

# A POPULAR APPOINTMENT.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S NEW GOVERNOR.

### A SOLDIER AND A SPORTSMAN.

Much gratification was expressed throughout South Australia on Saturday and Sunday at the appointment of another distinguished soldier as Governor of the State.

Although the exploit which earned for our new Governor the highest military award—the Victoria Cross—was performed 28 years ago, its daring placed it in the same category as that associated with the tin whistle and toy drum rally of Sir Tom Bridges. The promptness, high-mindedness, and devotion to duty which inspired the then Capt. Hore-Ruthven to snatch a wounded brother officer almost from the grasp of bloodthirsty Dervishes and bear him, under hot fire, to safety showed that Major-Gen. the Hon. Alexander Hore-Ruthven possesses the enthusiasm to "do his job" for the Empire, which should make him a fit representative of His Majesty in Australia.

Only a little less pleasing to South Australians, judging from opinions heard in the city on Saturday, is the fact that

Gen. Hore-Ruthven and his wife expect to embark within a few weeks. Their only son will remain at Eton, although he may join his parents within a year or two.

Gen. Hore-Ruthven is a lover of cricket, and recalls playing in Australia as a member of the Governor-General's team.

Major-Gen. Hore-Ruthven is still in command of the Welsh Guards at Aldershot, and will not be coming to London for a week to arrange his plans.

Gen. Hore-Ruthven is a keen horseman and hunter, and last year served on the joint committee of the Jockey Club National Hunt Committee, which enquired into the question of totalizators. He admits having personally influenced the signing of a report in favour of introducing the totalizator, by reason of the experience concerning the machine which he gained in Australia.

### THE ANCESTRAL LINE.

By "Ecrivain."

The Governor-designate, Major-Gen. the Hon. Alexander Gore Arkwright Hore-Ruthven—to give him his full name—is a brother of Lord Ruthven, ninth baron and present peer, and uncle of Helen present Countess of Carlisle, who is heir to the Barony of Ruthven. Dr. Gilbert Murray, the distinguished Australian, who has been Regius Professor of Greek in the University of Oxford since 1908, married Lady Mary Henrietta, eldest daughter of the ninth Earl of Carlisle, aunt of the present peer.

Our new Governor comes of ancient Scottish lineage. The family of Ruthven—pronounced "Rivven"—derives from Thor, a person of Saxon or Danish blood, who settled in Scotland under King David I. (1124-53). The Barony of Ruthven goes back in the peerage of Scotland to 1651, but prior to that date there were the Earls of Gowrie. The Hon. Alexander Ruthven of Freeland, County Perth, younger son of William, second Lord Ruthven, ancestor of the Earl of Gowrie, died in 1599, and was succeeded by his eldest son, William, who married a daughter of Sir William Moncrieff. Their only son, Sir Thomas Ruthven, was elevated to the peerage as Lord Ruthven of Freeland in the seventeenth century. The eighth Lord Ruthven, father of the new Governor, succeeded to the barony and estates in 1864. Nine years ago, at the age of 80, he was created a peer of the United Kingdom under the title of Baron Ruthven of Gowrie, of Gowrie, County Perth, for his services in the Great War. His son, the present peer, succeeded him in 1921.

The first Baron of Ruthven of the present line was Sir Thomas Ruhtven, who was raised to the peerage in 1651. He was a great-grandson of William, second Lord Ruthven (created in 1487-8), grandfather of the first Earl of Gowrie. This Sir Thomas, the first baron, was colonel of a regiment, a Commissioner for the Treaty of Ripon in 1641, and a Commissioner of Exchequer. He married Isabella, daughter of Robert, Lord Balfour of Burley (now spelt Burleigh). Their only son, David, who succeeded to the title in 1673, was a Lord of the Treasury in Scotland.



MAJOR-GEN. HORE-RUTHVEN.

This portrait has been produced from a group photograph taken at Government House, Adelaide, when the new Governor was military secretary to the then Governor-General (the Earl of Dudley).

our new Governor has a taste for sport. As indicated in the cabled reports from England, he is a keen horseman, with more than a nodding acquaintance with the turf, and has a great fondness for cricket.

There were many people who recalled having met Gen. Hore-Ruthven when, from 1908 to 1910, he was in Australia as military secretary to the then Governor-General (the Earl of Dudley), and expressed the conviction that the experience of Australia and Australians which he then gained would prove of great value