

Advertised 12<sup>th</sup> 08.  
Professor Jones.

Registered Aug 12<sup>th</sup> 08.

Professor Henry Jones, a distinguished Sydney lecturer, is to deliver two lectures at the Adelaide University on Friday and Monday evenings next. The professor has had a brilliant career. Born in Wales, he made his own way to the University of Glasgow, became a distinguished student of philosophy, and succeeded his master (Caird) as Professor of Moral Philosophy there when Caird succeeded Jowett as master of Balliol. Students of literature know him by his book on Browning, which has gone through many editions, and students of philosophy know him for his uncompromising idealism in all directions. His scholarly quality is shown in his critical book on Lotze, and by his fellowship of the British Academy. But he is specially well known as an inspiring lecturer.

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Professor Henry Jones, of Glasgow, who came to Australia some months ago by invitation of the University of Sydney, will arrive in Adelaide this week to lecture to students and members of our University. He will give two lectures on "The making of character"—one on Friday and the other on Monday evening. As will be seen by advertisement in our columns the surplus of tickets—about 100—is now on sale to the public. In Australia Professor Jones is best known by his book on the philosophy of Browning, or perhaps by his articles in *The Hibbert Journal*, of whose editorial board he is a member. Of his severer work the chief is a critical volume on Lotze; and he is a fellow of the British Academy—the aristocracy of letters, history, and philosophy as the Royal Society is of science. When Edward Caird succeeded Jowett as master of Balliol every one recognised that his pupil Henry Jones was his proper successor in the chair of moral philosophy at Glasgow, and he has filled it admirably.

## UNIVERSITY LECTURES

### THE VISIT OF PROFESSOR JONES.

#### A REMARKABLE CAREER.

Writing in *The Sydney Daily Telegraph* recently concerning the visit of Professor Henry Jones, of the University of Glasgow, who will lecture at the Adelaide University shortly, Professor MacCallum, of Sydney, gave the following interesting sketch:—

Professor Jones is a somewhat remarkable man, and has had a somewhat remarkable career. Born in Wales, in the typically Welsh village of Llangernyw, he was bred in the principality, and owes to it all his primary and secondary education. When a lad he adopted the profession of teacher, and became a student of the Training College in Bangor. There a new world was opened to him in the books that were now available to him. Those of the class of "Sartor" and the "French Revolution" especially fired his enthusiasm, and he gave so much of his spare time to them that he was known among his fellows by the nickname of "Carlyle" Jones. But he did not neglect his routine work, and the authorities formed so high an opinion of him that he was encouraged to proceed, at a rather later age than usual, to the University of Glasgow. He had not been many weeks in the literature and philosophy classes when he was carrying all before him. The present writer was assistant to the Professor of English Literature at the time, and still remembers the perplexity that Jones's essays caused him. On the one hand, they abounded in expressions that were hardly English, and that would have counted heavily against the ordinary undergraduate. On the other, not only were the matter and treatment quite out of the common, but there was a distinction of style, a sense for the felicities of phrase that marked the writer as one predestined for the craft. It was some time before the examiner found out the answer to the conundrum, namely, that the essayist was really a foreigner in his way, or, at least, that he was still far more at home in his native Welsh than in his adopted Sassenach. Despite this disadvantage, however, he was easily first in literature, and showed even more aptitude for philosophy. After taking his M.A., he won the Clarke Scholarship, which is regarded as the blue ribbon of young Scottish graduates. I recollect his despondency when he came out of the examination. "I'll tell you what," he exclaimed in his vehement Celtic way. "I've made an atrocious mess of it, and I bet you the whole scholarship to a penny that I've failed." In point of fact he had done brilliantly; but he had not the grace to discharge his debt of honour. On the contrary, he used his new resources to pursue his studies in Germany.

—"Always in Earnest."

Shortly after his return he was appointed to the Chair of Philosophy in the University College of Aberystwith, where he showed that he was no less excellent as a teacher than as student. In this position I had experience of him as colleague, and a delightful colleague he was. Many is the time that he has come in to smoke and talk in the evening, and gone on doing both vigorously till the small hours. When he was in earnest, and he was always in earnest, he made a point of letting his pipe go out, and relighting it, at recurrent intervals hardly exceeding one minute; and, moreover, he could never be got to understand that a churchwarden was of more brittle material than a sledge-hammer. The consequence was that long ere midnight on such occasions his corner of the study fender was hidden under a crumleth of broken clay and scarcely struck matches. These talks "about all things" and some "others" date back almost quarter of a century, but even now the memory of them is neither lost nor unprofitable, at least to one of the talkers. From Aberystwith he was transferred to the University at Bangor, thence to the University of St. Andrews, and when Edward Caird became Master of Balliol, Mr. Jones followed him in the professorship of Moral Philosophy at Glasgow. Dr. Caird's old students will probably agree that no higher compliment could be paid his successor than to say, as may in all honesty be said, that under the new regime the chair has certainly not lost in influence.

#### —A Philosophic Specialist.—

Mr. Jones, as a philosophic specialist, holds a very high place: witness his "Examination of Lotze's Philosophy," and the numerous technical papers he has contributed to *Transactions* and periodicals. But he is a great deal more. There is in him a marked literary strain that appears, for example, in his "Browning," a book that, I believe, is widely read in Australia, and that discusses the presuppositions of Browning's poetry in a very lucid and a very penetrative way. And he has a practical side to his nature as well. Perhaps owing to his early experiences in Bangor Training College, he has always taken a deep interest in school work; and in 1907 the present Government, when proposing to reorganize the Welsh educational system, offered him the secretaryship and directorate. This he declined, though with great reluctance and hesitation; for he loves "Wild Wales," he loves education, and he loves to lay down the lines on which the future will have to move. But his refusal was obviously right. He is good at other things, but he is best at lecturing; and it would have been a thousand pities if he had abandoned that for anything else. He has a real gift of eloquence, and that quite as much of the popular as of the academic kind.

#### —Impressive Lecturer.—

He never fails to impress his hearers, whether he is addressing his class at the university, or a mixed audience that is numbered by thousands. Indeed, his closeness of touch with the community at large has made him a power with the public wherever he has been. Some little time ago he gave in Glasgow a series of thirty-minute lectures on social subjects to business men in the luncheon hour, and though Glasgow merchants are pretty well engrossed in their work all day, there was hardly standing room to hear him. In the same spirit he founded a "Civic Society," made up of citizens of all ranks, with the object of discussing social matters and promoting the welfare of the municipality. I am told it has a great and good influence—as was to be expected, for, as the Bishop of Chester once said to me, "Mr. Jones is a born leader of men." This account has dwelt on the more popular aspects of Professor Jones's powers, as of chief importance for the present purpose. But it must not be supposed that there are not at the back of these the qualities of the thinker and student. The distinctions that have been conferred on him—the honorary LL.D. of St. Andrews University, the honorary D. Litt. of the University of Wales, especially the Fellowship of the British Academy, are sufficient evidence of the esteem in which he is held by academic bodies. In 1907 he was appointed Hibbert Lecturer at Oxford, and was reappointed for the present year, but postponed the delivery of his lectures in order to come to Sydney, his place being taken by Professor James, of Harvard, the well-known investigator of religious experiences.