

AN HONORED VISITOR.

ARRIVAL OF MR. BRYCE.

The Right Hon. James Bryce (Ambassador of Great Britain at Washington) and his wife arrived in Adelaide by the Melbourne express on Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Bryce travelled in the Victorian State car, and special arrangements were made for their comfort by the Railways Commissioner of South Australia. The train was nearly an hour late, but a distinguished gathering was at the station to greet the renowned statesman, including the Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Way), the Speaker of the House of Assembly (Hon. L. O'Loughlin), the Chief Secretary (Hon. J. G. Bice), Captain Fletcher, A.D.C. to his Excellency the Governor, the Mayor of Adelaide (Mr. Lavington Bonython) and members of the Adelaide City Council, the town clerk (Mr. T. G. Ellery), Professors Henderson, Chapman, Jethro Brown, and Kerr Grant, and Mr. W. Howchin, of the Adelaide University, the Hon. F. S. Wallis, M.L.C., and Mr. G. C. Ligertwood (associate to the Chief Justice). Mr. Bryce is active for his age and responded cheerfully to the greetings of the Chief Justice and the other gentlemen who were presented to him. His white hair, beard and moustache give him a venerable appearance that is belied by his activity. He responded with warmth and a certain unconscious dignity to the cordial welcome of all, and his honors and achievements seemed to weigh but lightly upon his buoyant nature. The Chief Justice and Mr. Bryce appeared to be on particularly intimate and cordial terms. Mr. Bryce proceeded at once to Government House, where he and his wife will be the guests of his Excellency the Governor and Lady Bosanquet during their stay in Adelaide.

'A CIVIC WELCOME.

Mr. Bryce was tendered a civic welcome at 11.30 a.m. by the Mayor of Adelaide (Mr. Lavington Bonython) in the council chamber in the presence of a large and representative gathering of citizens. Among those present were the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir Samuel Way), the Premier (Hon. A. H. Peake), Mr. Justice Gordon, Mr. Acting Justice Buchanan, the Speaker of the House of Assembly (Hon. L. O'Loughlin), Sir John Downer, M.L.C., Sir Edwin Smith, Sir Charles Goode, and Captain Fletcher, A.D.C.

The Mayor said he rose with much diffidence, because he appreciated the very great honor which had come to him as Mayor of Adelaide in being called on to extend to Mr. Bryce a cordial welcome. He voiced the feelings of the citizens generally when he told Mr. Bryce that he was most welcome. (Cheers.) In the past they had had many distinguished visitors, but never before so distinguished a visitor as Mr. Bryce. (Hear, hear.) He came to them with the great reputation of one who had performed and was still performing work of the highest importance in the world. (Hear, hear.) In him we had the rare combination in one individual of the man of thought and the man of action. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Bryce had achieved fame as an historian, a jurist, a statesman, and an ambassador, and in each capacity he had placed himself in the front rank. (Cheers.) To-day his name was known and honored wherever civilisation existed, and as a son of Oxford universities everywhere were proud of him. It was the feeling in universities that university men should rule the world. (Laughter.) Well, if they were all Bryces that would not only be a wise arrangement, but probably an accomplished fact. (Hear, hear.) But it was not for him to comment on a career so illustrious as that of Mr. Bryce. He must leave that duty to speakers who would follow him, and who by knowledge and training were better fitted for the task. Nevertheless, he could appreciate the advantage it was to Australia that they should have a visit from such a wise and keenly observant critic. Adelaide might not be the most populous capital in the Commonwealth, but fortunately for them Mr. Bryce would not form his estimate of this city on any such basis. He knew, if any man ever did, that they

could not infer quality from mere numbers, and if a higher test were applied Adelaide had no reason to be afraid of the result. (Cheers.) In the name and on behalf of the people of Adelaide—the fairest city of the south—he offered Mr. Bryce a most cordial and hearty welcome. (Cheers.)

Too Great a Task.

The Lieutenant-Governor said the mayor in his happy speech had assigned to succeeding speakers the opportunity to pronounce a panegyric upon his illustrious guest. He did not propose to accept that invitation. They desired to hear Mr. Bryce, and he would require all the forenoon to carry out the task referred to. They were most grateful to the mayor for giving them the opportunity to pay their respects to Mr. Bryce and enthusiastically welcome him. Since his arrival in Australia a few weeks ago Mr. Bryce had been in richer and more populous cities than Adelaide, but there were points where Adelaide let the van in regard to its neighbors. For one thing, Adelaide was the first city in Australia to receive the privilege of municipal institutions. (Cheers.) That was 72 years ago, so it was within the lifetime of Mr. Bryce that Adelaide had enjoyed that inestimable benefit. The mayor, aldermen, and councillors of the city of Adelaide were in the succession of a band of noble, high-spirited, and patriotic citizens, to whom they were all indebted for the great privileges of self-government which they enjoyed. (Cheers.) Mr. Bryce's stay in Adelaide would be all too short. He would recognise, however, that in Adelaide and throughout South Australia they had a goodly heritage and were determined to build up a brighter Britain in the south. (Cheers.) They were loyal to the Crown; they would maintain the privileges of civil and religious liberty; and they would maintain the glorious connec-

tion with the mother country which they loved so much. (Cheers.)

On Behalf of the State.

The Premier extended a cordial welcome to Mr. Bryce on behalf of the Government and the people of the State generally. (Cheers.) The name of Bryce, as statesman and scholar, and later as an ambassador, was familiar to them, and Mr. Bryce had already done great service to South Australia and the rest of the Commonwealth, because when the Federal Convention was considering the all-important question of drafting a Constitution for the Commonwealth the name of Bryce was in everybody's mouth. Had it not been for his great textbook on the American Constitution and his researches into the affairs of government in the United States they probably would not be now enjoying some of the best parts of the Commonwealth Constitution. (Cheers.) If Mr. Bryce should, during his busy life, find time to write a similar work on the Commonwealth of Australia, he would add greatly to their indebtedness to him. (Cheers.) At one time it was supposed that the chief duty of an ambassador was to lie abroad for the benefit of his country—(laughter)—but they found later that the duty of an ambassador had been to succeed in furthering the interests of the home country by straightforward methods and honest expressions. (Cheers.)

Welcomed by Commercial Men.

Mr. John Tassie, acting president of the Chamber of Commerce, joined in the welcome on behalf of the commercial men of the State. He said among the high and important offices of State which Mr. Bryce had held, always with distinct ability, they remembered with peculiar interest that in 1891-5, he occupied the position of President of the British Board of Trade, in the Liberal Government of that day. That brought him into active touch, with the commerce of the Empire. Mr. Bryce had a wide knowledge of trade affairs, particularly international trade affairs, and the report of his speech at the dinner held in Melbourne recently in connection with the conference of the Chambers of Commerce of Australia had been read with the greatest interest throughout the Commonwealth. (Cheers.) The Adelaide Chamber had desired to meet Mr. Bryce, but so far they had been unable to arrange a gathering, owing to his busy programme. His stay was too brief, but it must be recognised that Mr. Bryce could ill be spared from the activities of the world on the other side. The cable news had recently afforded an instance of the fact that he had already been missed not a little. They hoped he would be reinvigorated by his stay in Australia. (Cheers.)

"Adelaide's Elder Brother."

Mr. Bryce, who was received enthusiastically, thanked the Mayor for the cordiality of the welcome. No man could desire greater honor than that which was given to him when he came here and found himself greeted as if he were an old friend. He was sensible that he did not deserve a tenth part of what the speakers had been kind enough to say about him, but he was not going to disclaim anything, because it was a pleasure to receive even that which one felt one did not deserve. (Laughter.) For a long time he had been engaged in one kind of public work or another, and although a man might at times find the work laborious, and perhaps might even be unappreciated and criticised, there were occasions when the difficulties and laboriousness of public life were far more than compensated for by perhaps an undue appreciation from his fellow-men. That was his position to-day, when receiving in Australia that cordial welcome which they felt belonged particularly to the British races. (Cheers.) The pride in the common tradition, history, and loyalty of the British people and of all that they had done made them disposed to receive a visitor as if he were one of them, and to credit him with all that he had tried to do for the common interest of the people. The people of Australia had always shown a most generous spirit to those who had come here from the old country, and he felt that the more these visits were interchanged between the Dominions and the Motherland the tighter would be the bond that so happily united all parts of the Empire in one. (Cheers.) It was an especial pleasure to him to be received by the municipality of Adelaide. He did not know before the Lieutenant-Governor had spoken that he had the honor to be senior to Adelaide by a couple of years, and that therefore he was somewhat in the position of its elder brother. (Laughter.) He learned, however, that he had come into this life just two years before Adelaide received local self-government, and in future, therefore, he would feel disposed to reckon his years by the corporate life of this fair city as well as by the fact that he was born in the second year of the reign of the late Queen Victoria. There was nothing that any Briton who knew anything of British history, and knew what were the forces and powers by which the British race had reached its position, could value more than a welcome by the municipality of a city. (Cheers.)

Australia's Progress.

He was expecting a great deal of pleasure and profit from seeing the beauties of Adelaide and learning what South Australia was doing. Australia had been blessed by Providence in many ways. There was a very fertile soil, and an immense area of land which was still imperfectly explored so far as regarded its possible resources. He could well remember when the map of the interior of Australia had no marks upon it. New Holland, as it was then called, was marked with a few names on the east coast, a few more in the south-east corner, one name in the west, and nothing but the Gulf of Carpentaria on the north, all the rest being in an unexplored condition. That was in 1844, in the early years of the reign of the late Queen Victoria. Since then they had learned the geography of Australia, but they had not yet discovered the extent of its resources. (Cheers.) They had found out the value of dry-farming methods, and

had embarked on schemes of water storage and irrigation, by which large tracts of country previously thought to be useless were being turned to profitable account. Great Britain largely depended on Australia for its food and its wool. Even if England did not depend on Australia so much, they felt that their interests were identical—that what was for the good of Australia was for the good of the motherland and vice versa. (Cheers.) In England the people were profoundly interested in all Australia was doing to produce an energetic, hopeful, and wise population. (Cheers.)

Mr. Bryce then spoke on the development of the system of local government in the British Empire. His remarks, which were listened to with the closest attention, will be found reported elsewhere.

At the close a large number of those present assembled in the Mayor's Parlor, where Mr. Bryce's health was drunk with enthusiasm.