LONDON, September 3.

Chief Justice Wav left London on Wednesday morning for Bath, for a visit of the briefest character, to attend the inauguration of the Chief Justice of South Australia. He is at Exeter to-day, and tomorrow he is to embark on the Oruba at Plymouth. It is un

Mr. F. Mortimer Trimmer, formerly of South Australia, of which he is a frequent correspondent, has been a regular contributor to the papers, and on his return to the United States he has been spending a considerable portion of his time lately in the preparation of articles about books for Adelaide University. Since I wrote last he has also been on a visit to Lady Musgrave, and on his return to London he is to attend the Grand Lodge of Freemasons, with whom he dined.

Mr. W. Menz, of Adelaide, after a pleasant stay in London, has gone for a couple of months' trip on the Continent, where he is expected to be in October.

Mr. W. H. Murray, of Westgate, has been in London on business, and on his return to Adelaide he is to attend the Grand Lodge of Freemasons, with her daughter, who is in much better health.

Mr. Playford has issued a circular appealing for funds on behalf of the widow and children of the late Mr. Playford, in command of the Calvert Exploring Expedition. *Inter alia,* he wrote: "I have received, through my Government and otherwise, by bringing the fund under the notice of colonists from South Australia and Western Australia now in England to the tune of £100, and in the course of a few weeks, an object has been reached. Mr. David Murray will leave for Adelaide on October 6. Lieutenant Murray has been in London for some time, pursuing the Union of the Commonwealth and at Westgate, Messrs. George Wells & Co. have opened an office for shipping and furnishing purposes in Leadenhall Street, and are now in the preliminary stages of their undertaking. Mr. G. T. Bean, formerly of Melbourne, is in London on business, and has taken up his residence in St. John's Wood, to the delight of his friends. He is now in the most of his new friends, and his success in business has made him a rich man.

The new Directors of the West Australian Mining Company have authorised their secretary to issue a prospectus for £1,000,000 in 2,000 shares, to be paid for in the carry-over of the company's pre-war surplus. The shares are now in demand, and have been sold for £120 each. The shares are now in demand, and have been sold for £120 each. Since their horses were purchased for £50 each, the directors are already making a profit of £1,000,000 on their investment.

A large number of cyclists journeyed to the Royal Albert Docks on Friday last to bid farewell to E. A. Mather and E. H. Ainsworth, the five-mile, N.C.U. champion, who left by the s.s. China, and are now on their way to Australia. The cyclists will end their ride on the end of the line, and it is expected that they will arrive in Sydney on the 25th of this month. The cyclists will begin their journey on the 1st of January, and are expected to arrive in Sydney on the 25th of this month. The cyclists will begin their journey on the 1st of January, and are expected to arrive in Sydney on the 25th of this month. Since their horses were purchased for £50 each, the directors are already making a profit of £1,000,000 on their investment.

The Board of Agriculture state that out all cattle consigned to Great Britain from South Australia.
The Canon O'Brien, Protestant Reformer, who took a prominent part in welcoming the Duke and Duchess of York to Adare Manor, is the guest of the late Mr. William Smith O'Brien, who placed himself at the head of an insurrectionary movement after the death of the famous Dan O'Connell. O'Brien was sentenced to death, but ultimately was sent to Tasmania, and after some years returned to Ireland, where he died in 1855. The statue of Smith O'Brien, erected by public subscription, now occupies a site in one of the city areas of Dublin which was refused as a site for a statue of O'Brien by the Corporation of Dublin.

The disappearance of Frank Slavin, who set out for the goldfields of Klondyke, has been reported. He has disappeared to that region of the globe, which seems likely to eclipse Western Australia as a marvellous gold-producing country. To a Press report he had been staying out of London, and some friends since Slavin's departure said that the last letter they had received from her was written on his journey. Frank had no large sum of money, as he had been looking for the Klondyke, but I am not sure if the letter which Frank had written was addressed to any of his friends. Frank's friends have been looking for him, and they believe that he is still alive.

Though the consignment of oranges which came by the Austraian, and which were sold on August 25 by Messrs. White & Co., G. Wills & Co., have put their consignment into the hands of the Colonial Consignment and Distributing Co., Limited, and it has been delivered to the branches of the Company's branches and agents in Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Glasgow, and other places, and a large proportion of the oranges have been sold. The fruit is of the best quality and well, and much nearer 1s. than 1s. 6d. Mr. Young, of the Government Depot, instructed Keeling & Hunt to sell a certain proportion of the oranges at a reduced price, and they fetched 10s. and 1s. each. On the same date Messrs. Keeling & Hunt sold 324 cases of oranges from Naples, and these averaged also about the same price, but which are much better. In order to displace the illusion that there are no oranges to be obtained here at this season of the year, I understand that there are still some to be had from the Government Depot by the Australia. When the sale of the Depot is concluded it will probably average 1s. 6d. a box. Messrs. Osborn of Covent Garden, and these are averaging from 9s. 6d. to 10s. They are admirably inferior to the South Australian.
UNIVERSITY SHAKSPEARE SOCIETY.

At the fortnightly meeting of the University Shakspeare Society on Thursday evening the Rev. J. Day Thompson delivered a lecture on "Richard III.; a study in dramatic equilibrium." The lecturer prefaced his remarks by stating that he did not intend to deal with the play as a whole, but with the character of Richard, using it in illustration of the relative breadth and balance of Shakspeare's art. The character was the soul and staple of the play. No other character had any prominence beside him, the only rival in force being that of Margaret. Notwithstanding his villainy, the character of Richard would be found to be full of moral significance as it was of artistic force, fire, and fancy. In this, the lecturer argued, was the balance or equilibrium of the character from a dramatic point of view as against its being that of a deep dissembler, lowly of countenance, arrogant of heart, outwardly compassionate where he inwardly hated, not "letting" to kiss whom he thought to kill, despisitae and cruel, nor for evil will always, but oftener for ambitions, and for the unsure or increase of his estate. Where his advantage grew he spared "no man's death whose life withstood his purpose." This common condemnation of the man dropped out of sight all the good side of him, and that there was another side than that presented to a Tudor populace was palpable to any one who would put forth an honest hand to the touch of evidence. If the dramatist could not make the monster morally better he made him intellectually bigger, and endowed him with transcendent intellect to take off the edge of pure loathing against him. Over against the unmitigated villain of the tradition the dramatist set some more humanly attractive elements, and thus maintained the equilibrium of the character and the drama. Taking this view as the groundwork of his arguments the lecturer proved his case with admirable analysis, specious argument, and philosophic acumen. There was a large attendance of members and friends, who heartily applauded the lecturer. A discussion was participated in by the Rev. A. T. Bos and Messrs. H. Barrett, F. F. Wholohan, E. H. Lock, and Paris Nesbit, Q. C.