

GOLD PLATE FOR ADELAIDE

The Tinline Tale Retold.

Mrs. Vetch (86), who was a daughter of the late Mr. George Tinline, a prominent Adelaide banker of many years ago, and a cousin of Sir George Murray (Chief Justice of South Australia), was found dead on Monday at her mansion at Hyde Park Gate. Mrs. Vetch, who was on the Continent at the outbreak of the war, nursing her son, never returned to England until last year. Meantime her magnificent home facing Kensington Gardens was deserted, although the annual rates were paid by the woman's bankers. Workmen had been engaged for the last few months redecorating the property. The body was found lying on a stairway when they arrived to-day. The husband of deceased, who was a British general, died about 25 years ago.

Students of early South Australian history must have experienced a lively reaction from a perusal of the above cable message received from the London correspondent of The Register on Tuesday. The writer's thoughts were at once directed to a cherished copy of the same paper issued on April 7, 1853—73 years ago—which contains a complete account of the wonderful part played by George Tinline, uncle of His Honor Chief Justice Murray, in the stabilization of South Australia's credit at a time when the province was prostrate and on the brink of ruin from the effects of the gold mania in the neighbouring colony of Victoria. The migration of the population and the abstraction of the specie of the province had deprived South Australia of two of the main elements of national activity—labour and money—and a monetary crisis was threatened.

"Mother, There's a Man!"
The conditions before the passing of the famous Bullion Act are well summed up in the Rev. John Blacket's "History of South Australia." The author says:—"Such was the rush to the Victorian digging that South Australia was nearly drained of its male population. It was said that in one of the suburbs of the city only one man was left, and that child-

the only way in which relief could be obtained was by assaying and coining some of the diggers' gold."

Speedy Legislation.

Governor Young at first demurred to the issue of assayed gold as legal tender. His Excellency had not the advantage of cable communication for consulting the Imperial authorities as to a way out of the crisis, but eventually he yielded to Mr. Tinline's bold scheme for the restoration of national credit and confidence. On January 28, 1852, the Legislative Council—for South Australia's system of government was then uni-cameral—was summoned to discuss the position, and the Bullion Bill was read a first, second, and third time, passed, and assented to on the same day! The Government Assay Office was opened on February 10, and during the day gold to the value of £10,000 was deposited. During the year gold to the value of more than two millions sterling was introduced into South Australia from Victoria. Hodder says that the scheme surpassed the expectations of the most sanguine, and completely vindicated the prudence and sagacity of its promoters.

A Memorable Banquet.

On April 5, 1853, a public dinner was tendered to George Tinline in the Exchange, Adelaide, in recognition of his great services to South Australia in her hour of need. More than 200 persons were present, including merchants, traders, professional men, and a number of country settlers, who had come in expressly for the purpose. George Elder presided. The toasts of "Her Majesty," "Prince Albert," and "The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," preceded a call from the Chairman to drink "in bumpers" the health of George Tinline. The report of the memorable dinner filled columns of The Register, and the speeches being expressed in first person. Mr. Elder handed to Mr. Tinline a cheque for £2,500 subscribed by the South Australian community of 50,000 souls, and also placed in the hands of Capt. C. H. Bagot, as the head of the committee, another cheque for £210 for the purchase in England of a suitable service of gold plate to bear the following inscription:—

THIS SERVICE OF PLATE,
with the sum of
TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS
STERLING,
was presented to
GEORGE TINLINE, ESQUIRE,
acting manager of the South Australian Banking Company,
By His Fellow-colonists,
on **TUESDAY**, the 5th day of April, 1853,

be preserved as an interesting memorial of the early history of the colony." Tinline represented the province in the Legislative Council in 1860-3, but lost his seat from "failure to attend!" When in South Australia he lived at Stanley street, North Adelaide. He was once interested in the Wirrabara sheep station with Mr. W. D. Fisher. His nephew (Chief Justice Murray) paid £1,000 to the University of Adelaide for the purpose of founding scholarships in memory of the family of His Honor's mother. This fine gift made provision for two Tinline scholarships of £30 each tenable for two years, each holder to prepare an original thesis on some subject of Imperial or colonial history. The early records of South Australia have been considerably enhanced as a result. Point Tinline, on the South Australian coastline, and the Hundred of Tinline serve to perpetuate further the name of a truly great man.

POLICE BRIBERY COMMISSION.

Mr. H. K. Paine Appointed.

Judge in Insolvency.

In the Executive Council on Thursday, Mr. H. K. Paine, S.M., was appointed in succession to the late Judge Mitchell, as a royal commission to enquire into the allegations of bribery levelled against members of the police force.

Mr. Paine was also appointed Judge in Insolvency and Stipendiary Magistrate in the Local Court Department, and also a Special Magistrate of the Special Local Court of Appeal, under the provisions of the Taxation Acts, 1915-17. It has been left to the discretion of Mr. Paine as to when he will resume the bribery enquiry, and as to what procedure he will adopt



HIS HONOR MR. JUSTICE PAINE.

in dealing with the matter, particularly regarding whether he will rehear the whole of the cases or accept the printed evidence of the portion of the proceedings which have already transpired. Mr. Paine is in his forty-fourth year. He was born on January 26, 1883, and his legal career began when he was admitted as a practitioner of the Supreme Court Bar in April, 1905. He practised in Adelaide, Port Pirie, and Gawler, and Kadina, spending six years in the latter town before he was appointed to the Public Service in January, 1922, as a country Magistrate. In April of the following year he was transferred to the Adelaide Local Court, and was also appointed a Special and Stipendiary Magistrate, positions which he has held ever since. He was also a member of the Licensing Court for the midland district, and holds the position of returning officer for the State. This position, however, will probably be conferred upon Mr. Paine's successor in the Local Court. The Government is calling for applications for the positions of two Stipendiary Magistrates for the Local Court.

"A FREE HAND."

The Premier (Hon. L. L. Hill) told the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Butler), in the House of Assembly on Thursday, that Mr. Paine had been appointed a royal commissioner and the Government could not, and would not, interfere with his actions. He could rehear the whole of the evidence, or do anything else he thought proper in the matter.

Mr. Justice Poole has been granted eight months' leave of absence, as from October 31. He has been in ill health for a long period, and, although definite



MR. JUSTICE POOLE.

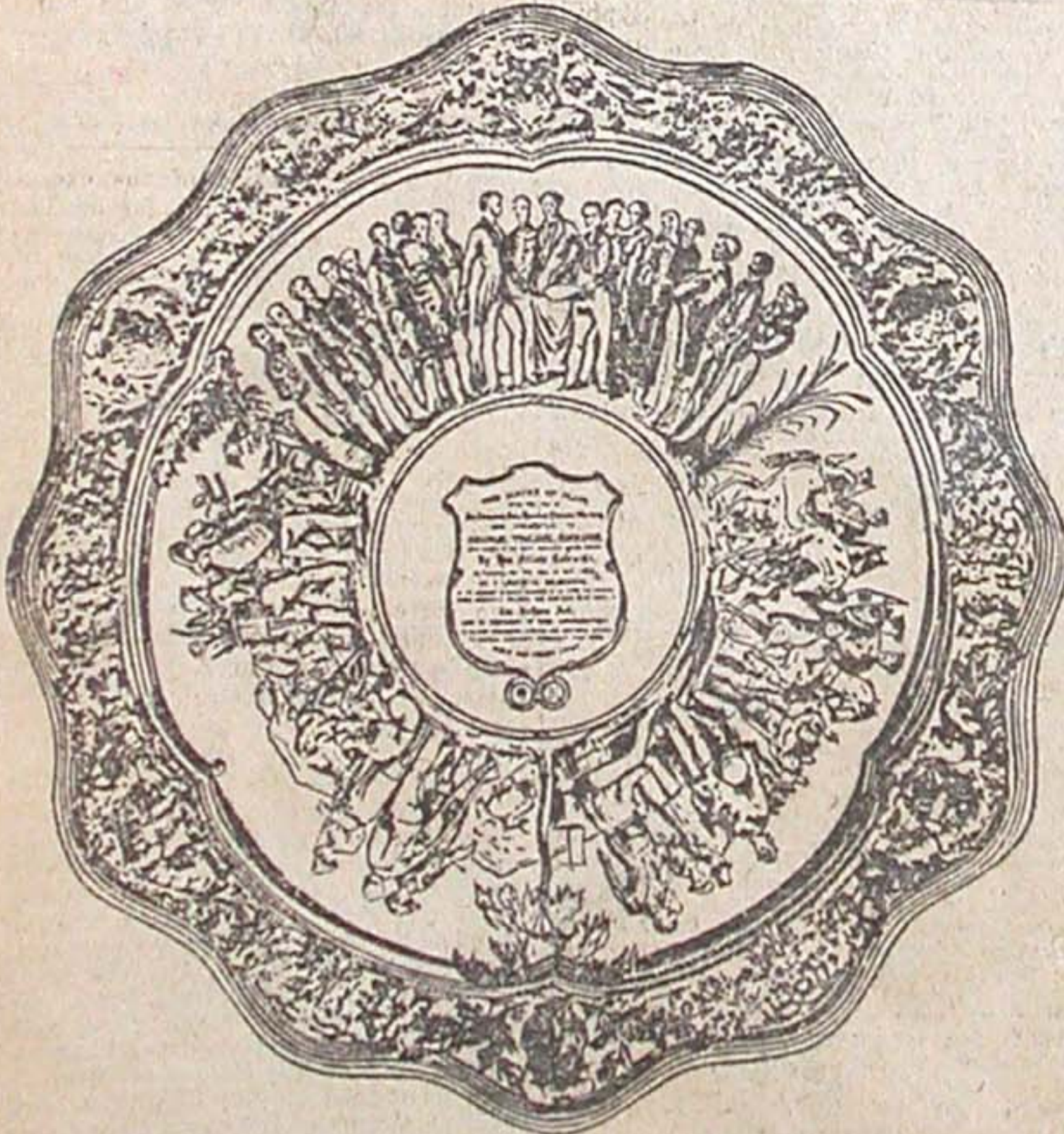
arrangements have not been made, it is understood that, acting upon medical advice, he will make a trip to a warmer climate from next March or April, so as to escape the Australian winter.



A. B. BARKER, B.E.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' SCHOLARSHIPS.

Seven of the ten scholarships open to the sons and daughters of members of the Commercial Travellers' and Warehousemen's Association become available for re- allotment at the end of this year. One of these is the Eric Smith scholarship, covering the full course of any degree at the University of Adelaide. This was founded in 1879, but was increased in value by Sir Edwin Smith. The Archibald McKay scholarship is named after a former secretary and covers the Diploma of Commerce course. Candidates are selected on scholastic attainments and other qualifications, nominations closing on December 1. The examination for the St. Peter's College and Rudolph Buring scholarships will be held about the middle of November, the standard being that of the Education Department seventh grade. The former is open to boys under 15 and is tenable for three years at St. Peter's College, while the Buring scholarship, named after a former president of the association, is open to boys between 10 and 14 and carries with it three years at the Pulcenty Grammar School. Entries for these two scholarships close on November 1. The James Gartrell scholarship, tenable for one year at the Methodist Ladies' College, which was donated annually by Mr. James Gartrell, is being maintained by Mrs. Gartrell. Entries for this and the scholarships tenable at Stott's and Muirden Colleges close on November 15, examinations being held at the schools concerned.



THE TINLINE GOLD PLATE.

Presented to Mr. George Tinline in recognition of his services in South Australia's financial crisis.

ren, on seeing one of the sterner sex, were accustomed to saying 'Look here, mother, there's a man!' The social system was thrown out of gear. The banks had been denuded of their coin by the thousands who rushed to the diggings. There was no medium of exchange. Industry came to a standstill. Shops were closed; some newspapers ceased to exist; the police force was almost reduced to chaos; the working of the copper mines was seriously interrupted. (Burra Burra copper dividends were suspended.) The whole industrial system was out of joint. There were some goods, but no coin with which to purchase them. In some instances the colonists resorted to a system of barter. Diggers returned with nuggets of gold, but these could not be put into circulation. There was wealth in the form of gold dust and nuggets, but it was the minted and legal coin that the settlers needed. George Tinline, the acting manager of the Bank of South Australia, with other shrewd men, concluded that

AS A GRATEFUL MEMORIAL

of the important services rendered by him during the financial crisis immediately preceding and subsequent to the passing of

THE BULLION ACT,

And in Testimony of their Appreciation of his most considerate, judicious, and successful efforts to maintain unimpaired throughout that period

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CREDIT,

A Valuable Memento.

George Tinline was immensely proud of the recognition thus paid to his services. He died in 1893 at Pembroke square, Bayswater, London, at the age of 79 years, and left an estate valued at £40,000. He gave to his son (James Madder Tinline) the gold plate above referred to, to be passed on to his daughter (Mrs. Janet Olive Vetch), the lady who has just died in England at the age of 86 years, and then to revert to the trustees of the Public Institute, Adelaide, to