

Sir Charles Todd connected the capital of the colony and the Port by a telegraph-line. The only other telegraph-lines in Australia at that time were those connecting Melbourne and the goldfields at Ballarat and Bendigo, and Melbourne and Williams-town. It was not until 1858 that New South Wales had a line from Sydney to South Head. To-day Sir Charles Todd can boast of having erected 6,000 miles of telegraph-line, carrying 20,220 miles of wire, as well as hundreds of miles of telephone wire. The enterprise of Sir Charles on coming to Australia knew no bounds. The idea of an intercolonial line between Victoria and South Australia, when there was less than 150 miles of telegraph-line in Australia, seemed preposterous to some, but the Government were with the young man from Greenwich, and with the help of Victoria the line, first recommended by Sir Charles in 1856, was opened by the Governor of South Australia on July 21, 1858. In the meantime South Australia had given New South Wales a superintendent of telegraphs in Mr. E. O. Cracknell, a young man who came out from Greenwich with Sir Charles in 1855, and he was to some extent instrumental in connecting Melbourne and Sydney on October 21, 1858. Then came the great scheme of a telegraph-line across Australia in 1871-2, followed a year or two later by a line to Western Australia. That completed the bigger schemes with which Sir Charles Todd's name is connected. For the last 30 years he has been extending and improving the telegraphic system of the State, and he left it last year in as perfect a condition as present day science can make it.

The Port Darwin Telegraph Line.

So gigantic a feat as the construction of the overland telegraph line to Port Darwin, for a distance of 2,000 miles through practically unknown country deserves more than mere mention. Just before leaving the English Sir Charles, when replying to the toast of "The bride and bridegroom," expressed the hope that he might be instrumental in bringing England and Australia into telegraphic communication. The hope was fulfilled in a manner not then dreamt of. As early as the beginning of 1859 Sir Charles submitted a scheme to Sir Richard MacDonnell, the Governor, for a line to cross the continent, and this was embodied in a dispatch to the Colonial Secretary. It must be remembered that at that time no one had crossed the continent in any direction. It was not until 1861-2 that John MacDonnell Stuart led a party from Adelaide to the shores of the Indian Ocean. In a paper read before the Philosophical Society (now the Royal Society), in 1863, Sir Charles again urged his scheme. The paper, which was published in full in England, attracted much attention, but many Australians laughed at the idea. The visit of Commander Osborne to Australia in 1870, and a proposal by him on behalf of the Eastern Extension Company to lay a cable from Singapore via Java to Port Darwin to connect with a suggested land line around the Gulf of Carpentaria to the Queensland line afforded an opportunity of Sir Charles again urging his overland scheme. The other colonies were invited to join in the great enterprise, but they declined, and South Australia entered on the undertaking alone. The first 500 miles north from Adelaide and the first 500 miles south from Port Darwin were let by contract, the Government undertaking the erection of 1,000 miles in the centre of Australia. Splendid progress was made with the Government section, and the 500 miles contract from Adelaide, but the contract in the Northern Territory broke down, and in January, 1872, Sir Charles was dispatched to Port Darwin to supervise the work personally and have it carried out by Government men. The difficulties that had to be encountered may be understood from the fact that the cartage of rations, which was let by contract, cost from £24 per ton to £130 10/ per ton. Sir Charles left Adelaide in the steamer Omeo, which was followed round the eastern coast by the Tararua, the two vessels taking 157 horses and considerable working plant and stores. A small paddle steamer, the Young Australian, was dispatched to the Territory by way of Western Australia, the object being to use the small boat in navigating the River Roper. The Omeo, however, arrived first, and when the captain refused to take the vessel up the Roper, which had not been previously navigated, Sir Charles indemnified him against all loss, and so the vessel was taken up the stream, fortunately without accident. Sir Charles remained in the Territory for five months, and then set out overland for Adelaide, inspecting every mile of the line. When the cable to Port Darwin was completed he was able to advise London of the progress being made. At last, on August 22, 1872, the two ends of the wire met near the centre of Australia, and Sir Charles spoke to both Adelaide and Port Darwin. Unfortunately the cable had then broken down, and he could not communicate with London. Thus was accomplished one of the greatest feats of telegraphic enterprise in the history of the world. Pictures in connection with the overland telegraph were published in the "Illustrated London News" of February 22, 1873, and last year Sir Charles received a copy of the issue from Lord Tennyson, who had found it preserved amongst his late father's papers.

Proud Moments.

Knowing that his early life in Australia was crowded with great achievements, the reporter asked Sir Charles to recall the proudest moment of his life. "The proudest moment of my life," he replied, "was the day of my marriage to the daughter of Mr. Edward Bell, of Cambridge, who bravely consented to share my lot in a new and strange land. Probably the next proudest moment of my life was when, returning overland from the Northern Territory, I sat on the ground near Central Mount Stuart on a cold night with a little pocket relay connected with the wires and communicated with Port Darwin and Adelaide."

In reply to a question as to what the hobbies of his life had been, Sir Charles said—"My first hobby, induced by my entrance into the Royal Observatory at Greenwich under the then Astronomer Royal, Mr. Airy, afterwards Sir, George Airy, was astronomy. Although it was the month of December when I commenced work at the great observatory the first day seemed the longest in my life. I thought it must be nearly four o'clock when I heard the one o'clock time ball drop. When I went to Cambridge I had regular astronomical observing work with the Northumberland equatorial telescope and the meridian instruments—the transit and mural circles. These two instruments are now combined in one, called the transit circle, of which we have a good specimen at the Adelaide Observatory. Going to Cambridge in 1848, I became one of the observers of the theoretically discovered Neptune, and made the acquaintance of the late Professor Adams. On returning to Greenwich in charge of the then called galvanic department, I became acquainted with the late C. B. Walker, electrical engineer, Latimer Clark, and Mr. Varley, and then had an introduction to practical telegraphic work, in which I became very interested. Therefore astronomy and telegraphy became my great hobbies, as well as meteorology. Soon after the extension of telegraphic communication with Melbourne and Sydney, in conjunction with the astronomers in Melbourne and Sydney, a system of weather reports was introduced in the early sixties."

Encounters with Blackfellows.

In the first few years that the overland line was open several of the officials lost their lives through attacks by the blacks. Sir Charles had some personal encounters with the natives, but they were not of a very alarming character. In response to a request for some of his experiences, Sir Charles said—"On one occasion I was travelling in the Northern Territory with three blacks. All at once one of them ran a little way in advance, and hastily gathered some green boughs and threw them in a place towards which we were travelling. On reaching the spot I discovered that it was a bog, and the man had been thoughtful enough to make this provision for me to pass over. I knighted him on the spot and called him Sir Walter Raleigh."

"On another occasion," continued Sir Charles, "I was camped on the north bank of the Murray, determining the boundary line of New South Wales and South Australia by means of time signals, exchanged with the observatories at Melbourne and Sydney. I established a small observatory and erected a transit instrument, and it was gratifying to me to find in later years, when a determination was made of the difference of longitude between Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Port Darwin, and Singapore, that the position assigned to the boundary line in 1868, and marked by the erection of an obelisk, was practically correct. The officers of the United States navy had made a similar determination of the difference of longitude between Singapore and Madras, the Indian Government between Madras and Suez, and the Astronomer Royal between Greenwich and Suez, so we thus had a good voltaic determination of the difference of longitude between Greenwich and the Australian observatories. The Australian work was carried on in conjunction with Mr. Ellery and Mr. Russell at Melbourne and Sydney, and with Mr. Barrachi (now Government Astronomer of Victoria) at Port Darwin. Well, it was while I was on the Murray at that time that an amusing incident occurred with a blackfellow, who had attached himself to my camp and had become quite friendly. I knew that several insulators were broken between the boundary and Overland Corner, and I asked him to replace them with new ones and showed him how to do the work. He did this very faithfully, and wherever he replaced a broken insulator he tapped the pole with his hand, as he had seen me do with the relay when speaking to Sydney and Adelaide. When asked by a man who saw him why he tapped the post his answer was, 'To tell old man Todd done 'em.'"

Pun-master-General.

It is not recorded who named Sir Charles Todd "Punmaster-General," but it is a title which indicates his one weakness, and one of his sources of pleasure. It is said that Sir Charles, on an average perpetrates a pun or propounds a riddle every day of his life. Many of them are, of course, forgotten, but a few of them, which are remembered, are worth reproducing. When Sir Charles was travelling to Melbourne by steamer in 1877 the steward came round in the afternoon, and asked him if he would take tea. "Oh, yes," was the reply; "without T I would be odd." The Caledonian Society a year or two ago entertained Sir Charles in Melbourne, and the chief, in proposing his health, asked how it was he took an interest in astronomy so early. Replying on the spur of the moment, Sir Charles said the only explanation he could give was that his mother brought him up in the Milky Way. Sir Charles would sacrifice his political principles to work off a good pun. Some years ago he met Mr. Kingston, and expressed regret that he could not agree with him politically. "How is that, Sir Charles?" asked Mr. Kingston. "Well, in me, Mr. Kingston, you observe a Tory," said the Government Astronomer with a chuckle. "It was impossible for Sir Charles to restrain himself even in business negotiations. A deputation waited on him as Postmaster-General to ask for better postal facilities at Ororoo, and after several earnest speeches had been made by members of Parliament and others, Sir Charles replied—"I am afraid, gentlemen, I will not be able to grant your request. You have overlooked one important thing. There are only two letters in Ororoo."

Some years ago Sir Charles was travelling in a railway carriage with an official party from Adelaide to some station in the hills. The train passed another at the Mitcham station, and a dispute arose as to whether it was the Mount Barker train or not. There was a consultation of guides, and the decision was that it was a goods train. Further on the train passed through Torrens Park, where there were some fine stock running. Special attention was directed to one horse, and Sir Charles, leaning forward to look at it, remarked—"Yes; that's a good strain, too."

Here are one or two riddles with which Sir Charles is credited:—
If I saw a young lady standing in the water at Henley Beach, what prominent person who took part in the Boer war would I be reminded of?—De Wet.
When are the passengers and a ship of the same mind?—When the passengers are telling stories and the ship is lying to (o).

Well-Deserved Honors.

Sir Charles Todd's services have been recognised in all parts of the Empire. He received from Queen Victoria the honor of Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and in 1893 he was made K.C.M.G. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society in London, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, Fellow of the British Meteorological Society, Fellow of the Society of Electrical Engineers, and honorary member of two European scientific societies. In South Australia he has been prominently connected with the Royal Society, the Institute of Surveyors, the Council of the University, and the Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery, with which he has been connected for 45 years. It is not the intention of Sir Charles to sever his connection with these societies.

Ad. 27th Nov. 1906

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

PASS LIST.

French.
Second Class (in order of merit).—Arabella Aldersey Manning, Bernie Mary Williams.
Third Class (in alphabetical order).—Annie Frances Burgess, Ronald Nichols Finlayson, Lillian Mary Theakston Stephens.

Chemistry, Part I.—B.Sc. Course.
Chemistry, II.—Diploma in Applied Science.
Practical.—First Class—Leslie Frank Burgess and Richard Evan Stanley (equal).
Second Class—Robert Wilson Tassie.
Third Class—Ralph Williams.

Electrical Engineering.
First Class (in order of merit).—Harold Whitmore Smith, Edward James Cadell Rentie.
Second Class.—None.
Third Class.—Leslie Frank Bowen.
Botany.—November, 1906.

Pass List.
Second Class.—Percy Victor Whitney.
Third Class.—Percy Middleton Wells, Howard Gordon White.

Organic Chemistry, B.A. Course and B.Sc. (physiology honors).
Theoretical and Practical.—First class—none.
Second class—William Hurtle Kleeman.
Third class (in alphabetical order)—Louis Aloysius Foreman; Irene Gwendoline Lewis.

Theoretical, for Agricultural Course.—
First class—Arnold Edwin Victor Richardson.

B.Sc. and Diploma Course.
Geology.—I.
Third class (in alphabetical order)—Neil Campbell; Arthur Hamilton Scarfe.

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS IN THEORY OF MUSIC.

JUNIOR DIVISION.
First Class.
Ethel Doris Annells (Miss M. A. Sprod), Jessie Emily Marion Bailey (Miss Kearney), Ruby Myrtle Barnett (Miss F. Barnett), Ivy Marie Basedow (Miss Kearney), Annie Wilhelmina Bertelsmeier (Miss A. G. Webb), Mary Sylvia Vivien Budge (Miss D. Ryan).
*Florence Collins (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street), Daisy Neville Coombe (Miss F. Barnett), Myrtle Cornelius (Misses K. Cook and Price), Marjorie Culross (Miss Sprod).
Edith Day (Mr. E. M. Bennett), *Ada Elizabeth Dewell (Mr. T. H. Jones), Edith Lillian Dunn (Mr. E. E. Mitchell).
*Bertha Erichsen (Miss Hoopmann), Gwenllian Brooke Egan (Miss Dunsborough), Dorothy Jean Fleming (Hyde Park School of Music, Miss Winwood), Hilda Josephine Florey (Unley Park School, Mr. C. J. Stevens), Valetta Gwendoline Florey (Unley Park School, Mr. J. C. Stevens), Eileen May Ford (St. Dominic's Priory, North Adelaide), Vera Fry (Miss M. Martin), Dorothy Furner (Miss F. Derrington), *Annie Marie Gellert (Methodist Ladies' College).
*Theodosia Logier Harder (Miss Painter), *Ellen Creswell Haynes (Miss Painter), Eileen Heuzenroeder (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street), Lana Mathilde Hoopmann (Miss Hoopmann), Constance Adela Hubble (Miss H. C. Webb).
Olive Jordan (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street).
Nancy Everard Kay (Miss E. M. Williams), *Joan Kernot (Miss Dunsborough), Muriel King (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street), Pattie King (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street).
Hilda Myrtle Lee (Miss A. Kearney), Maggie Lewis (St. Mary's Dominican Convent, Semaphore), Anna Matilda Lindquist (Miss H. G. Cook), Christina Annie Loun (Mr. E. E. Mitchell).

Catharine—Convent of Mercy (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street). *Dorothy Evelyn McIlbride (Mr. E. E. Mitchell), Mary McDonnell (St. Dominic's Priory, North Adelaide), Frances Bryon MacIntyre (Miss E. M. Williams), Kathleen McMahon (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street), Isabel Scott Malcolm (Mr. T. H. Jones), Edith May Martin (Mrs. E. Odgers), Ivy Marie Felicia Martin (Miss E. M. Torr), Edith Jane MacIn (Miss D. Ryan), Dorothy Gladys Matheson (Elder Conservatorium), Kathleen Jennie Matthews (Miss Sprod), E. Harold Clarke Morris (Miss A. L. Hawkins), Mary Elvy Murdoch (Miss D. Ryan).
Ethel Christina Naismith (Miss G. Naismith), Vera Nelson (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street), Ellen Myrtle Nichol (Miss W. P. Nicol), Winifred Celia Nicholls (Misses K. Cook and Price).
Agnes Lindsay Paltridge (Miss L. Pizey), *Nellie Pender (Mrs. F. Stapleton), Dorothy Piper (Miss Kingsborough), Ethel May Pollard (Hyde Park School of Music, Miss Winwood).
Lily Gertrude Riggs (Miss F. Barnett), Gertrude Lilian Roberts (Miss C. D. Bell), *Cecile Margaret Rogers (Advanced School for Girls, Misses Cook and Price), Flora Rollison (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street), Muriel Mary Rynn (Mrs. F. Stapleton).
Florence Edith Smith (St. Joseph's Convent, N.A.), *Larline Olivette Phyllis Steele (Mr. E. E. Mitchell).
Elsie Mabel Thomas (Miss Giles), Harry Clifford Thrush (St. Peter's Collegiate High School, Miss Bosch), Beatrice Mabel Tiley (Mr. E. E. Mitchell), *Ivy May Topperwein (private tuition), *Lois Helmore Turner (Miss Kearney).
*Mary White (St. Dominic's Priory, N.A.), Sylvia Muriel Whittington (Elder Conservatorium), *Grace Hypatia Williams (St. Peter's Collegiate High School, Miss Bosch), Myrtle Jessie Freestun Williams (Miss G. Naismith), Hilda Clauve Willmott (Miss H. C. Webb), Kathleen Winch (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street), Kathleen Ruth Witcombe (Miss L. Pizey), Clifford Leslie Wollaston (Miss L. Pizey), *Ida May Wrett (Miss E. W. Rademann).
Second Class.—Ursula Codd (Convent of Mercy, Parkside), Richard William Thomas Correll (Elder Conservatorium), Mima Laurence Crowder (Mrs. Kingston).
Dorothy Gertrude Derrington (Miss F. Derrington), Eileen Kathleen Dowling (Miss E. Hughes), Mary Catherine Dunn (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street).
Margaret Campbell Giles (Miss Cussen), Gladys Agnes Harvey (Miss Wilson), Hilda Alice Juncken (Hyde Park School of Music, Miss Winwood).
Mary Mabel Madin (Miss D. Ryan), Mary Elizabeth Milne (Miss Cussen).
Bridget Neylan (Convent of Mercy, Parkside).
Grace Fanny Paige (Miss L. Pizey), Mildred Annie Mary Powell (St. Joseph's Convent, North Adelaide).
Irene Elizabeth Rieken (Mr. B. Evans), Violet Florence Roberts (Miss C. D. Bell), Miriam Rosenthal (Miss Jackson).
Rita Mildred Shannon (Advanced School for Girls, Misses Cook and Price).
Bertha Winch (Convent of Mercy, Angas-street).
An asterisk denotes that the candidate passed with credit.

Ordinary Examination for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery.
First class in order of merit; second and third classes in alphabetical order.
First Year.
First Class.—William Malcolm Sinclair, Edmund Britten Jones.
Second Class.—Eustace Couper Black, Jacob Jona, Leonard Graeme Muirhead, Charleston Yeatman.
Third Class.—Charles Francis Drew, Gilbert Aberdeen Harvey, Ernest Albert Harold Absell.
Passed in Anatomy and Biology, thus completing the first year.—Samuel Lloyd Corry.
Passed in Anatomy and Chemistry, thus completing the first year.—Mildred May George.
Recommended for the Elder Prize.—William Malcolm Sinclair.
Second Year.
First Class.—Mary Johanna Alberta Theodora Delprat.
Second Class.—Ronald Trudinger.
Third Class.—Elizabeth Theodora Johanna Stoffelina Delprat, Melliar Phelps Jacob, John Eric McGlashan, Frederick St. John Poole, David McDonald Steele.
Passed in Anatomy, Physiology, and Quantitative Analysis, thus completing the second year.—Eric James Roby Holder.
Recommended for the Elder Prize.—Mary J. A. A. Delprat.
Third Year.
First Class.—Henry Kenneth Fry, Darcy Rivers Warren Cowan, Percival Thomas Spower Cherry.
Second Class.—William Alford Vernon Drew, Ernest John Frayne, Gordon Ray West.
Third Class.—Matthias Erichsen, Reginald Alfred Goodie, Hubert Melville Jay, John Robb Muirhead, Milo Weeks Sprod.
Recommended for the Dr. Davies Thomas Scholarship.—Henry Kenneth Fry.
Fourth Year.
First Class.—Lionel Oxborrow Betts, Reginald John Verco.
Second Class.—Sydney George Leyland.

Catchlove, Lewis Wilmer Jeffries, Archibald Campbell Magarey, Devon Parkhouse.
Third Class.—Norman Craig Shierlaw.
Recommended for the Dr. Davies Thomas Scholarship.—Lionel Oxborrow Betts.
Fifth Year.
First Class.—William Ray, Eric Henry Lewis, Leonard James Fellow, Ernest William Griffiths.
Second Class.—Francis Edward McAree, Roy Garnet Plummer.
Third Class.—None.
Recommended for the Everard Scholarship.—William Ray.