, M.B. (Melbourne), and Mr. A. G. Hay, B.A. (Cambridge). The prizemen to be presented to the Chancellor are:—Stow prizeman, Mr. F. W. Young; Dr. Davies Thomas scholar, Mr. A. G. Owen; Stow scholar, Mr. F. W. Young; the John Howard Clark scholar, Mr. S. W. Goode, and the Roby Fletcher scholar, Miss Ethel Roby Holder. Professor Bensley will deliver the annual address.

"Advertiser" 13. 12. 97.

The Rev. Thomas H. Frewin returned to South Australia last week, having at the request of Bishop Harmer undertaken to work in the Anglican diocese of Adelaide. Mr. Frewin was born in the neighborhood of Port Adelaide, and he had a distinguished career at the University of Adelaide, where he graduated in 1890, taking the degree of B.A. with first class honors in classics and second class in modern languages. He obtained the M.A. degree two years later, and being too young for ordination went to England for theological studies at St. Stephen's House, Oxford. In 1895 he obtained a first class in the universities' examination of candidates for holy orders, and was ordained deacon in the same year by Bishop Westcott, of Durham, proceeding to the priesthood in 1896. During his two years' ministerial career he was curate of Silksworth, near Sunderland, where he labored amongst those engaged in the collieries.