

out the world as fully as if granted by any University in the United Kingdom. This mark of your Majesty's favour was all the more distinguished, and is all the more valued by us as it also secured some advantages for the degrees of this University for women as well as for men, a privilege which was granted to the University of Adelaide before any other University in your Majesty's colonial possessions. We desire to inform your Majesty that women as well as men avail themselves of the privileges secured to them by your Majesty's letters patent by becoming students for degrees in this University. It has, we beg to assure your Majesty, being our endeavour in the past, as it shall be in the future, to secure by the character of teaching, training, and examinations of this University that a standard of learning shall be maintained amongst its graduates, worthy of the recognition, rank, and precedence for its degrees which your Majesty has been so pleased to grant. Young as the University of Adelaide may be we do not yield to any of your Majesty's subjects in attachment to your Majesty's throne, or in the loyalty of our congratulations on the length and splendour of your Majesty's reign. May it therefore please your Majesty to accept from us your Majesty's most dutiful subjects, the members of the University of Adelaide, the assurance of our most sincere and devoted homage, our humble and loyal felicitations on the completion of the jubilee of your Majesty's reign, and the expression of our fervent wishes that your Majesty may be long spared to rule as beneficially as in the past over the people at once free, loyal, united, and prosperous." Signed in the name and on behalf of the University of Adelaide, by S. J. Way, Chancellor; W. Roby Fletcher, M.A., Vice-Chancellor; Frederic Chapple, B.A., B.Sc., Warden of the Senate; and J. W. Tyas, Registrar. His EXCELLENCY intimated that he would gladly send the congratulatory address to Her Majesty at an early date.

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ANOTHER HONOUR FOR SIR THOMAS ELDER,
—On Friday afternoon His Excellency the Governor received a telegram from the Secretary of State, announcing that Her Majesty the Queen had been pleased to appoint Sir Thomas Elder a Knight Grand Cross of the distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George. This is a very high honour indeed for Sir Thomas. It is a distinction which is very rarely bestowed upon colonists, being as a rule awarded to Secretaries of State and statesmen of high rank in England who have done service for the colonies, and to a few of the Governors of the larger colonies. The Knights Grand Cross are limited to about sixty, and at present include the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, the Earl of Dufferin, Marquis of Lorne, Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Lyons, and Sir Henry Holland, the present Secretary of State for the Colonies. The only Canadians who have been honoured with the distinction up to the present are Sir A. Gault, Sir Charles Tupper, and Sir John Rose. The Australian Knights Grand Cross are Sir W. C. F. Robinson, Governor of South Australia; Sir H. B. Loch, Governor of Victoria; Lord Carrington, Governor of New South Wales; Sir W. F. D. Jervois, Governor of New Zealand; and Sir Alfred Stephen, of New South Wales. The honour has, no doubt, been conferred upon Sir Thomas in recognition of his patriotic services to the colony in which he has spent so many years. Knights Grand

Cross wear robes similar to those of Peers, but of blue satin instead of velvet. They are also entitled to supporters to their arms. The appointment of Sir Thomas to the Order is, no doubt, one of the jubilee distinctions. Sir Thomas was born in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, and in the early part of his life was engaged in mercantile pursuits, when he received a thorough grounding in business. He arrived in Adelaide thirty-three years ago, being then a partner in the firm of A. L. Elder and Co., which subsequently merged into that of Elder, Smith, & Co., of which he is the present head. During the first years of his residence here he applied himself diligently to business, which then offered special opportunities of success to a smart man. Sir Thomas was always a keen speculator, and seemed to know exactly what was the right thing to do and the proper time to do it. He did not confine his attention solely to mercantile matters, but engaged in pastoral pursuits at the same time, and now owns an immense tract of country in different parts of the colony. In 1860 he was fortunate enough to become one of the proprietors of the celebrated Wallaroo and Moonta Copper Mines, the discovery of which decided the fortunes of a considerable number of colonists, and ever since that time he has interested himself largely in mining enterprises all over the colony. In 1863 he imported a shipload of camels from India, and since that date his herd has continually been on the increase. By means of camel outfits and in other ways he has equipped exploration parties at different periods, including that led by Major Warburton, at very great personal expense, and has thus helped to lay open for settlement much country in the interior which was previously unproductive. As a stockowner, particularly of horses, Sir Thomas has perhaps done more than any other colonist to improve the breed, and in his pastoral pursuits he has rendered invaluable assistance to the State in bringing to light hidden springs of water in dry districts by artesian boring and suchlike. He was practically the pioneer of such undertakings, and has expended tens of thousands of pounds in the direction of improving land by sinking for water. A number of valuable blood horses—some of them the finest animals ever brought so Australia from England—have been imported by Sir Thomas, including the well-known and high-class stallion Gang Forward, whose value is over £4,000. For many years Sir Thomas was an active supporter of horseracing, and his colours were frequently to be seen on the turf. Of yachting also he is an admirer, having for many years sailed the yacht Edith, which he purchased from the Right Hon. Sir James Fergusson, and occupies the position of Commodore of the Glenelg Club. Indeed, hardly any public movement is initiated but what our honoured colonist is

associated with it in some way. For nine years he sat in the Legislative Council, and probably, had he been desirous of so doing, would have still retained a seat in that branch of the Legislature, but in 1878 he resigned and went to Paris as an Hon. Commissioner from South Australia to the Exhibition which was held there. Nine years ago he received the honour of knighthood, and as we remarked at the time, nobody has done more to promote the prosperity of the country than he. Sir Thomas has amassed a large fortune, and has been munificent in his donations to charitable and educational institutions. Towards the endowment and building of the Adelaide University he gave £20,000 in 1874, and in 1884 he presented £10,000 as an endowment for the Medical School of the University. He also subscribed liberally to the fund which was collected by His Excellency the Governor for the purpose of founding a Chair of Music. Four years ago the handsome Rotunda which stands on the bank of Torrens Lake, near the Adelaide Bridge, was his gift to the city, and his contributions to and support of the Zoological Gardens during the few years of its existence have helped very much to bring that interesting pleasure resort to its present state. For many years Sir Thomas has been President of the Acclimatization Society, and whilst occupying that position he took an active part in securing the establishment of the present Zoological Gardens. At the present time he is the President of the Society, which is greatly indebted to him for the assistance he has given from time to time in helping to make the Gardens attractive.