

...a love of knowledge. Literature—indeed, all that ideals and gives play to the emotions of mind and spirit—are amongst the most valuable, as well as the most permanent, assets of the individual and the community. The development of a love of these need not be restricted because such subjects as domestic economy are receiving increased attention, and the Minister is certainly right when he says—“In South Australia we have been somewhat tardy in recognising the importance of teaching our girls those things they need to learn if they are to become capable home-makers.”

Medical inspection of school children may be expected to correct many of the minor physical defects which, if attended to at an early period of life, are often susceptible of remedial treatment. Mr. Williams points out that the report of Dr. Rogers on the examination of 1,000 young people “leaves no room for doubt as to the necessity existing in this State for systematic medical examination of children attending school.” Work of this kind, provided it is followed up by such attention to discovered weaknesses or defects as may be suggested by the medical officer, is so obviously in the interest of the community that it should need no advocacy to make it popular. Young Australians have many natural advantages, such as a healthy climate, and a high standard of comfort in housing, food, and clothing, which must greatly assist in the building-up of strong, vigorous physical constitutions, but the benefits which should accrue from these favorable conditions will be considerably minimised if dental, throat, nose, or eye troubles, which here as in other lands are prevalent, are not attended to. Closely allied to this subject is that of physical training. The Director enters a plea for scientific exercises for girls, and expresses some surprise that this branch of school work should have received scant attention in the past. “If one of our capable, specially qualified women teachers,” he remarks, “were sent to England, Denmark, Sweden, and America, to study the question, and upon her return were given an opportunity to organise the work in this State, great benefit would accrue to the present and to succeeding generations.” That the possibilities of improving the physique of the average child are great, and those of benefiting the little ones who, unfortunately, fall below the normal standard are enormous, is widely admitted amongst experts, but such work, if undertaken at all, must be under thoroughly qualified supervision, as the dangers, if instructors do not understand the limitations of their pupils, are exceedingly grave. Sound physical development and not feats of strength and endurance should always be the goal of school gymnastics, whether applied to boys or to girls.

*Register, July 3/11.*

**STUDENTS FOR SURVEY.**

The Faculty of Science reported to the meeting of the Council of the Adelaide University on Friday that a letter had been received from the Department of Home Affairs stating that the Minister was willing to afford reasonable facilities for a limited number of engineering students of the University who desired to obtain, during the long vacation, practical experience in the field in survey operations, by granting them permission to attach themselves to the Commonwealth Survey Party engaged within the capital territory. It was resolved to invite applications from students in the Faculty of Applied Science who desired to avail themselves of this opportunity.

**EDUCATION.**

**MINISTER'S REPORT FOR 1910.**

**INCREASED COST FOR FEWER CHILDREN.**

In the House of Assembly on Wednesday the Minister of Education (Hon. F. W. Coneybeer) laid on the table the report of the Education Department for the year 1910. The following are the principal paragraphs:—

**—Schools in Operation.—**

The number of schools in operation during the years 1909 and 1910 was respectively as follows:—High School (Adelaide), 1, 1; district high schools, 12, 19; public schools, 270, 281; provisional schools, 333, 324; assisted schools, 74, 80; half-time schools, 32, 28. Totals, for 1909, 722; for 1910, 733. The attendance at the undermentioned provisional and assisted schools fell so low that it became necessary to close the school and transfer the teacher. In some few cases the difficulty in obtaining a suitable home for the teacher led to the same result:—Arden Vale, Belton, Bugle Ranges, Collinsfield, Coorabie, Cuttlefish Bay, Dalkey Hill, Fairview, Gawler River, Hacklin's Corner, Kirkala, Koolywurtie, Moolgerie, Muttabee, Richman's Valley, Salter's Springs, Sugarloaf Well, Sunshine, Tarpeena, Torrens Vale, Hundred of Warcowie, White Hut, and Whitwarta.

**—School Attendance.—**

The total number of children taught in schools under the department was 58,349. Deducting from this total the number of those who attended more than one school during that period, viz., 5,420, the number of individual pupils in attendance is seen to be 52,929. This represents a decrease of 409 on the number under instruction during 1909. The daily average attendance in all schools was 37,548.4, a decrease of 707 on the record of the previous year. The most satisfactory attendance was registered in the month of August, when the average reached 80 per cent. of the enrolment. Owing to the prevalence of infectious diseases the attendance declined from August onwards, reaching its lowest limit in December, when the daily average attendance was only 73 per cent. of the number on the rolls. The average daily attendance was:—In public schools, 31,366; and in provisional schools, 6,183; making a total of 37,549. The ages of the children on the registers of the secondary schools were:—March quarter, under 13 311, 13 and over 1,221, total 1,532; June, under 13 208; over 1,248; total 1,456; September, under 13 188, over 1,331, total 1,519; December, under 13 398, over 1,673, total 2,071.

**—Compulsory Clauses of the Act.**

A table is published showing the proportion of children who complied with the requirements of the Education Acts by attending 35 days in the quarter, and also the proportion of unsatisfactory cases. For the fourth quarter of 1910 the details were:—Children in attendance, subject to compulsion, 32,288; attended 35 days, 80.32 per cent.; satisfactory reasons given for not attending, 18.95 per cent.; cases of neglect, 0.73 per cent. It should not be forgotten that the number of children subject to compulsion is not the same as the number in attendance between the ages of seven and 13. A child may live beyond the compulsory distance from the school; he may be exempted on the ground of ill health; or he may have obtained the inspector's certificate, which frees him from the liability to attend school.

**—Teachers.—**

The number of teachers of all classes employed at the close of 1910 is thus shown:—Head teachers, male 238, female 27; assistant in charge of department, 7, —; assistant teachers, 68, 234; acting assistant teachers, 4, 68; provisional assistant teachers, 4, 65; pupil teachers, 34, 61; monitors, 25, 61; provisional teachers, 54, 343; locum tenens for head teachers, 17, 4; locum tenens for provisional teachers, —, 2; totals, males 451, females 865; teachers of needlework (employed part time only), females 113. Grand totals, males 451, females 978; compared with 432 males and 979 females at the end of 1909.

**—Teachers' Salaries.—**

Additions were made to the teachers' salaries to the extent of £15,000. Both public and provisional school teachers shared in the benefits, the largest additions being made in those cases in which the respective payments had previously been least satisfactory.

**—Inspection.—**

During the year 681 schools were fully examined in detail by the inspectors. The total number of children presented was 38,927, against 40,178 in 1909. Out of 5,360 children examined in the fourth class 2,067 passed the standard fixed by the Education Act for exemption from further attendance at school; and out of 4,152 children examined in the fifth class 1,333 obtained certificates. It is the practice to classify the schools in six divisions, according to the results of the examination, after due allowance has been made for exceptional circumstances. The following is the result:—Number of Schools—Public, 281; provisional, 400. Class A, public, 13.88 per cent; provisional, 3.25 per cent; class B, 29.54, 12.0; class C, 24.91, 22.75; class D, 16.73, 23.75; class E, 8.18, 16.25; class F, 4.03, 12.0. Forty-six schools were not classified.

**—Training.—**

The important work of training teachers has received special consideration, and many changes have been made. Above all, a serious defect, the evil results of which had been felt with increasing force for the last 10 years, has been removed. The students have hitherto devoted themselves almost exclusively to academic studies. While the high cultural value of these subjects to those students who have the requisite ability to profit by University work is beyond question, yet such a course alone is quite inadequate as a preparation for the profession of teaching. There is needed, in addition, systematic training, both theoretical and practical, in the technique of the art itself. Provision for this has now been made. Courses of lectures are given at the Training College on school management generally, and on methods of instruction in all the ordinary school subjects; and, in addition, opportunities are afforded in various city and suburban schools for actual practice in teaching and class management. Distinct courses of training have been established to prepare teachers for the work in infant and primary schools, and arrangements are being completed for an advanced course for those who will become teachers in high schools. The course leading to the infant teachers' certificate is open to those students who show special aptitude for dealing with very young children. The course includes instruction in the following subjects:—One or more University subjects (including education), English literature, psychology, hygiene, physical culture, drawing and brushwork, music (instrumental and vocal), elocution, Nature study, civics, sewing, and infant and lower primary school management and methods of instruction (theory and practice). The alternative course, leading to the primary teachers' certificate, is similar to the above, except that the lectures on class management and instruction and the actual teaching have reference to the work of primary schools. Each of these courses extends over one year. Students who have completed their primary teachers' course, and have shown special ability, both as students and as teachers, are granted a second year of training. During this period they devote the greater part of their time to University studies, in order to acquire the deeper knowledge of special subjects requisite for high school work; but instruction in school management and practice in teaching are continued. The special course dealing with secondary school organization and management, which is being arranged, will give the students an opportunity of obtaining the diploma in education which will probably be issued by the University. Sixty-four students were in the University Training College during the year, 27 having remained from 1909, and 37 new students having been admitted. In December 38 were reported as fit to be placed in charge of schools, as they had completed their course; classification was deferred in 7 cases, and 2 resigned during the year; 17 were allowed to remain another year. Four teachers graduated in Arts in December. Examinations for candidates for monitorship were held in June and December, with the following results:—June, 39 presented, 13 passed; December, 72 presented, 27 passed. In January, 1910, 44 pupil teachers remained in the High School from 1909, and 38 new candidates were admitted, of whom 1 was to attend for one year only, 6 for two years, and 31 for three years. In December, 14 left the school to commence teaching. In December 38 candidates presented themselves for the pupil teachers' entrance examination, and 33 were successful in passing.

**—Scholarships.—**

Under existing regulations provision is made for the following scholarships:—(a) Eight public exhibitions (four for boys and four for girls), open to any girls and boys who have been bona-fide residents of the State of South Australia for at least two years immediately preceding the 31st of December of the year in which the competitive examination is held. They are tenable for three years at any approved school or college, and provide free tuition and books, with an allowance of £22 per

# BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

## Historical Sketch.

## Objects Attained.

Twenty-five years ago Dr. W. T. Hayward, when retiring from the position of President of the South Australian branch of the British Medical Association, which he had assisted to form, delivered what was the second Presidential address. After a quarter of a century, he, on Wednesday afternoon, at the annual meeting of the branch, when retiring again from the office, favoured the members with another fine utterance. There was a large attendance.

### —Advantage of Presidential Addresses.—

Dr. Hayward said:—"A year or two ago a retiring President, in the course of his address, made the suggestion that it would be well if the delivery of a presidential address were made optional. As a matter of fact it is optional, there being no rule or bylaw rendering it incumbent that such an address should be delivered. The first five Presidents of the branch contented themselves, on vacating the chair in favour of their successors, with making a few valedictory remarks. It was reserved for the sixth—Dr. Charles Gosse—to deliver a formal address. I succeeded him in the position, and was greatly exercised in my mind as to whether I should, on retiring, adopt the practice of the early Presidents, or follow the precedent of my immediate predecessor. I felt that if I adopted the latter course the innovation would probably be converted into a custom. I came to the conclusion that the custom would be a good one, and though very diffident as to my ability to deliver an interesting address, I decided to risk a possible personal failure in the desire to establish a custom that would be of benefit to the branch. This was 25 years ago. I have had the pleasure of listening to 22 of the succeeding addresses and reading the other two. All have been interesting, and many valuable. I have never had reason to regret my decision. I hold the same opinion now as I did then—that any man who attains the honourable position of President of this branch should be in a position either to deliver a message to his fellow-members on a subject which he has more or less made his own, to seize the opportunity, owing to the publicity given by the press, to address the general public, or to collate or bring into focus the experience and work of others, and place it prominently before members in a manner perhaps not possible in an ordinary paper. It is not necessary that his remarks shall be absolutely original; the information he may give may be such as to impress his hearers, and he may sow seed that, falling on good ground, may flourish exceedingly. I will give you a personal illustration of my meaning.

### —Personal Illustration.—

"In my presidential address of 1886 I brought under the notice of my hearers—I think for the first time in South Australia—the then embryonic subject of bacteriology in relation to medical practice. Many years later Dr. Thomas Borthwick told me that it was this address that first directed his attention to the subject. When I consider the valuable work done by Dr. Borthwick both with regard to bacteriology and public health—work that has caused him to be regarded as one of the foremost men in Australia in this department of our profession—I feel that the time I spent over my address was not wasted.

### —Association and Its Members.—

"But to-day I intend to speak to you, not on a scientific subject, but on one that I think should be of interest, for I believe you will be interested to hear of the origin of our branch of the British Medical Association, and to learn something of the men who not only founded it but gave to it a reputation second to none in Australasia. Some are with us now, but others live only as dear friends and comrades in the memories of our oldest members, as past teachers to others, and names only to the younger generation. South Australia, say in the year 1875, was a very different country to South Australia of to-day. The English mail with the medical papers arrived only once a month; there was no University or Medical School to keep medical men alert and up to date, and doctors had neither the time nor the money, for they were not a wealthy class, to take trips to Europe to brush up their knowledge, and on their return to disseminate what they had learned. The leading members of the profession were, as a rule, elderly gentlemen, able enough no doubt, but more versed in the practice of the past than of the present. New ideas were chiefly introduced by the young men imported as house surgeons to the Adelaide Hospital, whose institution, by offering good salaries, was able to attract good men; and good men they were. You will agree when I mention that Dr.

discharge had occurred from the stump of the pedicle. Considerable discussion took place as to how this had arisen. Dr. Gardner followed with 'Notes of a case of hydatid of the ovary.' The treatment adopted had been by tapping, and the contents of the cyst had become purulent. In answer to Dr. Way, Dr. Gardner said he had taken no antiseptic precautions. Several members mentioned cases of hydatids when the cyst contents had or had not become purulent. At the next council meeting members had still to discuss the lodge question raised at their last meeting. At the second general meeting Dr. Baily read 'Notes of a case of hydatid of the spleen' treated by a series of tappings. Dr. Curtis read a paper on 'Labour with acephalous monsters.' At the following council meeting it was decided that the general meetings for the future should be held in the board room of the Adelaide Hospital. At the October meeting Dr. Way brought forward 'A case of ovariectomy.' This paper is particularly interesting, owing to the remarks made by Dr. Gardner, who said that this was the seventh case of ovariectomy that had been performed at the Adelaide Hospital, and the first successful one! At the present time, with men recording series of hundreds of cases without a fatality, it seems hardly credible that a little over 30 years ago the mortality following ovariectomy should have been so terrible; but from the experience I had had as a house surgeon in England a few years before this time I know that a case of recovery there was exceptional. At the same meeting the ethical committee brought forward 'A proposed code of ethics,' but it remained a proposal only, for the minutes laconically record, 'Most members took part in the discussion, but their remarks were not complimentary to the code.' It is not astonishing, therefore, to learn that the proposed code was withdrawn, or that subsequently the committee resigned. At the following meeting Dr. Verco read 'Notes of two cases of vesicular mole.' At the annual meeting of 1880 Dr. Corbin succeeded Dr. W. Gosse as President. The Vice-Presidency was contested, Drs. Clendenning and Way being proposed, and Dr. Clendenning was elected.

### —The Second Year.—

"The minutes of the proceedings of the branch during the second year of its existence are in marked contrast to those of the first year, for whereas the meetings of the past year had been occupied by the reading of many valuable papers and interesting discussions, those of the succeeding year were too frequently devoted to personal questions. I note only two papers worthy of mention—one by the President (Dr. Corbin) on the treatment of 'post-partum hemorrhage,' a valuable practical one that elicited an interesting discussion; and one by Dr. Nesbitt on 'Ablation of the tarsus in cases of club foot.' I think Dr. Nesbitt was the first surgeon in Adelaide who practised this method of treatment.

### —Further Advance.—

"Dr. Clendenning succeeded Dr. Corbin as President at the annual meeting of 1881. Drs. Astles and Gardner were nominated for the vice-presidency, and the former was elected. There was also a ballot for the ordinary members of council, resulting in the election of Drs. Corbin, Way, and J. A. G. Hamilton. Drs. Hawkins and Cleland were re-elected as hon. treasurer and secretary, but the former, who had been in bad health for some time, died before the next monthly meeting. Dr. Corbin succeeded him as hon. treasurer, a position he continued to hold for 20 years. A notable addition to the membership of the branch was made by the election of Drs. Davies Thomas and Charles Gosse (who for personal reasons had hitherto refrained from joining), and Dr. Stirling, who had recently returned to South Australia; and their influence was soon noticeable in its proceedings. Dr. Davies Thomas suggested the formation of a "medical benevolent fund." The trustees of the defunct Medical Society, by handing over their accumulated funds, provided a handsome nucleus. Two papers of more than ordinary interest were read during this year—the first by Dr. Gardner was 'A case of abdominal section for hydatid disease.' This is apparently the first case in which laparotomy had been performed for this disease. Dr. Gardner was taken to task for not having adopted the usual practice of the time, viz., successive punctures or the use of potassa fusa, in order to obtain a preliminary adhesion of the hydatid to the abdominal wall. Dr. Davies Thomas described the case as almost unique. The second paper was entitled 'Two cases of hydatid of the lung, treated by incision and drainage,' and was read by Dr. F. W. Baily, and to him must be given the credit of first introducing this method of treatment in Australia. Dr. Baily was a young general practitioner, residing in Norwood. That he held no hospital appointment; that as there were no private hospitals in those days, the operations were performed in private houses, and these to my knowledge far from palatial, I therefore consider these operations among the most notable in the annals of Australian surgery. Unfortunately, Dr. Baily died a few months later. Had he lived, doubt-

less then no splint has been more generally used, and it remains to-day exactly as Thomas designed it.

### —Valuable Exhibits.—

"At the annual meeting for 1884 Dr. Charles Gosse became President. Dr. Way having declined to stand for the vice-presidency, I was elected without opposition. Drs. Cockburn, Gardner, and Nesbitt were the new members of council. During the year papers were read by Dr. Stirling, on 'A case of supra vaginal amputation of the uterus,' the first case in the colony; by myself, on 'A case of carcinoma of the uterus,' in which Dr. Gardner removed the uterus per vaginam. This was unsuccessful, but at the next meeting Dr. Gardner recorded a successful case of the same operation. These were the pioneer cases of hysterectomy. Dr. Lendon contributed the first of a long series of valuable papers and exhibits. This year was also memorable as the first occasion on which Professor Watson had exhibited and demonstrated pathological specimens to the society, which demonstrations have been such a marked feature at our meetings, from that time to the present day. In June, 1885, Dr. Charles Gosse, on retiring, delivered the first presidential address. I had the honour to succeed him, but at the July meeting I had the painful duty of moving a vote of condolence to his widow, he having in the interval succumbed to the effects of a carriage accident. The papers stand out in marked relief during my year of office. Dr. W. Anstey Giles brought under our notice for the first time the subject of 'post-nasal vegetations,' and demonstrated the method for their removal. Dr. Gardner read a paper on 'nephro lithotomy,' and exhibited a patient from whom he had successfully removed the stone. These two papers and those of the previous year on uterine surgery exhibit the advance surgery was making in South Australia.

### —Intercolonial Medical Conference.—

"An incident of a different kind occurred which, insignificant as it appeared at the time, was destined to have far-reaching results. Dr. Poulton brought before the council the question as to what steps should be taken with respect to the reception of medical men who would probably visit Adelaide on the occasion of the forthcoming Jubilee Exhibition. Drs. Gardner, Stirling, and I were appointed a committee on the subject, and at the next meeting Dr. Poulton was added as hon. secretary. The outcome of the committee was the resolution to hold an Intercolonial Medical Congress during the year 1887, but to Dr. Poulton is to be ascribed the suggestion; and to his efforts the remarkable success of the first congress, which was held under the presidency of Dr. J. C. Verco, was mainly due. This fact is recognised throughout Australia. Dr. J. C. Verco succeeded me in 1886, and Dr. Stirling was President in the following year. The time at my disposal will not permit of my going further into the history and doings of our branch. I trust that some day a full and complete history of the branch will be written. It will be replete with interest. The data are to be found in the elaborate minutes of the early meetings, and in the published proceedings.

### —Hydatid Diseases.—

"Judging from the excerpts I have given you it must be admitted. I think, that in the early days of the branch's existence good, solid professional work was done. It is most interesting to trace the gradual and cautious development of the treatment of hydatid disease; this, you will have noticed, frequently occupied the attention of members at that time, and more so at a later date. At first the recognised treatment was simply aspiration and puncture; and, despite Dr. Baily's notable cases of successful incision and his own case of laparotomy, we find Dr. Gardner going out of his way to explain 'that he did not,' as the minutes might infer, 'advocate the general treatment by incision; this should only apply to cases that had become purulent; the live hydatid should be aspirated.' But in the course of a few years, thanks greatly to the labours of Dr. Davies Thomas, who combined untiring research with practical experience, the strenuous work of Dr. Gardner himself, combined with that of Drs. Verco, Stirling, and others, there arose what Dr. Stirling happily termed the Adelaide School, which eschewed all temporizing methods, and boldly challenged the surgical world of Australasia at the second Medical Congress, held in Melbourne in 1889. Those of us who were present at the memorable debate on the treatment of hydatid disease in the surgical section, under the presidency of Dr. Stirling, will remember with pride how Drs. Gardner, Davies Thomas, and J. C. Verco read magnificent papers on the subject, and combated the representatives of the rest of Australia. It was the feature of the congress. It changed—though not, of course, all at once—the treatment of the disease throughout Australasia, and I have no hesitation in saying that this result was due in a great measure to the frequent debates that had taken place at the meetings of our branch. Is not this something of which we may well be proud?"

### —Some of the Presidents.—

happily with us, to whom the branch owes a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid, for, but for their initiation, it probably would not have been formed for many years later than it was, nor would it have survived from its early difficulties but for their arduous attention. I refer to Dr. T. W. Corbin and Dr. Cleland. Dr. Corbin was the provisional secretary before the branch was formed, the first Vice-President, and its second President, and for 2 years treasurer. In the earlier days of its existence his contributions to the meetings were many and able, and he took an active part in the discussions, both professional and ethical. He managed the finances with skill, and throughout his long connection with the council the branch was indebted to his strong commonsense and business aptitude. Dr. Cleland was the first secretary to the branch, a position he retained for 10 years, when he was appointed Vice-President, and subsequently President. From my personal knowledge of him as secretary, I was well aware that he was an excellent one, but till I went through the records of the past I had no idea of the completeness, the thoroughness, of his work. Many of the debates that took place he recorded in a manner that would do credit to a skilled reporter; and, moreover, during the long period he was in office he hardly seems to have been absent from either council or monthly meeting. Would that we had a hall, on the walls of which we could hang the pictures of these two men, and of the worthies who have passed away, as a memorial of the work they did in the past, and as an incentive to all younger members to follow their example.

### —Good Men of To-day.—

"I do not wish to pose simply as laudator temporis acti. We have had good men in the past, and good work was done; good men we have now, and good work is being done. Year after year new men have arisen who have carried forward the work of their predecessors. One name stands out, conspicuously in the records, from the first meeting 32 years ago to the present day; he read the fourth paper contributed to the branch, and every year since then members have had the advantage of listening to his valuable work. I need hardly say that I refer to Dr. J. C. Verco. I cannot in his presence say all I would like to, but all of you, from the eldest to the youngest member, will agree that he has been and still is the foremost pillar in our society.

### —Has the Branch Succeeded?—

"A few words more and I have finished. In the early part of this address I mentioned that I had moved the second resolution at the meeting, when it was decided to form this branch. It reads—"That the objects of the association are to promote the advancement of medical and surgical science, by the reading and discussion of original papers, and exhibits of specimens and cases; to form a bond of union among the members of the profession, and a medium through which their opinions can be easily ascertained and expressed; and to advance the general and social interests of the profession." Have these objects been attained? Unhesitatingly I answer 'Yes.' Medical and surgical science has been promoted by the reading and discussion of hundreds of valuable papers. Specimens have been shown that would gladly be received by any pathological museum. Cases have been exhibited that would do credit to the profession in any country in the world. Who will deny that it has been a bond of union among us? It has enabled us to know each other; to introduce the younger members to the older ones, the country practitioners to their fellows in the city; it has enabled us at times to speak with no uncertain sound on matters of importance, and it has endeavoured to do all in its power to advance the general and social interests of the profession. And I will go further, I will maintain that it has advanced the interest of the State, for it has raised the professional education of its members. By associating together the elder ones have kept in touch with the advances of the profession, while the younger men have benefited by the experience of their elders; thus the citizens have at their command the services of a body of men, taken as a whole, not to be surpassed anywhere. My fervent hope is that this branch over which I am proud to have again presided, may long continue successfully its sphere of usefulness."

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...of good men, and good men were  
you will agree when I mention that Drs.  
Corbin, Davies Thomas, Gardner, Poulton  
(at a later date) were included in the num-  
ber. Certainly there was a 'medical soci-  
ety,' but not an active one.

#### —Renaissance of the Medical Profession.—

"About the time I have mentioned, or soon  
after, five exceptionally able men came to  
Adelaide, Drs. Charles Gosse, Edward Wil-  
liam Way, J. Davies Thomas, William Gar-  
dner, J. C. Verco (four of whom were Aus-  
tralian), who had had brilliant careers in  
the medical schools of England or Scotland.  
I date the renaissance of the medical pro-  
fession in Adelaide from the advent of  
these men. A stimulus was given to the  
younger members of the profession already  
here, and they decided to make a forward  
move, and with this object determined to  
form a branch of the British Medical Asso-  
ciation. I believe that the suggestion first  
came from the late Dr. Cawley. It was en-  
thusiastically taken up by Drs. Corbin,  
Gardner, Cleland, Baily, Way, and others.  
A preliminary meeting of medical men fa-  
vourable to the formation of a 'medical soci-  
ety' was held on May 31, 1879, when it  
was decided to invite the attendance of the  
medical men in the colony, with a view to  
forming a South Australian branch of the  
British Medical Association. Dr. Corbin  
was appointed secretary. The meeting was  
held on June 19, at what was then called  
the South Australian Club Hotel, a hotel  
very different from the South Australian  
Hotel which now occupies the same site.  
Between 20 and 30 medical men from Ade-  
laide and various parts of the colony at-  
tended. Dr. William Gosse was elected  
Chairman. Dr. Corbin moved the first re-  
solution—'That a society be formed to be  
called 'The South Australian branch of the  
British Medical Association.' This was se-  
conded by Dr. Baker, who at the time re-  
sided at Willunga, whence he had ridden  
that night to attend the meeting. Drs.  
Seabrooke and McIntyre, representing the  
old Medical Society, opposed the motion,  
on the grounds that another society was  
not required. Drs. Cleland, Rees, of Hind-  
marsh, and Blood, of Kapunda, supported  
the resolution, and I, as the only member  
of the British Medical Association present,  
was called upon to describe the aims, ob-  
jects, and mode of action of the association.  
The resolution was carried with two dissen-  
tients. The honour of moving the second  
resolution also fell to my lot. Six other re-  
solutions dealing with the objects, manage-  
ment, &c., of the new society were also  
passed. The subscription was fixed at three  
guineas for town members, and two guineas  
for country ones. An 'ethical committee'  
of five members was appointed, and it was  
decided to issue a quarterly journal of pro-  
ceedings. The meeting then proceeded to  
elect the first council with the following  
result:—President, Dr. William Gosse;  
Vice-President, Dr. T. W. Corbin; Treas-  
urer, Dr. Hawkins; Hon. Secretary, Dr.  
Cleland; Ordinary Members of Council,  
Drs. Gardner, Clendenning, and Way.  
There is no exact record of the men who  
were actually present at this meeting, but  
I believe I am correct in saying that only  
four survive, viz., Drs. Corbin, Cleland, J.  
C. Verco, and myself.

#### —History of Society.—

"With a view of tracing the history of this  
society, which has been fraught with such  
benefit to the medical profession, and in-  
directly to the inhabitants of the State, I  
have carefully gone through the minutes of  
the proceedings, and have extracted ex-  
cerpts that may be of interest.  
I think it probable that after the first coun-  
cil meeting, which was held early in July,  
the members may have thought that they  
had undertaken more than they had bar-  
gained for, for I find that the first busi-  
ness was the consideration of a complaint  
made by a member as to the conduct of a  
certain lodge, and a pretty trivial complaint  
it was. The only other item was the dis-  
cussion regarding the eligibility for mem-  
bership of a well-known member, now de-  
ceased, owing to his alleged homoeopathic  
tendencies. The first general meeting was  
held at the University classrooms, Moriarta  
Chambers, Victoria square. Seventeen mem-  
bers were present and two visitors, Dr. J.  
A. G. Hamilton being one of the latter.  
Dr. Gardner exhibited a case of 'ozena,' in  
which he had removed a piece of necrosed  
bones from the nares, the upper lip, and  
soft portions of the nose being detached  
from the superior maxillae, and turned up-  
wards. The next business was the election  
of Drs. Blood, Curtis, Cleland, Toll, and  
Verco, as the 'ethical committee,' and Drs.  
Baily, Corbin, and Gardner as the 'journal  
committee.' Dr. Corbin read the first paper  
entitled 'A case of ovariectomy.' Spencer  
's clamp had been used, and a fecal

surgery. Unfortunately Dr. Baily died a  
few months later. Had he lived, doubt-  
less he would have held a foremost place  
among Australian surgeons. At the an-  
nual meeting of 1882 Dr. H. E. Astles be-  
came President. There were five nomina-  
tions for the vice-presidency, and Dr. Gar-  
dner was elected. From 10 nominations for  
members of council, Drs. Clendenning, C.  
Gosse, and Stirling were appointed. The  
proceedings of this year were characterized  
by the reading of several interesting papers.  
One requires special mention—that of Dr.  
Dunlop on 'A case of myxoedema,' the  
first recorded in the colony. The mention  
of this disease immediately calls to mind  
the memorable papers on its treatment by  
the administration of thyroid glands, de-  
livered three years later by Dr. Lendon.  
A little incident occurred which I think  
is worthy of note. In a discussion follow-  
ing the reading of a case of a foreign body  
in the eye, Dr. Stirling is reported as sug-  
gesting the use of the electro magnet.  
This was in 1882; in 1910 the Adelaide Hos-  
pital was furnished with a powerful elec-  
tro magnet; certainly a small one had been  
in use for a few years. Dr. Gardner took  
the chair in June, 1883. After a ballot,  
Dr. Charles Gosse was elected Vice-Presi-  
dent, and Drs. Dunlop, J. A. G. Hamilton,  
and Way members of council. The annual  
meeting was memorable as the last occa-  
sion on which the vexed question of ho-  
meopathy was discussed. Dr. Gorger had  
framed a resolution to the effect that no  
legally qualified practitioner meeting ho-  
meopaths in consultation can be or become  
a member of the branch. An animated  
discussion ensued. It was pointed out,  
however, that whereas the branch had pro-  
gressed greatly during the past three years,  
and its influence had extended, homeopathy  
was on the down grade, and that probably  
active opposition would act as a stimu-  
lus. The majority of the members present  
adopting this view, Dr. Gorger withdrew  
his resolution.

#### —Hipjoint Disease.—

"The minutes of the July meeting of  
1883 are particularly interesting to me.  
They record that I read a paper on "Hip-  
joint disease, with special reference to the  
use of Thomas's splint." As a house sur-  
geon in Liverpool, I had had a good deal  
to do with the introduction of Thomas's  
splints to the Royal Infirmary, by Mr.  
Rushton Parker, and subsequently into the  
infirmary for children. Mr. Thomas had  
very kindly sent me out models made by  
his own makers, and these I exhibited.  
After the reading of the paper, Mr. (after-  
wards Sir Thomas) Fitzgerald, who was  
present at the meeting as a visitor, was in-  
vited to speak. He did so, and had nothing  
favourable to say either of the splint or  
the treatment. He advocated subcutaneous  
incision down to the joint, to lessen de-  
formity, drilling the great trochanters in  
certain cases, and the administration of  
small doses of mercury. He objected to  
straight extension. Dr. Clendenning, who  
followed, agreed with every word Mr. Fitz-  
gerald had said, but he in addition, advised  
the use of leeches. Dr. Gardner also had  
little to say in favour of the splint, and  
suggested certain mechanical alterations. I  
remember that I felt completely pulverized  
by the criticisms, but I am glad to find by  
the minutes, that, despite the heavy artill-  
ery brought against me, I, in my re-  
sponse, stuck to my guns. Time was on my side.

#### —Some of the Presidents.—

"Perhaps you may be interested to hear  
something of the men who were sponta-  
neously associated with the origin and rise  
of the society from one who knew them.  
Our first President (Dr. William Gosse)  
was a typical English gentleman, refined,  
gentle in manner, and extremely courteous.  
The founders did well to elect him as their  
leader, for at a time when the brotherhood  
of man was not conspicuous among the  
members of the medical profession he was  
universally respected. If Dr. Gosse was a  
typical English gentleman, Dr. Clendenning  
was a typical Irish one; of fine presence,  
especially when in uniform—for he was the  
P.M.O. of the Military Forces—with a de-  
lightful brogue, and a cheery, friendly dis-  
position. If he had said that he had de-  
scended from the Kings of Ireland, which  
I don't know that he ever did say, no one  
would have disbelieved him. Dr. Gardner  
was, I should say, the most forcible per-  
sonality of the medical profession; a dexter-  
ous surgeon, bold, perhaps overbold; tho-  
roughly up to date in all matters pertain-  
ing to surgery; having perhaps the biggest  
practice every enjoyed in Adelaide, yet al-  
ways finding time not only to attend the  
meetings of the branch, but always being  
ready to read a paper if required. His  
papers, like his speeches, were terse and  
gritty, at times caustic. He was a strong  
man, and his removal to Melbourne was a  
great loss to our branch. Dr. Charles Gosse  
had a charming personality, and naturally  
was popular with all classes. He was a  
very neat surgeon, and had the advantage  
of being ambidexterous. He was the first  
ophthalmic surgeon to the Adelaide Hos-  
pital, relinquishing his surgency to take up  
the position. In the last year of his life he  
became practically the first specialist of  
which Adelaide could boast. His untimely  
death was deeply regretted, and the Charles  
Gosse Lectureship on Ophthalmology at the  
Adelaide University was a tribute raised to  
his memory. Dr. Davies Thomas will always  
be remembered for the valuable work he  
did in connection with hydatid disease.  
Wonderfully industrious in all matters con-  
nected with his profession he made himself  
proficient in the German language while he  
was in active practice in order that he  
might study German medical literature. A  
ready writer and fluent speaker, his papers  
and speeches were a feature in the work of  
the branch. Death overtook him at the  
zenith of his fame. Words fail me when  
I attempt to depict Dr. Edward Willis  
Way—the kindest, most lovable of men,  
the truest friend man could have—with the  
spirits of a boy, and full of fun; yet, when  
seriousness was demanded, as earnest and  
thoughtful as could be desired. He was a  
man of exquisite tact, and his judgment was  
sound. These qualities made him the re-  
cipient of the troubles and difficulties of his  
fellow-practitioners. When in doubt on any  
point "See Way" was almost an  
axiom among his friends, and no  
one consulting him was sent  
empty away. There is no need to  
mention his attainments, they are known  
to us all. The manner in which he per-  
sonally faced an incurable disease was an  
object lesson never to be forgotten. Death  
robbed us as a profession of a noble mem-  
ber, the State of a worthy citizen.

#### —Two Present Members.—

"I would like to mention other interesting  
personalities, but I must refrain. I must,  
however, refer to two gentlemen, still