

it is plain that he was one of them. To a man of high skill in any particular line of practice it is a real source of satisfaction to be able to exert a beneficial influence over as wide a sphere as possible, whether the services be paid or honorary. Dr. Hamilton's remarks upon this head enforce some of the points to which we have called attention, and afford an answer to the assertions promulgated by those who believe, or pretend to believe, that the actions of every one but those connected with their own immediate clique have been mainly prompted by selfish motives, and that it was for nothing but the prestige of the appointment that each specialist attached himself to the honorary staff. No one supposes that Dr. T. K. Hamilton requires to use such a leverage in order to raise himself in the estimation of the public; and yet, on his own showing, he is as fully sensible of the loss of an opportunity of doing good as if he had been only a rising practitioner. Although it so happens that Dr. Lendon, who is now President of the Association, has not been of late a member of the honorary medical staff of the Hospital, he has given proof that his sympathies are entirely with that body, and that he would in like circumstances be influenced by the same spirit which animated them. Indeed the unanimity exhibited by the profession under circumstances of the most trying nature constitutes almost the only consoling feature in the whole of the unfortunate controversy, affording as it does an evidence of steady adherence to principle regardless of every effort to distract attention from the real question at issue.

Advertiser 27th June

AN ADELAIDE STUDENT.

WINS A SCHOLARSHIP.

AT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.

LONDON, June 25.

Mr. Alfred Chapple, second son of Mr. F. Chapple, B.A., B.Sc., headmaster of Prince Alfred College, Adelaide, who was bracketed equal for the Angas Engineering Scholarship at the Adelaide University last year and who proceeded to England to pursue his studies, has won a scholarship worth £50 at the Cambridge University.

Mr. Chapple also gained the Wright prize for mechanics.

Mr. Alfred Chapple is the second son of Mr. F. Chapple, headmaster of Prince Alfred College. In December, 1894, he took his Bachelor of Science degree at the Adelaide University, gaining first-class honors in physics and geology, and second-class honors in mathematics. In 1895 he and Mr. Laurence Birks came out top together in the examination for the Angas Engineering Scholarship. The scholarship was awarded them both, and Mr. Chapple on going to England elected to study electrical engineering at the Cambridge University. The scholarship now referred to is the issue of his examination for the first year's course.

*Advertiser
27th June 1896*

THE ADELAIDE HOSPITAL.

MEETING OF THE BOARD.

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.

TROUBLE ABOUT A GATE.

GRATEFUL PATIENTS.

A meeting of the board of management of the Adelaide Hospital was held at the institution on Friday afternoon, when there was present Mr. W. H. Wadey (in the chair), Mesdames Nicholls, Cullen, Edwards, and Parker, Drs. Rogers, Curtis, and Hill, the Hon. A. A. Kirkpatrick, M.L.C., Messrs. W. G. Coombs and C. Lyons, and the secretary (Mr. H. D. Haggard). An apology for absence was received from the Mayor of Adelaide.

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The Secretary read this letter from the Registrar of the University:—

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 13, concerning the proposals for clinical teaching in the Adelaide Hospital. The resolution of your board set out in your letter now under reply has been carefully considered by my council at a special and an adjourned meeting held for that purpose on June 18 and 25, and I am directed to forward to you the following resolution of my council thereon—"That the Adelaide Hospital board be respectfully informed that the scheme submitted by the council in their letter of June 3, with a view to the efficient maintenance of the medical school, contemplated that all the necessary clinical lecturers, and not three only, should be nominated by the council, subject to the approval of the Hospital Board, and whilst there was no arrangement or understanding on the part of the council that the services of Drs. Napier and Smith would be availed of, the council are glad to learn from the board's letter of June 13 that the services of these gentlemen may be made available if desired by the council for the benefit of the school."

THE HOSPITAL TROUBLE.

DEBATE IN THE ASSEMBLY.

In the House of Assembly on Wednesday Mr. Caldwell moved—

That Acts relating to the control of the Adelaide Hospital and other public institutions should be amended so as to provide for their better management.

His object was to secure clear working rules for our public institutions. Friction had occurred, notably in connection with the Adelaide Hospital and the Destitute Asylum. In all Acts it should be clearly indicated whether the control of the institution was to be by the Board representing the people or by the common functionaries of Government, who, when it chose to do so, might set at defiance both the privileges of government and the power of the people. If the management were to be by Board, clear rules were indispensable; but if by a dummy Board under the Government, then the Act and rules could be dispensed with altogether. Looking at recent events he sometimes thought that Parliament could very well be done without. (Premier—One or two members might. Laughter.) In the interests of the Premier, no doubt, but in the interests of the people it was just as well that the Pre-

mier could not have everything his own way in Parliament. We were nearing a time, it seemed, when right would be by the majority at the back of a Premier who could drive a coach and four through any Act. (Mr. Grainger—No; he drives over it now.) Thank God, a majority did not always mean justice. Justice had not been done to the Adelaide Hospital by the Royal Commission or the Government, and he would therefore state the case as from the point of view of the defence. The late Board of Management managed the Adelaide Hospital under the Acts and regulations which had obtained for many years. The policy of the late Board had been to maintain the prestige of the institution, and in conformity with this practice the more important positions in the Hospital had been filled by men and women who had acquired experience elsewhere. That was practically the case so far as the Medical Superintendent and Superintendents of Nurses were concerned. A vacancy having occurred in the Superintendency of Night Nurses through promotion of Miss McLeod in October, 1894, it was resolved by the House Committee that the Chairman make enquiry as to whether there was any nurse in the institution suitable for promotion. At the next meeting of the Board Dr. Perks recommended Miss Gordon as the most suitable person for the appointment. In reply to questions from the Chairman, Dr. Perks, who was unfortunately acting in the dual capacity of Medical Superintendent and Acting-Secretary, gave some quasi-confidential information, which the Press, being present, reported. (Mr. Brooker—Was it said to be in confidence?) No. (Premier—Some men are afraid to vote.) Others to speak and act the truth. (Premier—Ho! ho!) Seeing that an unfortunate meaning had been attached to Dr. Perks's replies, he (Mr. Caldwell) wrote to the newspapers qualifying what he said. (Premier—That he did not mean what he said. Mr. Carpenter—You did not mean what you wrote.) He always meant what he wrote. The nomination of Miss Gordon was agreed to after most careful consideration from the

Board, though he happened to be a true prophet in predicting trouble therefrom. (Premier—The exception proves the rule.) Neither Act nor regulation prevented the appointment. It was not the Board's fault Miss Gordon was the Chief Secretary's sister. Some of the very doctors were unaware of the fact. (Treasurer—There was an Act requiring confirmation of nomination.) That followed as a matter of course. At least it would have but for unnecessary interference of outsiders— ("Of the Board") — who ought not to have been taken notice of. (Hear, hear. Premier—Who are not now on the Board.) No Act or regulation prevented the appointment. (Premier—Nor the appointment of a horse doctor as House Surgeon.) The Board had taken the best possible advice from the Medical Superintendent and the Superintendent of Nurses. (Mr. Brooker—Why did you ignore Miss Banks?) He had nothing to say in reply to this question at the present time. (Premier—Tell us.) Judging by the use made of statements the less said the better. (Laughter.) He was appealing to the public who had been misled by the trumpet-blowing of the excursions Premier. (Laughter.) The Board recommended a nurse of experience. (Premier—Experience—ugh!). Some people profited more by a three years' experience than others by thirteen. The nomination of Miss McLeod was adopted in four days, but seven days after the nomination of Miss Gordon the Chief Secretary, with a delicacy which often had the appearance and effect of weakness, declined to act, as the nominee was a relative. He failed to see the necessity of the matter being referred to the Premier. (Premier—You would refer it to the office boy.) It was the Chief Secretary's duty to endorse the recommendation. (Treasurer—You would have been one of the first to find fault.) Certainly not. He hoped he was actuated by higher motives. (Premier—Don't be too sanguine.) They did not impute high motives to the Premier. It was a pity the Chief Secretary did not accept the responsibility. (Premier—No honourable man would.) The enquiry into the fitness of the nominee had been conducted by others, and therefore the Chief Secretary could have properly confirmed the appointment. (Treasurer—The Board only nominated; the Chief Secretary appointed.) The Chief Secretary only confirmed. (Mr. Butler—A mere dummy, eh?) Then for the first time the Premier, "the great democratic leader of Australia"— (laughter)—appeared; the Don Quixote, the champion of the blue ribbon of democracy. (Mr. Brooker—Surely he was not tilting at a windmill. Laughter.) He had been full of wind ever since. (Laughter.) The Premier minuted that he preferred the recommendation of the senior nurse with the capacity for the appointment. (Premier—Can you find fault with that?) He himself had moved for a report from Dr. Perks with reference to seniority and merit. It was not till pointed out to him where the interest of the institution came in that he withdrew from his position. (Treasurer—That is where you made the mistake.) No. The Board returned a minute that the recommendation had been made after due enquiry as to seniority. Was there any fault to be found with that? (Premier—It did not answer the question; it is like one of your answers.) The Medical Superintendent reported that Miss Gordon, who was certificated, was the only suitable promotion. (Premier—

The certificate had nothing to do with it.) It came under a rule made before he joined the Board, and based on safe experience. (Premier—Is the rule in print?) He did not know. (Mr. Archibald—Were the uncertificated nurses incapable?) That did not necessarily follow. A deadlock followed. (Premier—The statement of the attitude of the Government was applauded to the echo when made to the House.) The House had then no opportunity of judging. The Premier desired the Board to assure him that there was no charge nurse senior to Miss Gordon capable of filling the post. (Premier—I did not say "desire." I said, "If I am assured." I knew the Board could not assure me.) The Premier wanted to draw the Board. (Premier—I wanted the Board to do right.) The question of seniority was intruded by the Premier upon the Board. (Premier—It affects every Civil Service appointment.) Special positions required special qualifications. (Premier—Do you suggest eleven nurses were not capable?) They were excellent in their position, but were not recommended by those best qualified to select. Mr. Caldwell then dealt with the appearance of Misses Hawkins and Graham. Miss Hawkins communicated over the head of the Board with the Premier, who referred her charges to the Board for investigation. (Premier—Was not the whole matter enquired into by a Royal Commission?) The matter was not put as he put it. (Mr. Archibald—You have a patent way.) The Board recommended the lady who defied the Board and the Premier, saying she had been advised not to make a statement, and she demanded an independent Board. (Mr. O'Loughlin—Who were the solicitors?) That was beside the question. The Government refused an application for a Civil Service Board, and to the credit of the Premier when duty called him away he left the settlement of the matter with the Treasurer, whose attention was greatly appreciated by the Board. The Treasurer at once adopted the Board's recommendation. (The Treasurer—I did what the Premier would have long before done if the assurance had been given.) There had been no withholding it. (The Premier—There was excessive assurance.) Not speaking of himself, there was no more honourable Board than that was. (The Premier—Why except yourself?) The Treasurer confirmed the nomination. (The Treasurer—What did the Board then proceed to do?) They went about their business. (The Premier—To punish the two women.) Insubordination could not be tolerated. They modestly required an apology, which was refused. To the credit of the Royal Commission, their finding fully exonerated the Board. (The Premier—The Commission said the Board should not have pressed for the apology.) If they wanted to govern without law nothing

should be pressed. The Board had no alternative but to suspend Miss Hawkins in her office and terminate the services of Miss Graham. (The Treasurer—Why did you not suspend both?) The positions were different. The explanations of Dr. Perks fully justified the distinction. To make a long story short—(Ministerial cheers)—he told the story to secure good order in institutions. (Ministerial cheers.) He noticed Dr. Cockburn smiling. (Laughter) During the greater part of the muddle the sympathy of Dr. Cockburn was with the Board. (Dr. Cockburn—Oh!) If any value was to be attached to what Dr. Cockburn and Mr. Gordon had told him (Mr. Caldwell) in private the Board had the sympathy of both hon. members. He therefore failed to see where the sarcastic smile of Dr. Cockburn came in. (Premier—Are you not repeating private conversation? Mr. Archibald—He only says that because the Minister of Education is a doctor.) Those remarks were unwarranted. He knew more than he intended to

After the Government had refused a Civil Service Board, an irresponsible body, well represented in the House, carried a resolution which compelled the Government to take the unnecessary step of appointing a Royal Commission under the miserable pretext of enquiring into the management of the Hospital. (Mr. Archibald—Have you been reading poetry again?) They had had a mild example of what mob rule led to. (Mr. Archibald—What about Conservative lackeys?) Some interesting meetings of the Commission were held, and he wrote suggesting to the Chairman that they should visit the other colonies and compare the management of similar institutions. (Premier—Ho, ho.) Why not, when the reason for the appointment was to enquire into the management? Certain recommendations were made by the Commission which bore out the requests made by the old Board long before the Commission existed. The report of the Commission was brought up, and without consulting Parliament the Government proceeded at once with its adoption. Could a solitary example be given where a report of a Royal Commission had been brought up and adopted without the House having been consulted? (Premier—You were told in the Governor's Speech that

Royal Commission
House. (Treasurer—Yes; they have.)
an instance. A Royal Commission was appointed in the interests of the public, and members of Parliament should have the fullest opportunity of considering its report. Parliament had no reason to be satisfied with what had taken place, because there had been complications which had jeopardized the Hospital, at any rate, so far as the poor were concerned. (Mr. McPherson—Nonsense; the Hospital is as good as it was, and better.) Where, then, the necessity to send to England for medical practitioners? (Hear, hear. Premier—To make it better. Mr. Coneybeer—To improve it.) The old Hospital Board were told to make their choice in the colony; why go outside, then? (Mr. McPherson—If it was bad before, should we not go out of the colony to make it better?) No hospital south of the Equator could show better results than the Adelaide Hospital before the Government interfered with it. (Mr. McPherson—They record all their successes, but what about their failures?) Dr. Russell was to be insulted by being superseded by an outsider whom hon. members of a certain party might consider a blackleg. (Laughter. Mr. McPherson—You don't understand the position.) He could not understand the inconsistency of the Government in this matter. It should be clearly stated by Act how appointments should be made, so that the Premier could not further ignore the position. (Treasurer—The Board may nominate now, and the Government approve.) But it did not say who should be appointed. (Laughter. Premier—Put their names in the schedule.) Interference of the Government had clearly shown that an alteration was required to prevent disaster in the future. Clause 12 of the Act of 1867 was clear enough for ordinary purposes, but for exceptional circumstances it would be well to have the lines of nomination indicated, so far as education, seniority, and general fitness for certain duties were concerned.

On the motion of Mr. Brooker the debate was adjourned for a fortnight.

THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL AND THE BOARD.

ADDITIONAL PROBATIONERS.

The ordinary general meeting of the Adelaide Hospital Board was held at the institution on Friday afternoon. There were present:—Mr. W. H. Wadey (in the chair), the Hon. A. A. Kirkpatrick, M.L.C., Messrs. C. Lyons and W. G. Coombs, Drs. Hill, Rogers, and Curtis, and Mesdames Nicholls, Parkin, Edwards, and Cullen.

The Chairman, Mr. C. Tucker, Mayor of Adelaide, apologized for non-attendance.

The Secretary read the following letter from the Registrar of the Adelaide University, written under date June 25:—

“Sir—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 13 concerning the proposals for clinical teaching in the Adelaide Hospital. The resolution of your Board set out in your letter, now under reply, has been carefully considered by my Council at a special and adjourned meeting held for that purpose on June 18 and 25, and I am directed to forward to you the following resolution of my Council thereon:—‘That the Adelaide Hospital Board be respectfully informed that the scheme submitted by the Council in their letter of June 3, with a view to the efficient maintenance of the Medical School, contemplated that all of the necessary clinical lecturers, and not three only, should be nominated by and be subject to the approval of the Hospital Board, and whilst there was no arrangement or understanding on the part of the Council that the services of Drs. Napier and Smith would be availed of, the Council are glad to learn from the Board’s letter of June 13 that the services of these gentlemen may be made available if desired by the Council for the benefit of the school.’”

Dr. ROGERS moved the postponement of the consideration of the letter till the next meeting.

Dr. CURTIS seconded, as they required time for consideration. It would be as well to postpone it till the arrival of the two medical men from London, for they could then ascertain the wishes of those gentlemen in regard to giving clinical lectures, and the whole scheme could be arranged.

Mr. C. LYONS also supported the postponement of the consideration of the letter till the next Board meeting. The memorandum attached to the last resolution was such that he could not understand it, and the clause of this letter giving the resolution of the Council of the University rendered the matter still more involved, for it started off with a statement the correctness of which he was not prepared to endorse.

The Secretary read the following docket from the Chief Secretary in reply to the request of the Board for authority to employ two additional probationers:—

“Returned to the Chairman of the Board—Has the number of patients increased, or what is the necessity for appointing extra nurses? Shall be glad of further information.—J. V. O’L., C.S. 23/6/96.”

The letter of the Board to which this was a reply was as follows:—“I have the honour by direction of the Board of Management to request authority for the engagement of two extra probationers. It is found that the pre-

sent staff is not sufficient to work the wards efficiently, as the nominal strength of the nursing staff is permanently reduced by those absent on leave or from illness.—I have, &c.,
H. D. HAGGARD.”

Mr. C. LYONS did not consider the docket very courteous to the Board. It was considered at the last meeting that the facts were sufficient to warrant the request. The explanation was that the Board recommended the appointment.

The Hon. A. A. KIRKPATRICK thought that the reply to the question of the Government should be “because the Hospital, in the opinion of the Board, requires it.”

Mr. C. LYONS moved that a reply be sent to the Government that in the opinion of the Board it was considered necessary that the two probationers should be appointed.

The Hon. A. A. KIRKPATRICK seconded.

Dr. ROGERS thought that the Government might be supplied with particulars.

Mrs. NICHOLLS pointed out that the Superintendent of Nurses had recommended it to the Medical Superintendent; it was brought before the House Committee, who enquired into it; and the Board also approved it. The nursing staff was not sufficient to work the wards when any were away on their holidays or when one occasionally was ill. Two more were required. The expense, they considered, would be a very trifling matter, and if the Superintendent did not know there was necessity for it she would not have recommended it. It did not mean any enlargement of the nursing staff in any way. The nurses in a hospital like this should not be overworked. It was not a question of how many patients there were in a ward, but that there were so many patients there, and they had to be attended to.

The CHAIRMAN understood that the Superintendent of Nurses and the Medical Superintendent had considered the matter, which had also come before the House Committee and the Board, and been approved.

Mr. C. LYONS said that if the Government were always going to refer things back to them like this, and think they had nothing else to do with their time, some of them would hesitate as to whether their time was being properly spent. The ground had been thoroughly covered in this case. It was a small matter, but an actual necessity, and there was no necessity for a report on the matter.

The Hon. A. A. KIRKPATRICK considered that that was the proper stand to take up, as the Board was appointed to look after the work of the Hospital, and the reason they gave—that they desired the appointments—should be sufficient.

The motion was carried.

The question of the accommodation of the new Resident Medical Officers was then considered. The Hon. A. A. KIRKPATRICK mentioned that at the invitation of Dr. Hill several members of the Board had looked over the premises, and they found that there was no accommodation at the Hospital suitable for the gentlemen who were coming out from England. Before making final arrangements at the Hospital they should secure temporary accommodation outside, so that the medical men should be consulted as to what accommodation they would like. Mr. LYONS moved that a sub-committee, consisting of the Mayor, the Hon. A. A. Kirkpatrick, Dr. Rogers, and the mover, be appointed to make enquiries and lay the information before the Board. The Hon. A. A. KIRKPATRICK, M.L.C., seconded.
Carried.

The following letters were read:—

“The Secretary Adelaide Hospital. Sir—Kindly please convey this, my sincere expression of heartfelt gratitude, to the doctors and nurses who attended my late poor afflicted, long-suffering wife whilst she was under their tender care, and you will much oblige yours respectfully, T. MORIARTY.”

Mr. R. Baker, member of the Port Adelaide Working Men's Association, wrote to the House Surgeon:—“I feel I cannot leave your Hospital without some expression of my grateful thanks to yourself and staff for the wonderful way you have brought me through a severe attack of pneumonia. I feel quite confident that although I am still very weak my life was saved by your skilful treatment and the constant attendance and good nursing of Nurse Graham. I am not in a position to contribute towards the institution, but I am proud to acknowledge my thanks, which I trust you will accept.”

“To the Adelaide Hospital Board.—I beg through you to tender my sincere thanks to the medical staff and also to the nurses for their very great kindness and perseverance towards my sister, Sarah Ann Williams, during her stay at the Hospital, and also for the courtesy shown by allowing friends to remain by her at all times, day or night, during her illness. Although the disease proved fatal I am perfectly satisfied that everything possible was done for her by the medical staff and nurses to relieve her suffering during the whole time she was there, for which services please accept the united thanks of myself and friends.—I am, &c., G. JEFFERY.”

The Medical Superintendent's report for the two weeks ended June 25 stated:—Patients admitted, 60; discharged, 65; died, 9; now in Hospital, 178; outpatients treated, 590, of whom 102 were new. Cause of deaths—Pneumonia, miliary tuberculosis, carcinoma of œsophagus, pulmonary tuberculosis, tubercular meningitis, dysentery, peritonitis, fracture of cervical spine, and carcinoma uteri. There are now fifteen cases of typhoid fever in the institution.

THE HOSPITAL BOARD UPON ITS DIGNITY.—The Hospital is a veritable surprise packet. Would any one have dreamt that the members would have resented any act of the Government dealing with the inner working of the institution? They have done so. Some time ago the Secretary wrote to the Chief Secretary asking his approval of the appointment of two additional probationers. To this the Chief Secretary wrote enquiring if the number of patients had increased, or what was the necessity for the increase in the number of probationers. At once the Board was upon its dignity. To ask such a question was discourteous, and the opinion was expressed that the mere fact that the Board had recommended the appointments ought to be sufficient for the Government. The Hon. A. A. Kirkpatrick thought the answer should be, "because the Hospital needed them." Dr. Rogers, conciliatory as ever, hoped reasons would be sent but the Board would have nothing to do with his suggestion. It came out that the increase had been recommended by the Superintendent of Nurses, the Medical Superintendent, the House Committee, and the Board, and the answer that it was decided to send back was that the two probationers were necessary.

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.—"Hope deferred maketh the heart sick" applies indeed to the students of the Medical School, for after many weeks of waiting, buoyed up with unfulfilled promises, they are now no better off than they were the day the honorary staff left the Adelaide Hospital. It will be remembered that a committee of the University and the Hospital agreed that three medical gentlemen should have charge of certain wards as clinical lecturers, but the University Council refused to sanction this proposal, and wanted six lecturers with the control of 100 beds. When the Hospital Board considered this they decided to consent to it, on the understanding that, "as formerly arranged, the services of Drs. Napier and Ramsay Smith, the Resident Surgeons, will be availed of." However, the University did not understand anything of the sort. So they told the Hospital Board in a letter which was read at the meeting on Friday that the "scheme submitted by the Council in their letter, with a view to the efficient maintenance of the Medical School, contemplated that all of the necessary clinical lecturers, and not three only, should be nominated by the Council subject to the approval of the Board, and whilst there was no arrangement or understanding on the part of the Council that the services of Drs. Napier and Smith would be availed of the Council are glad to learn from the Board's letter that the services of these gentlemen may be made available if desired by the Council for the benefit of the School." This letter the Board decided to leave over until the next meeting, and there was a feeling that it would be wise to postpone further action until the arrival from England of Drs. Napier and Smith.