

ELDER HALL.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

A special congregation of the Adelaide University was held on Wednesday afternoon in connection with the formal opening of Elder Hall. That building was filled with a brilliant and fashionable gathering. Prior to the assembly of the members of the Senate and Council, who wore academic costume, and at intervals in the proceedings, the students presented a musical programme. They were as irreproachable as ever. The Chancellor of the University, Right Hon. Sir Samuel Way, Bart., presided, and amongst those present were Lord and Lady Tennyson and their sons, Rear-Admiral Pearson, and Lord Richard Nevill, who were received by a guard of honour composed of members of the Cadet Corps under Lieutenant Leachen.

The Chancellor, upon the arrival of the viceregal party, said:—"On behalf of the Adelaide University, the Council, the Senate, and this compact gathering of undergraduates I bid your Excellency and Lady Tennyson a hearty and loyal welcome. Our pleasure is heightened because Lady Tennyson has been graciously pleased to be present, and I am sure my enthusiastic young friends behind me are as pleased as I am to see their dear little boys with them. (Students—"Trise.") We are all very much gratified that His Excellency the Admiral has honoured us with his company this afternoon. I am sure that your Excellency's practised eye did not pass without notice the young guard of honour which received you, and I think your ear must have detected a genuine ring in the lusty manner in which "God save the Queen" and "Jack Tars" were sung. You will readily believe me when I say that the contingents who have fought with such bravery for Queen and Empire and freedom in South Africa, and the dispatch of the Protector to aid the British fleet in pacifying China, have not exhausted the gallantry and loyalty and patriotism of South Australians. (Cheers.) There has been some delay in the opening ceremonial in connection with Elder Hall, but it has not been without some corresponding advantages. One compensation is that we have the pleasure of the company this afternoon of the teachers of the primary schools, with whom the University has been brought into such a close and happy relation by the new arrangement which has been made for the training within the University halls of pupil teachers. Two years ago to-day Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton laid the foundation-stone of this building. Since the beginning of the year the classrooms have been occupied by the Conservatorium, and this hall has been used for examination purposes, and the acoustic properties have been tested by the musical recitals which formed part of our opening celebration and by the sonorous voices of my young friends behind. In our humble judgment the architect of this building has displayed great professional skill in his designs. Mr. Naish's designs have been faithfully carried out by the contractor, Mr. Torode, and I trust your Excellency will not regard this hall as unworthy of the purposes for which it is dedicated, or unworthy to bear the honoured name of the munificent founder and benefactor, Sir Thomas Elder. (Applause.) I now ask your Excellency to do us the great favour of giving your address and declaring this building open. (Cheers.)

His Excellency said:—"I understand that on an occasion like this it is customary for the visitor of the University to deliver a brief address. I therefore comply with the request of your illustrious Chancellor to say a few words. First of all, I thank you, my junior fellow-members of the University of Adelaide (the students) for your right cordial, right British-Australian welcome, and I take this opportunity of sincerely felicitating the University upon the important work it is accomplishing in South Australia, and upon the proud place it holds among other Universities, and of expressing my gratitude to the Chancellor and other graduates for the conspicuous honour they are conferring on me to-day—the greatest honour which South Australia could possibly confer on any of her friends—an LL.D. degree. I am asked also to-day to open this Conservatorium and the Elder Hall. Some time ago a statue of Goldsmith was erected in front of Trinity College, Dublin. It stood several months before the gaze of an admiring public. Suddenly some of the authorities thought it ought to have been properly unveiled, so they wrapped it up for a week in sackcloth, and the Viceroy then formally unveiled it amid pomp and the jubilation of the Irish people. (Laughter.) I confess that the opening of this hall seems to be an exactly parallel case. I have attended a fine performance of "Athalia"—to open the hall. I have attended a brilliant piano performance—to open the hall. Now I am asked to reopen it positively for the last time. (Laughter and applause.) I therefore with much pleasure declare the Conservatorium and Elder Hall open. (Cheers.) This University is a quarter of a century old, and during its existence I could point out, if I were so cruel as to keep you listening to me for more than ten minutes, how vastly under your Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors it has improved for good the life of this province. Two facts alone speak for themselves. Five thousand one hundred and ten students have attended your classes, and 17,167 have passed your public examinations. I rejoice that at the dawn of the new century you are widening the horizon of education, and that during my term of office the University has taken the most progressive step of all—that of educating the teachers of the State schools free of cost to those teachers and to the State. I rejoice also that under my Governorship your library, owing to the splendid munificence of Mr. Barr Smith, one of the most justly honoured of our citizens, is becoming one of the finest libraries in the colonies, and it will be in the future, I hope, among the best of its kind anywhere. It is interesting to me to know that my predecessor, Sir William Robinson, founded in 1884 your Chair of Music, but it was only two years ago that Sir Thomas Elder's gift of £20,000, the last of his many splendid gifts to you amounting in all to about £100,000, made the raising of such a stately building as this possible. You Australians are a music-loving people, and the standard set in this place must elevate the public taste outside. I have heard Herr Joachim say that it is nonsense to assert that the English nation is not music-loving. Witness the crowded audi-

for cricket, football, and athletic, I feel that "your lot is cast in pleasant places." I am informed that this hall is not only to be the central home of music, but also the central home of all your studies—where your degrees are to be conferred, where your examinations are to be held. As far as the education of the mind is concerned, I do not think that it much matters what University course an undergraduate takes up so long as he learns thoroughness, method, and the way to teach himself in after life. Your Chancellor the other day caused me to tread on very dangerous ground indeed when he did me the honour to ask me, as visitor of your University, for what qualities I thought Professors ought to be elected. My answer was—"Sympathy with their pupils, not only in their work, but in their games, as well as intellectual force and the power of inspiring enthusiasm." "I cannot, perhaps, teach you geology," my old friend Professor Adam Sedgwick, of Cambridge, would say, "but I can fire your imaginations." Enthusiasm raises life above the dull and dreary levels of commonplace. Intellectual enthusiasm, intellectual imagination, intellectual energy enable you to

Climb the Mount of Blessing, whence if you look higher, then—perchance, you may beyond A hundred ever-rising mountain lines And past the range of Night and Shadow—see The high heaven's dawn of more than mortal day Strike on the Mount of Vision.

To sum up, the greatness of a University depends on the unity, the friendship, the high aspirations, the comradeship, the public spirit, the intellectual sympathy, the intellectual enthusiasm, the intellectual breadth, and the high standard of morals and manners of its members. As time goes on, the larger the field of study, the broader the intellectual field, your University courses cover the better. I must put in a plea for the "humanities," so called because the ancient classic authors were supposed to have a distinct effect in humanizing character, in making a man wide-minded, in making him more humane. Every one is agreed that a knowledge of Latin is the basis of a liberal education, and it seems to me that to a knowledge of Latin ought to be joined a knowledge of some of the greatest Greek authors, even though this be not in the original Greek, but only through the medium of translators. At Oxford and Cambridge I regret to say that over-specialization is apt nowadays to destroy the sound liberal education which distinguished the famous University men of the last generation. And now I must put forward another plea. I wish that some of you Australians would adopt the Indian Civil Service as a profession, for it is one of the very noblest careers in the world. If young Australia were to regard this suggestion at all favourably I and my brother Governors would be only too happy to apply to the Home Government to grant special facilities for the candidature of Australians. (Applause.) In my belief, you sons of Australia would be eminently fitted for these posts with your strong individualities, sense of justice, and cheery common-sense—characteristics which I have more especially noted in your heroic young soldiers who have gone out to South Africa to battle for Queen, for country, for justice, for truth, for freedom, and who have fought so magnificently. (Cheers.) Before I conclude I venture to congratulate this University on one innovation, which you were the first of the English Universities to make—that is giving degrees to women, and I am delighted to have as my companions in honour to-day "girl-graduates" in music. Your University justly glories in the record of successes achieved by its members, and in the healthful way it exercises over education at large here. May I be allowed to breathe an earnest hope that its future may be even more glorious than in the past? (Cheers.)

The Chancellor—Before I proceed to the performance of the duty which I have to undertake I hope your Excellency will permit me to recall the memory of two of our benefactors, to whom your Excellency did not refer. I wish to recall how much we owe the late Sir Walter Watson Hughes, whose gift of £20,000 laid the foundation of the University, and Mr. John Howard Angus, whose gift of £10,000 enabled us to form the Angus engineering exhibitions and scholarships, and the Angus Chair of Chemistry, as well as to complete our arrangements for beginning the School of Medicine. (Loud cheers.) I take it that you will accept our hearty thanks for declaring this building open, and for the eloquent and suggestive address to which we have listened with so much pleasure. At the present moment this hall contains nearly the whole of the leading educationalists of South Australia—the masters and mistresses of the State schools, and of the collegiate and secondary schools, and the professors and lecturers of the Adelaide University. On their behalf as well as on my own I beg to assure you that your addresses on the subject of education have been an inspiration to all of us. Permit me to make a personal application of the admirable story which your Excellency told at the Gawler Show—We have "lumd" you out—(laughter)—and we recognise in your Excellency an accomplished specialist, and a brilliant exponent of the science of education. (Cheers.) Your Excellency has been good enough to place at the disposal of the University a fund for the purpose of supplying medals to be competed for year by year for all time to encourage the study of English literature. A gold medal will be given to the best competitor in English literature in our junior and senior public examinations, and there will be a gold medal for the best pupil in that subject every year at our higher public examinations. In the long ages to come, when the memory of our names shall have passed away, the Tennyson medals will encourage successive generations of young South Australians to enlarge their minds and to build up their characters by the study of the noblest of all literatures. (Applause.) Now I have to ask your Excellency to do us the same favour as was done by your predecessors, the Earl of Kintore and Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, by accepting a degree which you are entitled to receive. You will bring distinction to the list of our graduates because of your high office, your scholarship, and your personal qualities, and because also you are the worthy inheritor of one of the most illustrious names in the muster roll of the great poets of the world. (Cheers.)

The Acting Dean of the Faculty, Mr. G. J. R. Murray, then presented His Excellency, who was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Laws. The students sang the following verses:—

TO LORD TENNYSON.

Thou noble son of one who oft
In verse, with measures soft,
Told loving tale, or roused our hearts
When prone to faint, or bear their parts
In life's stern fight. We're glad to meet
Thee here to-day at Learning's seat—
Thou worthy son of worthy sire.

Within these walls true welcome we
With "Hands all round" extend to thee,
'Tis fit that song and music sweet
The poet's son should seek to greet
In such a place. May the Degree
We now confer some tribute be
Of the esteem in which thou'rt held.

Professor Ives presented Miss Ellen Milne Bunday and Miss Florence Emmeline Cooke, who were admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Music.

The Chancellor, in addressing the lady graduates, said:—"Twenty-six years ago a very old and honoured friend of mine carried a Bill through the House of Assembly for establishing the University of Adelaide. You can imagine the pride Mr. Justice Bunday and Mrs. Bunday feel this afternoon in witnessing their daughter taking the first degree granted in this University since His Excellency the Governor accepted one at my

hands. I congratulate both the young ladies on their success. Miss Cooke is the daughter of an honoured, a useful, and fearless public servant in South Australia. (Applause.)

The Dean of the Faculty, Professor Rennie, presented Mr. Julian Dove Connor, who was admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Science. The following graduates of other Universities were admitted ad eundem gradum:—Professor Robert Langton Douglas, M.A., University of Oxford; the Rev. M. L. C. Headlam, M.A., University of Oxford; the Rev. F. G. Masters, M.A., University of Cambridge; and Mr. A. J. Adams, M.A., University of Cambridge.

The Acting Dean of the Faculty, Mr. Murray, presented the Stow scholars, Mr. Francis Leslie Stow and Mr. Frederick William Young, to whom the Chancellor said:—"Everything comes to him who waits. Mr. Stow took the Stow scholarship in 1892, and Mr. Young in 1897. This scholarship was founded in memory of an honoured friend of mine, the late Mr. Justice Stow, who was a profound lawyer, a brilliant advocate, a great judge, and a man of great distinction of character in every way. This is the highest prize which can be obtained in the Law School of the University. The winner of the scholarship has to be first, not in one year alone, but in every one of three years of his undergraduate course. The scholarship has been in existence for some seventeen years, and has been won only twice. I hope it will be won by some of my young friends behind me, who, I trust, when they fill the office of Chancellor will perform their duties much better than I can, and without any interruption. I now present to the Stow scholars gold medals, which have been executed in London, and which bear the faithful portrait of the late Mr. Justice Stow.

THE UNIVERSITY SPECIAL CONGREGATION.

The actual necessity for the "Special Congregation" of the University of Adelaide, which was held yesterday, was not altogether apparent. As His Excellency the Governor remarked, in spirit of dignified banter, the majority of those who were present had already attended at two more or less appropriate ceremonial openings of the Elder Hall of the Conservatorium; and Wednesday's engagement, therefore, marked the third and positively the last opening of the building. Possibly the idea which prompted the calling together of those connected with the University and other promoters of higher education was similar to that which induces the owner of a fine house, after having taken up his residence in it and found it satisfactory, to invite his friends to a "housewarming." At any rate, the gathering was a pronounced success; and, being thoughtfully fixed for a time when the teachers of the primary as well as of the secondary schools could find an opportunity to attend, it attracted—as the Chief Justice observed—one of the most truly representative assemblages from an educational point of view which have ever been drawn together in South Australia. The degrees conferred by the Chancellor would in the ordinary course of events have been bestowed upon those entitled to them at the Annual Commemoration towards the close of the year; and the two prizes which were given had already been publicly awarded. It must, however, be admitted that a social-academic function like the Special Congregation is amply justified by its results if it elicits utterances well calculated to advance the cause of the higher education; and such, indeed, were those listened to by the large audience in the Elder Hall on Wednesday. His Excellency the Governor struck the keynote of the motive which inspires good educational work when he quoted the saying of his friend Professor Sedgwick, of Cambridge, to his students—"I cannot per-

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