

Ms. Barker Paper.
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death. One of the company (Stuart, afterwards the famous explorer), however, happened to notice a native pigeon alight for a moment in the distance, and with wonderful instinct he concluded that the bird had only rested just long enough to allow of its wetting its bill. They proceeded to the spot, and fortunately got an adequate supply of water. After this wonderful deliverance, the party divided into two sections, one going north and the other towards Lake Eyre. On rejoining they returned to Adelaide, and Stuart published his map and wrote a couple of books—one dealing with the rivers and the other with the interior. Thus it was, through much suffering and privation on the part of brave men, that the map of Australia was gradually filled in.

Stuart, the young draughtsman who had accompanied Sturt, continued Mr. SUTHERLAND, had a fixed idea that he would discover the interior of Australia if he had a chance. Between 1850 and 1860 he commenced a few short expeditions to try and find new country for pastoralists. Accompanied by a companion and a native, he first went to Eyre's Peninsula, where, being deserted by the native, he only saved his life by a forced ride through the dense scrub and sandy country. During this part of the journey they were without food and water. Afterwards he went further into the North, and reached Chambers' Creek, which in subsequent explorations he made his lower depot. In recognition of his labors the Government gave Stuart some land at the Stuart Ranges, but he was not the man to settle down, and so he never made any use of it. Two pastoralists (Messrs. Chambers and Fink) wanted more pastoral country, and again Stuart set out, this time determined to cross the continent. He examined the country right up to the Fink Creek and on to Central Mount Sturt (which he named after his old chief as a mark of gratitude for kindness shown him in the expedition of 1843). Here on April 23, 1860, he erected a cave of stones and planted the British flag, also leaving a bottle with a slip of paper therein, on which were written particulars of the event. This place was now wrongly marked as Central Mount Stuart. Some as a result said that the frequent occurrence of the explorer's name on the map showed that Stuart was an egotist. He was nothing of the sort, and the McDouall Range higher up was named after a distinguished uncle, not after himself. As provisions were now getting low the party returned to Adelaide. Later Stuart went right up to within a few hundred miles of the northern limits of Australia, but the trip was one of reverses and troubles. At Attack Creek the natives made a determined effort to annihilate the party, and it was only after a sharp encounter, in which several of the blacks were shot, that the party managed to get away and returned to the city. The Government now voted Stuart £2500 with which to fit out an expedition, and this time they got into terribly rough country near the Gulf of Carpentaria. Their pack horses had been severely tried, and were unfit for further progress, so again a return was made to the city. Stuart's final and successful attempt to cross the continent was commenced from Adelaide in 1861, but just after crossing over the North-road an accident occurred to the leader which nearly caused the expedition to fall through. One of the horses reared up and struck him with its knee, knocking the unfortunate man senseless, and also afterwards came down on his hand, crushing it badly. Stuart was taken back to Adelaide, where he remained for a month. He then set out to overtake the party. The company went on to Attack Creek and from thence to Daly Waters, from whence they struck out for the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Stuart always took pack and riding horses with him, and the numerous short branches on the outline of his travels was explained by the fact that he conducted cautious trips in search of water, and if none was met with he returned and went in another direction. After leaving Daly Waters the party met with dense vegetation, and were obliged to go east, and so struck the Gulf. Stuart called the place Chambers' Bay, in honor of Miss Chambers, who had presented him with the flag. The party gave cheers for the Queen and the Prince of Wales and bathed in the sea. They then pushed on and came out at Van Diemen's Gulf, on the northern shore of South Australia. The party (consisting of Messrs. Stuart, Thring, Kewich, Billatt, King, Auld, Frew, Nash, McGorrey, and Waterhouse) returned by the track to the Burra, and then took train to Adelaide, arriving in the city just at the time when the remains of Burke and Wills were brought in.

Mr. SUTHERLAND, in referring to the misfortune which overtook the party to which Burke and Wills belonged, said that Stuart was not the first man to cross Australia. The party under Burke left Melbourne in 1860 and successfully reached the Gulf of Carpentaria. The ship which was to convey provisions for the return journey could not be sighted, however, and the home-going was a most harrowing narrative of misadventure and suffering. On reaching Cooper's Creek, the place appointed as a depot, they found that the relief party had left a few hours previously, and, with provisions all exhausted, death stared them in the face. Mr. King was the only one of the party who was saved. The remains of Messrs. Burke and Wills were discovered by a search party at Cooper's Creek, and were sent to Adelaide and from thence on to Melbourne.

In concluding a most instructive lecture Mr. SUTHERLAND said that Sydney had a fine statue of Captain Sturt, and he (the lecturer) would like to see statues in our towns of those men who had done so much for the exploration of Australia. For instance, why should we not have a statue of Stuart for this work were at hand, and certainly the people of South Australia should bestir themselves and do something to perpetuate the memory of those brave men who had sacrificed their lives to make Australia

THE TEACHERS' CONFERENCE.

—University Education of Teachers.—
Inspector L. W. Stanton spoke on "The University Education of Our Teachers." They were endeavouring to remove the re-

proach once made that the primary teachers of Australia were among the least educated of their profession in the world. Higher education was important to the teacher and to the world at large. Its advantages were intellectual, professional, social, and moral. The university would aid the teacher by giving him full and accurate knowledge. Could there be anywhere more need for exact knowledge than among the teachers of the young? Normal colleges were not designed to undertake instruction to others than teachers, and were necessarily hindered and procrustean. At the university there were not the limits which produced these results. It was well to choose from a wide diversity of subjects, and the wise student would always do that. In that way individuality and personality were developed. As the primary teacher was to have a higher education than in the past, the pupils of the higher classes in primary schools would embrace studies now classed as secondary. It was recognised as good management to place the best teachers in charge of the youngest children, and education would not unfit them for their work. The benefit of advanced culture was derived from the mental discipline that had to be gone through. As their physical powers were strengthened by training, their mental powers were improved by a proper course of study. It would be an incalculable gain if it were possible to increase the student's term at the university to three or even four years. The career of their young people at the university justified what had been done, and more. (Cheers.) Their students, and particularly the girls, had gained high places in the terminal examinations, and had shown that in mental power they were not one whit behind their brothers. He hoped the male students would turn attention to the study of agriculture, which would be included in the B.Sc. course. The advantages of a higher education were great, giving self-confidence, banishing exclusiveness, and begetting a really healthy esprit-de-corps.

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CONVERSAZIONE AT THE UNIVERSITY.

A large number of members of the union accepted the invitation of the council of the Adelaide University to attend a conversazione at the Elder Hall on Wednesday evening. The Chancellor (Sir Samuel Way, Bart.) and the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow) received the guests from 7.30 to 8 o'clock. An excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music had been arranged, and Professor Douglas gave an interesting and instructive lecture on "Fra Angelico," describing the influences which contributed to the development of his artistic powers, and indicating some of the leading features in the progressive periods of his work. The lecture was illustrated by a number of fine limelight representations of the great artist's work.

Mr. T. H. Jones, Mus. Bac., in his opening organ solo, gave a really fine interpretation of the "Sonata in G Minor," op. 38 (Gulman), in which the stately rhythm and soft color effects characteristic of the composition of the brilliant French composer were illustrated with artistic insight and mastery technique. In the opening movement the facility of the performer and the ready response of the instrument to his manipulation were alike evident. The adagio, which is tuneful and suggestive, displayed the color combinations of the solo stops, the vox humana and vox celeste stops being particularly effective. In the closing fugue the dexterity shown by Mr. Jones in his use of the pedals, on which his lofty and sustained theme moves to a grand finale, won universal approval from the audience.

A selection from a sonata by Grieg for violin and piano was nicely rendered by Mr. Eugene Alderman and Miss Maude Puddy, A.M.U.A., and was followed by a pleasing song, "A word of praise" (P. Ayward), sympathetically sung by Miss Martha Bruggemann. Miss Ethel Cooper gave a brilliant interpretation of a pianoforte selection from the works of Liszt. Sullivan's popular song, "Neath my lattice," was finely rendered by Miss Francesca Spahr, and was greatly appreciated. Two violin selections by Kreisler and Wieniawski made an attractive number, being rendered with skilful technique and excellent taste by Mr. William Cade. Miss Katie Joyce sang Bishop's pretty song, "Should he upbraid?" with fine expression. A midget from Padervald was a charming item, and showed Miss Gertrude Smythe's power as a pianist to advantage. Sullivan's song, "My dearest heart," is always a welcome number, on a concert programme, and Miss Ada Thomas left nothing to be desired in her tasteful rendition of it. The sextet "I hear the soft note" (Sullivan) has been given in Adelaide several times recently, but has lost none of its power to please. Misses Alice Sayers, Ethel Hancock, and May Whillies, Messrs. Maurice Chenoweth, J. Treloven, and Harry Mummie sustained the reputation of the combination in their well-balanced rendering of the piece. The entertainment closed with a dramatic scene, "Ingomar." The principal parts were taken as follows:—Parthenia, Miss K. G. Wylie; Actea, Miss D. McLean; Lykon, Mr. H. H. Cowell; Polydor, Mr. H. McGowan.

UNIVERSITY CONVERSAZIONE.

On Wednesday evening the members of the Teachers' Union were entertained at a conversazione in the Elder Hall by the chancellor and council of the university. The guests were received on their arrival by the chancellor, Sir Samuel Way, Bart., and the vice-chancellor, Dr. Barlow. In addition to the officers and members of the union there were present several members of both Houses of Parliament, and representatives of the council and senate of the university. At the conclusion of the reception Mr. T. H. Jones, Mus. Bac., gave an organ recital, which was much appreciated.

—Lecture by Professor Douglas.—

Professor Douglas delivered an interesting and instructive lecture on the life and art of "Fra Angelico." He briefly reviewed the various religious, artistic, and intellectual influences which moulded the character and artistic ideals of the great Dominican painter, and explained the part which he took in the artistic revolution which marked the opening years of the 15th century. The lecture was illustrated by a number of excellent limelight views of the architectural and scenic beauties of Florence and the other Italian towns in which the great painter spent the greater part of his life. A number of photographic reproductions of Fra Angelico's pictures and frescoes were also thrown upon the screen. The lecturer expressed the opinion that "50 minutes spent in contemplating one of the great artist's original masterpieces would be more profitable than a cycle devoted to the study of even the best process or photographic reproductions." He admitted, however, that those who had not been privileged to see the former might obtain from the latter a more vivid conception of the changes in Fra Angelico's style at different periods of his career than it would be possible for him to convey by verbal explanation alone. The lecture was listened to with great attention, and Professor Douglas was heartily applauded at the conclusion of his scholarly address.

—The Music.—

During the evening the following musical programme was rendered:—Sonata, for violin and piano (first movement), Mr. Eugene Alderman (Elder scholar); and Miss Maude Puddy, A.M.U.A. (Elder scholar); song, "A word of praise," Miss Martha Bruggemann; pianoforte solo, Miss Ethel Cooper; song, "Neath my lattice," Miss Francesca Spahr; violin solo, Mr. William Cade; song, "Should he upbraid," Miss Katie Joyce; pianoforte solo, Miss Gertrude Smythe; song, "My dearest heart," Miss Ada Thomas; sextet, "I hear the soft note," Miss Alice Sayers, Miss Ethel Hancock, Miss May Whillies, Mr. Maurice Chenoweth, Mr. John Treloven, and Mr. Harry Mummie. An enjoyable entertainment was brought to a close by the rendering of the first scene from "Ingomar." The characters were:—Parthenia, Miss K. G. Wylie; Actea, Miss D. McLean; Lykon, Mr. H. H. Cowell; Polydor, Mr. H. McGowan.

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CAMBRIAN GLACIAL BEDS.

To the Editor,

Sir—In "The Register" on Tuesday appears under the heading "Cambrian Glacial Beds," a letter signed by "Student," in which the writer criticises some remarks made by your correspondent at Beltana on my recent visit to that neighbourhood. The letter in question is so confused and inaccurate that it ought not to pass without correction. The writer is in error in stating that the account came from "your correspondent at Blinman"—it should be Beltana. He is wrong in stating that the discovery of Archaeocyathinae fossils in South Australia was made by the late Professor Tate. This honour belongs to Mr. J. G. O. Tepper, and the discovery was made in the first instance at Ardrossan, Y.P. Moreover, Professor Tate did not describe these forms, as asserted by "Student," but he sent the Ardrossan material, as well as some from Kanyka and Wirralpa, to Mr. R. Etheridge, of Sydney, who described them in the Royal Society (S.A.) Transactions, 1890. The Archaeocyathinae beds of the ranges on the east side of Beltana were not discovered by Professor Tate, but by Mr. J. V. Parkes, the inspector of mines, at the time when visiting the Ajax Mine. Mr. Parkes kindly gave the samples on his return, and also sent some to Dr. G. J. Hinde, of London, who exhibited them at a meeting of the Geological Society in 1892. Mr. H. Y. L. Brown, the Government Geologist, also gave me a fine slab of the fossils from the same locality about the same time. The idea of claiming to be the discoverer of this fossiliferous bed is absurd, and is not even hinted at by your correspondent. In making a collection of these interesting fossils I selected the locality of the Ajax Mine, Beltana, because the specimens already in my hands from that neighbourhood occurred more abundantly, were better preserved, and yielded larger examples than I had seen from other places. The group of fossil forms referred to are very obscure, and great differences of opinion have been entertained by scientific men as to their zoological relationships. They have been variously referred by different observers to the foraminifera, the sponges, stromatopora, corals, and even to the calcareous algae. Additional light on their true nature is eagerly desired. Hitherto the material examined from the South Australian beds has been of a very limited character. Quantity was needed, and to get this two days was spent on the ground, with the result that several hundredweights of the highly fossiliferous rock has been secured and brought to town. After some preliminary examination and sorting the selected material will probably be placed for elucidation in the hands of Dr. Hinde, of London, or some other specialist. "Student" seems to have confounded the occurrence of the Archaeocyathinae fossils with the fossiliferous Cambrian beds in general. Relatively few of the Cambrian horizons are fossiliferous at all, and still fewer contain the peculiar and interesting