



His Honor the Chief Justice—Sir Samuel Way, Bart.

The Right Hon. Sir Samuel James Way, Bart., P.C., D.C.L., LL.D., one of the most notable living Australians, was born at Portsmouth, England, on April 11, 1836. He is the son of the late Rev. James Way, who for many years was general superintendent of the Bible Christian Missions in Australia. His successful career is a striking example of strenuous industry applied to great natural abilities. He was called to the South Australian Bar in 1861, and was made Q.C. in 1871. Elected to the House of Assembly for Sturt, Sir Samuel was appointed Attorney-General in 1875, and Chief Justice in March, 1876. For more than 37 years on the Bench, he has long been the senior Judge in Australia. According to "Fred Johns's Annual," he was appointed a Privy Councillor, and was representative of the Australasian colonies on the Judicial Committee in 1897, and was the first colonial Judge to take his seat on that board. Sir Samuel has been Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia since 1909, the first Chief Justice to receive that honour, and has administered the government of South Australia 11 times between 1877 and 1914 inclusive. He has also frequently acted as Deputy-Governor for short periods. Vice-Chan-

cellor of the University of Adelaide from 1876 to 1883, since when he has been Chancellor; he was president of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery of South Australia from 1893 to 1900; president of the Adelaide Children's Hospital from its foundation in 1878 to the present time; and also Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in his State, with the exception of a short interval, since 1884. The Chief Justice was made Hon. D.C.L. Oxon, 1891; LL.B., Cantab., 1897; Adelaide, 1892; Queen's University, Canada, 1895; and Melbourne, 1901. He was created a baronet in 1893. Sir Samuel is acknowledged a great jurist, and is esteemed for his public services, philanthropy, and hospitality. He is a patron of arts and literature, and has one of the finest libraries in the Commonwealth. He takes a practical interest in pastoral and agricultural pursuits and horticulture, and first introduced the improved Shropshire sheep into Australia. On his estate at Kadlunga, near Mintaro, he has a merino stud well known all over Australia, established over 35 years ago. His improved Shropshire stud is now transferred to his farm at Sea View, near Noarlunga.

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UNIVERSITY MEN AND THE WAR.

Melbourne, August 2.

A deputation from the Melbourne University interviewed the Minister of Defence this morning and asked that men taking medical, engineering, chemistry, or veterinary courses should not be accepted for active service until they had completed their final examination towards the end of the present year, when they would be of more value to the military forces. The Minister said the view the Government took was that university men should complete their examinations before enlisting, since their special qualifications would make them valuable in the field. The Government, however, could not prevent such men from enlisting at the present time, but only suggested to them the advisability of completing their final examination first.

Advertiser 3/8/15-

DEATH OF SIR JOHN DOWNER.

LAWYER AND POLITICIAN.

LONG AND SUCCESSFUL
CAREER.

A PIONEER FEDERALIST.

After a long and useful career Sir John Downer died at his residence, Pennington-terrace, North Adelaide, on Monday morning. There are very few people of middle-age who can remember a time in the political history of South Australia when the name of Sir John Downer was not prominent in its archives. His entrance into the House of Assembly 37 years ago was the culmina-

tion of a public career which even in those faraway days had been largely successful, and from the first it was confidently expected that he would make his mark on the public life of the State. That expectation has been abundantly fulfilled, and the name of Sir John Downer will go down to posterity as that of one of the most useful and most conscientious of our legislators. He has always acted from a sense of duty and justice, and even when in the opinion of his antagonists he was mistaken no one ever questioned the sincerity of his motives. He was always a courageous fighter, and never scrupled to express his views because he happened to be in a minority. During the latter period of his membership of the House of Assembly he was usually in a minority, but at the outset of his career, as well as in the Federal Convention, in the Federal Senate, and in the Legislative Council, it was his good fortune as a rule to have sympathetic listeners, and even in the Assembly, when the cause he espoused was least able to succeed, he commanded the close attention of his hearers. His remarks were always judicial in character, and he was invariably interesting and full of information. He was at times charged with attempting "to lay down the law" and with assuming a superior attitude, but this criticism was rather in the nature of badinage, for everyone recognised Sir John's honesty of purpose, his abundant knowledge, and his complete belief in the unassailability of his own position. He was an excellent controversialist, because there was usually a breezy good humor and a play of pleasantry about his speeches which lightened them and made them attractive. He never quite escaped from his early environment as a clever cross-examiner and a skilled barrister, and it was his habit when he spoke in the Assembly to twist and untwist a piece of red-tape round his hand as he elaborated his argu-