

Advertiser for 2nd 1908

Advertiser Oct 27/08

Mr. Kerr Grant, M.A., of the Melbourne University, and Mr. H. J. Priest, B.A., B.Sc., have been appointed Acting Professors of Mathematics and Physics at the Adelaide University for next year. Mr. Hey Sharp has also been chosen as lecturer in electrical engineering, in succession to Dr. Madsen. Mr. J. L. Glasson, B.Sc., was appointed evening lecturer and demonstrator in physics.

Mr. T. Brailsford Robertson, B.Sc., a graduate of the University of Adelaide, has just been appointed assistant professor in the department of physiology of the University of California. He is now second in the department to the famous Dr. Loeb. Mr. Robertson has also been singled out for distinction in being appointed to fill, during 1908, a lectureship founded in the University by Dr. Herzstein, a Chicago physician. The lecturer is charged with the duty of delivering five lectures during the year on some subject of medical interest. Generally, some man of note outside the University is appointed. It is an exceptional honor to Mr. Robertson that this year the choice should have fallen upon a member of the University staff.

The council of the Adelaide University on Friday accepted the resignation of Dr. Madsen, lecturer in electrical engineering. Dr. Madsen will fill a similar post in the Sydney University.

Reg. Oct 27th 1908

UNIVERSITY SPORTS GROUND.
It is announced that the generous donor, who, as stated in "The Advertiser" yesterday, has given £750 to the University Sports' Association, to build a boatshed on their new sports ground, is Mr. R. Barr Smith. The ten gentlemen who subscribed £100 each for the erection of a pavilion are Messrs. G. J. R. Murray, T. E. Barr Smith, R. T. Melrose, J. Gordon, C. E. Goode, F. Fisher, T. R. Scarfe, A. J. Murray, Bertie Barr Smith, and S. Ralli. In view of such splendid generosity on the part of gentlemen who, in

the majority of cases, have little or nothing to do directly with the University, the sports committee feel that they can appeal with confidence to the members of the University to contribute the sum which will be required to complete the work. To this end a circular, inviting subscriptions, is being issued to members of the University.

UNIVERSITY LANDS.
From "Taxpayer":—"It will be noted from time to time, for reasons best known to the enquirers, that when a large estate changes hands, or the Government becomes a purchaser of it for closer settlement, the price given for the property, improved, is published; also the assessed value for taxation purposes of the unimproved value. For instance, in the Assembly on October 14, the Treasurer informed Mr. Vaughan that about 40,000 acres of Mount Schanck property, recently purchased by the Government at £2 15/ an acre, was assessed at (for taxation purposes) £2 2/10 an acre unimproved value. It will, no doubt, be equally interesting to your readers to know that 49,965 acres 1 rood 30 perches of land belonging to the University of Adelaide, which the Government recently purchased (improved) for £40,000, or about 16/ an acre, was assessed by the Government for land tax purposes (unimproved) at £49,904, or nearly 20/ an acre, as follows:—Hundred of Brownlow, 10,000 acres, assessed value £3,750, or 7/6 an acre; Wirreanda, 15,000 acres, £7,500, or 10/ an acre; Parnaroo, 10,064 acres, £7,548, or 15/ an acre; Gumbowie, 4,936 acres, £3,702, or 15/ an acre; Tatiara, 9,965 acres 1 rood 30 perches, £27,404, or 55/ an acre. Total, 49,965 acres 1 rood 30 perches, for £49,904, or (say) 20/ an acre. This leads one to suppose that the Government has made a good bargain at the expense of the University in securing the property for £9,904 less than its own valuation, and getting all the improvements as well for nothing. Does this say much for the accuracy of some of the land tax valuations?"

Registered, Nov. 11th 1908

EDUCATIONIST AND PREACHER.
DEATH OF DR. E. J. EITEL.
A NOTEWORTHY CAREER.

By the death of Dr. Ernest J. Eitel, the Evangelical Lutheran pastor of Adelaide there has been removed a man of many parts, whose name is written in history and who will long be remembered for his sterling services to the Empire at one of those tiny, isolated, red splashes on the map which mark the outposts of British civilization. The doctor, who had completed 10 months above the three-score years and ten, had been in ill-health since the end of last year. Two months ago his condition became serious, and he passed away at his residence, Dequetteville terrace, Kent Town, on Tuesday evening.

—His Early Days.—
Missionary, educationist, preacher, editor, author. These are some of the activities to which his busy life was devoted. He was a native of Wurtemberg, and his first studies were at the Pedagogium, in Esslingen, where he spent six years. Then he went to the Theological Seminary of Schonsthal, where he studied for another four years. He entered the University of Tubingen, and four years later (1860) gained his degree of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy. Then he identified himself with the service of the church, and became vicar of the State Church of Wurtemberg. He retained that position for one year, and, with the leave of the consistory of the church, proceeded to China as a missionary. For 16 years he engaged under the Basel, and afterwards the London missions in mission work among the Chinese and in the superintendence of mission schools. During this time he was deeply occupied in studying the Chinese language, and in 1870 he published the Sanskrit Chinese work on Buddhism, which led to his becoming recognised as an authority on the subject.

—In the Cause of Education.—
The great work of his life, however, still lay before him; but his appointment in 1878 by the Secretary of State as head of the Education Department in the colony of Hongkong, in succession to the late Dr. Stewart, soon enabled him to embark upon it. To the success which attended his

administration, extending over 19 years, eloquent tribute was paid when Dr. Eitel determined to relinquish the post and take up his residence in Australia. On that occasion he was presented with an address by the Chinese teachers of the Hongkong elementary schools jointly with the employees of the Education Department. The document bore glowing testimony to the manner in which the doctor had devoted himself "to the task of improving and perfecting the administration of the Education Department." It referred to the increase under his regime in the number of Government examined schools from 41 to 120, and stated that the "Government will lose an excellent official, the Hongkong people will lose an excellent friend, and we shall lose an excellent minister." Dr. Chalmers, a missionary with whom Dr. Eitel had been engaged in earlier years, presided at the farewell gathering, and after speaking eulogistically of his work, said he owed Dr. Eitel a special debt of gratitude for services rendered in the revision of the translation of the Scriptures into Chinese. A gross comment at the time ran thus:—
"The educational movement in the colony has developed enormously since he has held the reins of office. He has discharged his duties in a thoroughly conscientious manner from first to last, and he deserves well of the colony. Many will live to bless his memory; many, indeed, will grieve when he is called away. We trust that many years of usefulness will yet remain to Dr. Eitel, and that he will receive the liberal treatment at the hands of the Government which his good work in our midst undoubtedly entitles him to. Dr. Eitel will at least have a clear conscience in the assurance that he did his duty, and that success attended his efforts to promote education among the rising generation." The China Mail of April 3, 1897, spoke of Dr. Eitel as having won the open sesame to the Chinese heart and mind, and added, "His departure will be a distinct loss to the many Hongkong residents of different nationalities, and the colony will be distinctly poorer in literary talent." For 18 years Dr. Eitel was editor of The China Review, and his literary reputation was enhanced by the following contributions to Chinese literature:—"A History of Hongkong," "Chinese Dictionary in the Cantonese Dialect," "The Handbook of Buddhism," and "Lectures on Fungshui." He had previously been Private Secretary for two years to the then Governor of Hongkong (Sir John Pope Hennessey), and had filled many appointments on Government commissions. What he himself considered to be one of his greatest achievements in the cause of education was the fact that he was the means, through his connection with the Government, of introducing religious education under the grant-in-aid system. This earned for him the gratitude of all denominations, and constituted a triumph for which he will be long remembered by the people of Hongkong.

—As South Australia Knew Him.—
Upon his arrival in Adelaide, 11 years ago, Dr. Eitel accepted an invitation to the pastorate of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. Pastor Heggen, who had been ministering there occasionally, having been transferred to Victoria. Under Dr. Eitel's care the membership advanced so rapidly that in two years it had outgrown the capacity of the church in Pirie street, which had been erected 38 years before, and the present structure in Wakefield street was built. At the laying of the foundation stone on October 14, 1899, the Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Way, Bart.) paid a graceful compliment to the educational services of Dr. Eitel and to his erudition. "The great services of Dr. Eitel," remarked Sir Samuel, "in the cause of education are a part of the history of the British colony of Hongkong, and his learning has been acknowledged within the walls of the British Parliament itself. I do not wonder that St. Stephen's Church, in Pirie street, has been found too small to accommodate the congregation who are desirous of coming under Dr. Eitel's faithful, learned and earnest administration." The new church was consecrated and dedicated on February 11 of the following year, and steady progress has been maintained ever since, though Dr. Eitel resigned the pastorate some time ago. Dr. Eitel was a man of broad, scholarly attainments, and his almost encyclopaedic knowledge and remarkable versatility showed to advantage not only in the pulpit, but in personal conversation. He combined a wide knowledge of books, with an intimate knowledge of men and things, and, being himself a man of fine qualities of heart and mind, was everywhere held in the highest esteem. He was lecturer on German language and literature at the University of Adelaide, and was a member of the Royal Geographical Society, in which he took an active interest until failing health caused him to resign this year. He has left a widow, two sons—Messrs. L. L. Eitel, of Adelaide; and C. C. Eitel, of the literary staff of The Sydney Daily Telegraph—and two daughters.