

Register 10th July 1902.

Register 10th July 1902.

Register 12th July 1902.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES.

One of the most viciously witty sayings of this generation is that of Mr. Arthur Reed Ropes, soulful minor poet of Cambridge, and yet the merry "Adrian Ross" of many burlesques. Which side of this Jekyll and Hyde existence prompted the remark may be left to individual taste to decide; at any rate, he took occasion to run down the modern "scrappy and half-educated ideals, of which 'Tit Bits' and University extension are the most notable products." The comparison thus drawn is false. Whatever may be thought of the recent flood of publications made up of "scraps," it is better to be even only half-educated than not educated at all. The advantage of being instructed thoroughly needs no proving, but not every one has the opportunity to go to this length. Accordingly, during recent years, Universities all over the world have been establishing special lectures and special courses of study for those whom circumstances prevent from taking the full course necessary for a degree. The University of Adelaide has also devoted much attention to this praiseworthy enterprise; and it is this evening to begin its extension work for the present winter, with the first of two projected lectures by Professor Henderson. His special domain of Modern History and English Literature gives a wide choice of subjects, and he has made an attractive selection for his initial essay of the kind in Adelaide. He is to lecture on "Francis of Assisi" and "Oliver Cromwell"—the saint, and the man of action; two deeply religious men, on whom religion worked in strangely opposite forms.

To the salot is given the place of honour in these lectures; and there is much to attract in the character of the man, famous on the one hand as the founder of the great Franciscan order, and on the other as the hero of many quasi-miraculous stories illustrating what was evidently the deepest love for all living things. In dealing at length with such a subject the Professor may be confronted with the difficulty which Mr. Ropes was probably alluding to. To be thoroughly posted in the history of St. Francis of Assisi, and unacquainted with the life of other early Fathers of no less importance, is to get an erroneous idea of the proportion of things. Such, however, is the doubt which will always suggest itself when an arbitrary selection has to be made among the almost countless divisions of human knowledge. Everything must have a beginning, and an alluring subject, treated in an enticing way, may draw into the sphere of the University some who will remain to pursue their studies in earnest. In any case, the lectures are of value to the regular students embarked on a History course, and the University must be congratulated on its plan of throwing open its doors on these occasions in the hope—the well-founded hope—that good may result. There will also be given during the present winter a series of lectures on pianoforte playing and the history of music; on the subject of volcanoes, which possesses at present such a grim interest for the whole world; and on the four great tragedies of Shakspeare. Here is an arrangement in which every taste may somewhere or other find pleasure and profit; and one fitting answer to the quip of Mr. Ropes would be that only to a little mind is the proverbial little learning a dangerous thing.

THE DR. WAY MEMORIAL FUND.

A meeting of the subscribers to the Dr. Way Memorial Fund was held in the arbitration room, Brookman's Building, Grenfell street, on Wednesday afternoon. Sir Lancelot Stirling presided. The Chairman explained that the meeting was called for the purpose of approving of the recommendations of the committee with regard to the bestowal of the funds that were collected for some ultimate purpose. The committee recommended that, in view of the fact that the amount of the fund collected did not reach a sum that would enable them to utilize it for the purpose of establishing a scholarship or some larger scheme, it would be desirable to approach the council of the Adelaide University and ask them to receive the amount then collected, £425, for an additional endowment to the gynaecological chair on the understanding that the University perpetuated the name with the chair with which the late Dr. Way had been so intimately acquainted by letting it be known as the Dr. Edward Willis Way chair of gynaecology. He wrote to the council of the University, and he was pleased to inform the meeting that they were gratefully prepared to accept the suggestion of the committee, and to receive the money and apply it in the manner indicated. Additional amounts had come in, and it was highly desirable that the sum should be made up to £500 before the actual handing over took place. Mr. C. G. Gurr moved—"That this meeting of subscribers to the Way Memorial Fund approve the recommendation of the committee—that the proceeds be handed to the council of the University of Adelaide as an endowment to the chair of gynaecology, provided that that chair shall in the future be known as the Dr. Edward Willis Way chair of gynaecology." The subscribers authorize the handing over of all funds that are and may be collected to the council of the University for this purpose." This was seconded and carried. In moving a vote of thanks to the secretary, Mr. T. H. Smeaton, and to the treasurer, Mr. H. Scott, the Chairman said they regretted that the amount collected had not reached a more substantial sum, but that, were certain restrictions which prevented the committee from taking those energetic steps which would have made the fund a larger one. But the main object of the movement had been fulfilled, and they would see in the records and functions of the University the name of the late Dr. Edward Willis Way perpetuated. The motion was carried, as was also a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for the able way in which he had directed the efforts of the subscribers and the committee. The Chairman, treasurer, and secretary will remain a committee for the purpose of receiving any further amounts that may come in with a view to their bestowal in the same manner as those already collected.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES.

FRANCIS OF ASSISI.

The first of a series of University extension lectures, which have been arranged for the winter months, was delivered by Professor G. C. Henderson, M.A., in the chemical theatre, Prince of Wales's building, on Thursday evening. The subject chosen for the inaugural lecture was "Francis of Assisi," and Professor Henderson succeeded in retaining the attention of a large and representative audience for more than an hour by his clear, concise, yet comprehensive review of the salient features of the life and work of the great apostle of idealism, whose teaching introduced a new element into medieval religious life and thought. This was the first occasion on which Professor Henderson had addressed an Adelaide audience, and judging by the ease with which he captivated and held the attention of his auditors he is likely to become an exceedingly popular lecturer. He has a clear, deep voice, a pleasant style of delivery, and a happy method of blending humour with serious and lofty thought. He also possesses rhetorical powers of no mean order, and as he speaks without notes, except when he is dealing with matters which demand strict accuracy with respect to details and precise definitions, he is able to exercise that subtle and indescribable personal magnetism which counts for so much in public speaking, but which few orators are able to exert when they have to confine their attention to manuscript. Before he began his address Professor Henderson explained that he did not propose to give a course of extension lectures in the ordinary sense of the term. He had simply arranged to present brief sketches of two notable personages who had lived in widely separated periods of history. In order to deal seriously with matters of that kind it would be necessary to devote a series of lectures to a single period, and to carefully study the various characters which stood out most prominently in the history of the time. In considering the life of such a man as Francis of Assisi it was necessary to remember that in the middle ages the range of intellectual and artistic interests was much more restricted than was the case now. The result was that men in those days were in danger of carrying their ideals to extremes. He gave an eloquent and vivid word picture of the ancient town of Assisi and its romantic surroundings, and briefly traced the development of the mind and character of the youth who was destined to leave an indelible mark upon the religious life of the middle ages. When Francis was a young man one of his companions seeing him gazing at the stars asked if he was thinking of a wife. He replied, "Yes; of a wife more noble, more beautiful, and more rich than anything your imagination can conceive." It was in glowing terms such as those that he first referred to "his lady poverty," to whom he remained absolutely loyal to the end of his life. It was difficult for modern minds to understand his idealism in this respect. He endured and extolled absolute poverty. His teaching in that respect was capable of being easily misinterpreted. He and his followers lived by begging, not because they desired or intended to escape from the duties of life, but because they regarded the practice as a spiritual exercise. But at the same time Francis laid down the rule that every friar should work at some trade, for the reason that they should "flee from idleness rather than to earn a living." It was difficult for any one acquainted with the ideals of the twentieth century to understand the life of a man who regarded poverty not as an evil or a necessity, but as an ambition and the goal of life's struggle. The reasons which he gave for the rule of absolute poverty which he imposed upon the members of his order were threefold. First, he contended that those who possessed property needed arms to defend it, and he objected to all forms of assault. Secondly, he desired that the order should be purely democratic, and he argued that wealth created barriers between man and man. His third and most important reason was the belief that by giving up everything a man could find the best things in life. To him poverty was an ideal, not a misfortune. In his own words, it was "the special way to salvation." Later in life, however, he was compelled to make a compromise by founding an order the members of which were to remain in their homes and find there a way of serving God. Professor Henderson proceeded to explain the effect which these movements had upon the life and thought of the period, and concluded a deeply interesting lecture by remarking that St. Francis was not a great administrator, nor a man conspicuous for learning or intellectual ability. But he was a great soul, and his spiritual development was remarkable. He was one of the few men in history who had accepted without any reservation the teaching of Jesus. The lecture was illustrated with lantern slides of pictures and scenes of the town and country in which Francis spent the greater portion of his life. Each person who attended was also supplied with a syllabus giving a concise outline of the scope and argument of the lecture.

Reg 11th July 1902.

ELDER ANATOMICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL SCHOOL.

The foundation stone of the Elder Anatomical and Pathological School on North terrace, in connection with the University of Adelaide, will be laid by His Excellency the Governor (visitor of the University) on Monday next at 3 p.m. The national anthem will be sung on the arrival of Lord Tennyson, who will be received at the entrance by the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Warden of the Senate, the dean and members of the Faculty of Medicine, and registrar, and attended by them to the seats reserved for the viceregal party. The Chancellor will request His Excellency to lay the foundation stone. Professor Watson will present a trowel and mallet to the Governor, who will lay the stone. After the stone has been laid the assembly will sing the first verse of the national anthem. Members of the council and staff, graduates, and undergraduates are requested to wear academic dress. Guests are asked to assemble not later than 2.45 p.m.

Ad. 11th July 1902

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

The foundation stone of the Elder Anatomical and Pathological School at the University is to be laid by the Governor on Monday afternoon. Professor Watson will present the trowel and mallet, with which the ceremony is to be performed, to his Excellency.

Advertiser 11th July.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURE.

Professor G. C. Henderson, M.A., delivered an extension lecture on "Francis of Assisi," at the University on Thursday evening. There was a large attendance, and the eloquent remarks of the professor concerning the founder of the Franciscan order were listened to attentively. Lime-light views were given on pictures and scenes collected in England and Italy.