

The Advertiser

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1894.

FRENCH LECTURES AT THE UNIVERSITY.

The fifth sketch on Molière's plays, "Les Femmes Savantes," was given yesterday at the University by Monsieur Galois. The lecturer pointed out that, without being in the least paradoxical, we might consider "Les Femmes Savantes" as a supplement to "Les Précieuses Ridicules." The women of that period no longer read the novels of La Calprenède, as the "Précieuses" had done, but occupied themselves with mathematics, astronomy, and philosophical speculations. From the court it spread to the "bourgeois," and to remain true to the new craze women neglected their household. Molière in this inimitable comedy came to the rescue of daughters neglected by their mothers; of husbands, whose comforts were no longer thought of by their wives; and of servants who, like Martine, were dismissed for speaking bad grammar. The aim of this comedy is to point out forcibly the evils of the mania of the *let esprit*. Philaminte, one of the *femmes savantes*, wishes to give her daughter Henriette in marriage to a postulator, Trissotin, who has succeeded in ingratiating himself with the mother, but in reality cares more for the dowry than for the girl herself; while the girl's father, Chrysale, wishes Henriette to marry the man to whom she has been engaged for some time. Such is the whole plot. The worthless Trissotin is found out in good time; that is the denouement. As a contrast to the ridiculous tendency of the woman *let esprit*, as represented by Philaminte, Molière gives us the character of Chrysale. The lecturer drew a lifelike picture of the poor Chrysale, who as the weak husband of the irascible Philaminte is obliged to submit for the sake of peace at home to his wife's craze for learning, but not, however, without a protest in a long "tirade" against ladies "who are more at home in the moon than in the kitchen." Next Wednesday "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme" will be given.

Registe 28/4/94.

ANOTHER SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE UNIVERSITY.—At a meeting of the Adelaide University Council on Friday a letter was read from the Secretary to the Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1891, intimating that the Commissioners hoped to be able to offer a scholarship to the University biennially.

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THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1894.

THE MACDONNELL RANGES.

MR. W. A. HORN'S EXPEDITION.

ITS PERSONNEL AND ROUTE.

The expedition which Mr. W. A. Horn has generously fitted out for the scientific exploration of the Macdonnell Ranges leaves Adelaide for Oodnadatta to-day. Mr. Horn will himself accompany the expedition, although he will not remain with it to the end, as he intends taking a trip to England in June. A depot for stores has been established at Tempe Downs, and Mr. Winnecke, who is in charge of the commissariat, left for the north on Monday last. The personnel of the expedition is as follows:—Mr. W. A. Horn, leader; Mr. Charles Winnecke, F.R.G.S., meteorologist and surveyor; Dr. E. C. Stirling, ethnologist and anthropologist; Professor Ralph Tate, botanist and palaeontologist; Professor W. Baldwin Spencer, of Melbourne, biologist; Mr. J. A. Watt, of the Sydney Geological Survey Department, field geologist and petrologist; Mr. G. A. Keastland and Mr. F. W. Bell, naturalists and collectors. South Australia is represented by Professor Tate, Dr. Stirling, and Messrs. Winnecke and Bell, while the principal eastern colonies have also their representatives. The expedition will be provided with camels and will be accompanied by three cameldrivers, two prospectors, and one cook.

OBJECTS OF THE EXPEDITION.

The objects of the "Horn Scientific Exploring Expedition" are defined thus:—
1. The scientific examination of the country from Oodnadatta to the Macdonnell Ranges, and the collection of specimens illustrative of the fauna, flora, and geological structure and mineralogical resources of that region, and the illustration by photography of any remarkable natural features of the country traversed.
2. The securing of photographs of the aborigines in their primitive states, the collection of information as to their manners, customs, and language, and the reproduction by photography of their mural paintings in caves and on rocks.

THE MEMBERS OF THE EXPEDITION.

Mr. W. A. Horn is a native of New South Wales, where he was born in 1841. When 11 years of age he came to South Australia and entered St. Peter's College, but subsequently went to England and completed his education at Oxford. Returning to this colony in 1874 he devoted himself to pastoral pursuits, and was also largely interested in the Mounts Bluess. In 1884 he contested the election for the district of Flinders but was unsuccessful. At the next general election, three years later, he was returned for this district. Mr. Horn was chairman of a Select Committee appointed to enquire into the working of the Water Conservation Department, which was afterwards changed to a Royal Commission. Being deeply interested in the Barrier it was not surprising that he was appointed a member of the Select Committee on the Barrier traffic. Mr. Horn was at one time a director of the Broken Hill Proprietary Silver Mining Company. He has practical knowledge of extraction in the interior of this colony, and his experience will be of great use to him in this expedition. About 30 years ago he carried out some exploration work in the Fowler Ranges and towards the north-west, and was for 13 years at Maryvale in the west.

Mr. Chas. G. A. Winnecke, F.R.G.S., M.H.O.S., S.A., is a native of South Australia, born at Norwood in 1856, and educated at St. Peter's College. He entered the Survey Department in 1873, and was at various times occupied as a trigonometrical surveyor and explorer. In 1882 he resigned his position to practice his profession privately. Five years later he was placed in charge of the Herbert River and north-eastern exploration party by the South Australian Government to determine the Queensland border between latitude 18° and 26° south, and also to fix the position and extent of valuable pastoral country in that neighborhood. On his return, five years afterwards, nearly 9,000 square miles were at once taken up and realised a high rental. During the period occupied by this exploration he surveyed about 32,000 square miles trigonometrically, and altogether explored and mapped about 90,000 square miles, and ascertained the fact of Lake Eyre and a large area of country in its vicinity being below the sea level. According to Baron von Mueller he also discovered some entirely new plants, and did considerable service to the science of botany. The rivers Bunday, Goss, and Playford, Buchanan's Creek, and the Hale, the scene of the ruby discoveries, were all found and named by Mr. Winnecke. The eastern part of the Macdonnell Range, Jervis Range, and other ranges, were discovered by him. This expedition was undertaken with horses. Great hardships were endured and half of the horses were lost, principally through want of water. In 1883 he started on a second expedition, this time with camels, with a view of exploring pastoral country on the Queensland border between latitude 24° and 27° and longitude 137° to 139°. During this expedition immense tracts of desert country were traversed without finding water; in one instance a distance of 278 miles over sandhills, followed immediately by journeys of 150 and 200 miles. He discovered and named the rivers Field and Hay, and also the Adair range of mountains; and successfully carried out his objects. Since that time Mr. Winnecke has undertaken several minor and private expeditions. For the work which he achieved the Royal Geographical Society made him a fellow. He is an honorary member of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, and of several Continental societies.

Dr. E. C. Stirling, C.M.G., F.R.S., M.D., is the eldest son of the late Mr. Edward Stirling, formerly a member of the Legislative Council of this colony. He was born at Strathalbyn, and after spending some years at St. Peter's College, went to Cambridge and graduated as M.A. and M.D. After holding various appointments in St. George's Hospital, London, he decided to return to South Australia, and soon after his arrival he received the appointment of lecturer on physiology at the Adelaide University, a position which he has held ever since. He is an honorary surgeon to the Adelaide Hospital and a member of the board of management of that institution, while for many years he was one of the governors of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery. In 1884 he was elected to the House of Assembly as senior member for North Adelaide, his colleague being the Hon. G. C. Hawker, but was defeated at the next general election. For two years he was president of the State Children's Council, and he has occupied the positions of president of the Royal Society, and of the South Australian branch of the British Medical Association. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of London, and a member of the Order of St. Michael and St.