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SIR GEORGE GREY.

HIS NEW ZEALAND CAREER.

FINAL EXTENSION LECTURE.

At the Adelaide University on Tuesday evening Professor Henderson delivered his third and last extension lecture on the career of the late Sir George Grey. The scope of it was the Empire builder's second Administration in New Zealand—1861-68—which was almost entirely taken up with the Maori war. The lecturer went fully into the causes of that campaign, which were principally concerned with the Maoris' system of common land tenure and their devotion to the "King movement." It was undeniable, he said, that the British never really conquered that fine race. Ten thousand regular troops were sent from England, and they had the co-operation of 5,000 colonial troops, besides several men-of-war and river boats, the whole army having been equipped in the most up-to-date manner. Altogether in the two islands there were 30,000 Maoris—men, women, and children—the majority of whom were on the side of the British. There were never more than 2,000 of the enemy in the field against England, and in no one battle had the British to meet a force of more than 600, while the Maoris were without big guns after the first engagement. Among the reasons which accounted for their successful resistance was that the Maoris held the rugged and wild central positions of New Zealand; they possessed remarkable mobility, and were able to do well on fern roots alone; and they had a wonderful faculty of hiding themselves. Further, they were engaged in a struggle for racial preservation. But the main cause of the failure—and it was not a creditable story for England—was that those at the head of affairs could not restrain themselves from bitter quarrels. The intense personal feeling that prevailed among men like Sir George Grey, Sir William Fox, and Gen. Sir Duncan Cameron almost justified the use of the word "disgraceful." The violent dissensions, as disclosed by the records, were of a most lamentable nature. Sir William Fox had said that the most important campaign in New Zealand was that between Sir George Grey and Gen. Cameron. That might be true if the campaign between Fox and Grey were excluded. (Laughter.) In New Zealand again Sir George exhibited that unfortunate fault of disobedience in regard to Imperial instructions, and notwithstanding all his admirable work in the colonies the administrators at home were obliged to ask how it was possible to carry on good government in the circumstances. The last straw in Grey's New Zealand career came when Col. Wense wrote a private letter to his brother, who was a minister in England, saying that Maoris had been shot in cold blood to avoid their care as prisoners, that some had been roasted alive, and that others had had their ears cut off and dried, and handed back to be worn on watch chains. These charges naturally created considerable feeling in England. Such deeds were utterly repugnant to the nature of Sir George Grey, and in requesting him to enquire into them the Colonial Secretary clearly stated that he did not believe them of him. Sir George, however, declined to investigate the charges, and wrote an angry minute against the British Government, which he had entered upon the records of the colonial Legislative Council. Then he wrote a despatch, which Earl Carnarvon characterized as a reprimand of his superior officers. In fact, between the clashing policies of the British and colonial Governments, Grey gave way to the nervous strain, drew on the commissariat chest, and quarrelled with everybody in supreme authority. It was therefore not to be wondered at that the Imperial Ministers at last decided to do without his services. He could not see that any injustice was done him, because he made government impossible from the point of view of the Imperial authorities. But whatever charges might be brought against Grey on that score, it would be difficult indeed to deny that all through his career he struggled earnestly and persistently to do everything he possibly could to develop the resources and advance the best interests of every colony over which he exercised the rights of administration. Still, with all his big and clever brain, he lacked discipline, and showed a fatal disregard for the interests of the British taxpayer.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURE.

SIR GEORGE GREY.

On Tuesday evening Professor Henderson gave the final lecture of his course on Sir George Grey, in the presence of a large audience, at the University lecture theatre. The lecturer dealt with Grey's administration in New Zealand between 1861 and 1868, and outlined the causes of the wars with the Maoris. The difficulties arising in respect to land tenures were explained. In his attempts to undermine the authority of the chiefs the Governor tried too rapidly to educate the Maoris into new ideas. The loss of authority on the part of the chiefs was followed by the appointment of a native king, and it was when the Maoris became suspicious that Grey did not sympathise with the idea of their having a king of their own that they fired on a party of British, killing all but one. The war commenced in 1863, and continued till 1871. The bravery of the Maoris was referred to, and the lecturer mentioned that although there were 10,000 British troops, in addition to 5,000 colonials, the Maoris never had more than 2,000 men on the field. There were only 56,000 Maoris in New Zealand, including women and children, and a great proportion of these were friendly to the British. They were never really conquered. It had, however, to be remembered that they held rugged positions which gave them the advantage in making attacks. They were very mobile. They could live and keep in good condition on fern roots, which were plentiful. One of the great difficulties the British forces had to face was that of finding the enemy. The Maori power of slipping away was remarkable. Then they believed that the struggle was for racial existence, and this led them to fight desperately. The war was a discreditable one to the British, particularly because those at the head of affairs could not restrain themselves from quarrels. Grey quarrelled with General Cameron, and with Mr. William Fox. A ridiculous charge was made to the Imperial authorities, to the effect that Maoris were shot down in cold blood to save the trouble of taking them prisoners, and that gross acts of cruelty were perpetrated. Grey was ordered to make an enquiry, but he indignantly refused to do so, and although the man who made the charge afterwards apologised, the conduct of the Governor in defying the Imperial authorities, could not be justified. He prevented the British troops leaving New Zealand, although they were recalled by the home authorities, until it was decided to place them beyond his control by declaring that they occupied the position of troops simply passing through the colony. He was worried a good deal by the divided responsibility arising from the Imperial Government desiring one policy and the colonial Government another. His health gave way as the result, and he became nervous and irritable, until at length it was impossible for anyone to work with him, and he quarrelled with everyone. The lecturer could not see that any injustice was done him in his recall, for he had made government impossible from the point of view of the Imperial authorities. Still, he strove in New Zealand, as in other places, to develop the country, but he was unsympathetic with the British taxpayer. He tried with his large brain to do his best for every place of which he had the administration. To the mind of the lecturer he was by far the greatest Empire builder in the British lands south of the equator. In Africa and in New Zealand statues had been raised to him. He had bigger issues to face in these places than he had in South Australia, but the lecturer did not believe that he had done a finer piece of work anywhere than in this State. He came to South Australia when the State was bordering on bankruptcy, and he drove the people out of the city into the country. In 1843 the colony was retrieved from the verge of ruin, and this was just at the time when British Ministers were thinking of abandoning it. If the question of raising a monument to the memory of any man in South Australia should arise, they would do well to consider whether there was anyone of whom it could be shown when the authoritative records were consulted that he had a greater claim to the honor than Sir George Grey.

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STATUE TO SIR GEORGE GREY.

Judging by the fate of the Butler Ministry the people of South Australia are not inclined at present to erect statues to men who square the finances of the country. This fact, however, did not prevent Professor Henderson from making the following remarks in concluding his final extension lecture on Sir George Grey at the Adelaide University on Tuesday night:—"To my mind Sir George Grey was the greatest Empire builder south of the equator. A statue has been erected to his memory in New Zealand, and another was erected to his honour in South Africa during his lifetime, but none has yet been put up in South Australia. Yet if you ask yourselves one question you will find it difficult to evade the one answer. Sir George had bigger issues to face in South Africa than he had here; but looking at the quality of his administration I don't believe he did a finer piece of work in his whole career than he accomplished in South Australia. He came here when the province was in a state of bankruptcy, and he retrenched and faced the unpopularity that arose. He carried through a policy which was most important in bringing about a restoration of the financial condition of the province. Sir George drove the people out of Adelaide into the country, and made them develop the resources of the soil. By 1843 South Australia had been retrieved from its financial embarrassment, and I venture to say that he is not the man least worthy of your honour. I venture to say that when the people have thoroughly considered his work and his merits, local and otherwise, they will agree that if anybody deserves a statue to his memory that man is Sir George Grey." (Cheers.)

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

Dr. Ennis gave his annual organ recital at the Elder Conservatorium on Monday evening, when there was a large audience, which included His Excellency the Governor and Lady Le Hunte. The genial and popular director of the Elder Conservatorium is now fairly well known in this city as an unusually versatile musician, especially in the practical side of his art, and as an organist it is doubtful if he has a rival in these States. Possessed of a splendid technique and an intimate knowledge of the orchestra and the scores of the great masters, he treats the "king of instruments" after the most approved modern fashion, so ably exemplified by Mr. E. H. Lemare when he was in this city. The programmes of the recitals which he has already given have invariably been models of their class, interesting without being trivial, and at the same time representative of the works of the best masters. It is therefore to be regretted that up to the present he has modestly limited himself to one recital a year. The Conservatorium possesses a fine concert organ, which, when played by an organist of Dr. Ennis's powers, should be capable of attracting, interesting, and educating large numbers of our music lovers. The programme at the concert under notice was well up to the high standard of its predecessors. Bach was represented by his great "Fantasia and fugue in G minor" (surely the finest organ fugue written); there were a couple of excellent transcriptions from Wagner; smaller pieces by those popular writers Lemare and Wolstenholme; and a couple of novelties in this city by Reubke and Sjogren. As his opening number the doctor gave the Bach "Fantasia and fugue" and scored a distinct success. All the points of interest in the fantasia were brought out with an artistic choice of registers, and in the same manner much additional interest was lent to the fugue. The technical difficulties of this latter section of the composition were vanquished with ease, and steady time was maintained leading up to an allargando treatment of the final entry of the "subject" in the pedals that made a splendid climax. The difficult "Introduction" and "Finale" from Reubke's "Sonata in C minor" was also played with much technical skill and judgment. Dr. Ennis's powers as a "colourist" were displayed in a favourable light in his interpretation of a couple of excerpts from Wagner—the "Introduction" to the first act of "Die Meistersinger" and the famous "Prelude" to "Parsifal" which were given for the first time in Adelaide. In each item the orchestral suggestions were most happy and the general effect admirable. Wolstenholme's two pretty little sketches, "The question" and "The answer," were played with due piquancy and refined expressions, and these remarks also apply to the recitab's rendering of Lemare's popular "Andantino in D flat," which was received with hearty expressions of approval. Sjogren's "Fantasia," a melodious and most effective composition, was splendidly played, and created a most favourable impression. The doctor concluded an enjoyable recital with Lemmens's showy "Fandango" which he played with appropriate brilliancy and spirit.

Miss Nora Kyffin Thomas made her second appearance since her return from study in Germany and contributed a couple of violin solos in a manner which deepened the favourable impression created by her recent performance at the Town Hall. As her first number the young violinist gave the "Andante" and "Allegro assai" from Bach's "Concerto in A minor" with a fine rich tone, excellent intonation, and steadiness of treatment well in keeping with the character of the music. The audience recognised the merits of the performance by thrice recalling the violinist. Later in the evening Miss Thomas presented the melodious and effective "Adagio" from Max Bruch's "Concerto in G minor," which she rendered with great skill and refinement and admirable passion in the climaxes. She was again recalled several times. Dr. Ennis accompanied the violin solos on the pianoforte in excellent style.

Reg. 4th Aug. 1905

Mr. C. R. Hodge (Registrar of the University) completes to-day 21 years of service at the University.

Mr. Roy Lister Robinson, the South Australian Rhodes scholar, did not leave by the mail steamer on Thursday. He has booked his passage for Saturday to Western Australia, and after spending a week with his parents will continue his voyage.

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ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP.

The next examination for the purpose of selecting the South Australian scholar for the Royal College of Music, London, will be held in November. In consequence of the extension of tenure of the term by one year for the present holder of the scholarship the examination was not held last November. In ordinary circumstances this postponement would have made some of the intending candidates over age. They will be glad, therefore, to know that in response to representations made by the Council of the Adelaide University the authorities of the Royal College of Music have agreed to extend the age limit by one year. Candidates may obtain all information concerning the examination by applying to Mr. C. R. Hodge, Registrar of the University.