

own self be true," "more matter and less art," "metal more attractive," "the lady doth protest too much," "sweets to the sweet," "the rest is silence." Many proverbs came from "Hamlet," e.g., "A man may smile and smile and be a villain"—"there needs on ghost come from the grave to tell us this"—"there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy"—"conscience doth make cowards of us all"—"there's a divinity that shapes our ends." The lecturer then dealt with the "emotional connotation" of words, showing the fitness of the expressions "the air bites shrewdly"—"it is the witching hour"—"the sheeted

dead did squeak and gibber." There were more beautiful metaphors in "Hamlet" than in any other play in the language. In the first quarto (1603) the Ghost's injunction that the Queen was not to be punished ran thus:—

.... "Leave her to heaven,  
And to the burden that her conscience bears."

In the second quarto (1604)—our "Hamlet"—the metaphor was effectively changed:—

"Leave her to heaven  
And to those thorns that in her bosom lodge  
To prick and sting her."

Sometimes metaphors were used for the purpose of condensation, as in the King's prayer, "Help angels! Make assay"—a metaphor from bowis. Shakespeare could idealise the commonplace, as in his allusion to the morn "in russet mantle clad," and in the famous lines about the crowing of the cock, which he had the "literary temerity" to associate with a most sacred theme—the birth of Christ. What a world this must have been to Shakespeare, who could make so much out of the apparently trivial! Shakespeare understood how to generate a suitable literary atmosphere by means of the swing and cadence of his lines. The atmosphere of "Hamlet" was grey and cold, suited for tragedy and melancholy. Finally, the lecturer analysed the opening scene of the play (as far as the first entry of the ghost), showing how carefully, and yet indirectly, Shakespeare prepared the minds of the spectators, so that they might receive the ghost with due seriousness—if the ghost's message was received with ridicule, the play was a failure. Professor Henderson showed that Bernardo, having seen the ghost once, was nervous and ill at ease. Francisco, who had not seen it, was nevertheless "sick at heart"—a warning of impending evil. Horatio, the scholar, who was to speak to the ghost—it was thought necessary to address a ghost in Latin—was represented as incredulous, and thus he spoke of the ghost as "this thing." By way of contrast the lecturer then read the opening lines from the earlier play, "Tragicomic Punished," in which everything was crude and obvious. The next lecture, on "The Character of Hamlet," will be delivered on Monday night.

## POINTS

(By "NEEDLE.")

"Hamlet"

On the  
Deflect:—

"Diseases desperate grown  
By desperate appliance are reliev'd  
Or not at all."

("Hamlet" here means the play of "Hamlet." We all know that the speaker is not the Prince of Denmark, but the King).

Hamlet on the Premiers' Conference:—"Wild and whirling words"—"Caruthers doth protest too much, methinks." It seems certain that the conference adjourned for tea, but what happened when "the arrangements for supplying information to the Press brake down?" "The rest is silence."

I think Shakespeare, in presenting a Ghost, was at an advantage, and also at a disadvantage, compared with a modern dramatist. So far as I can learn, men were much more ready to believe in ghosts three hundred years ago, than they are now. On the other hand, the difficulty of making a live actor look like a ghost by broad daylight must have been great. I wonder if any of the "groundlings" in the pit remarked, "What ho, Bill," when Shakespeare himself came on as the Ghost—if the report is true that he played this part.

The Premiers' Conference has passed two unanimous resolutions about the mail contract. "When they do agree, their unanimity is wonderful." (Not a Shakespearean quotation this time).

I have often heard the words, "a custom more honored in the breach than the observance," quoted as though they meant "a custom which is more often neglected than observed," but anybody who reads the speech from which the quotation is taken can see that Hamlet meant "a custom which it is more honorable to neglect than to observe." I have also heard men who were in doubt (about going to a picnic, or taking an umbrella) say, "To be or not to be?" under the impression that they were quoting "Hamlet." When a literary society is tired of cremation and phonetic spelling, and socialism, it might very well devote an evening to the subject of quotations, and inquire whether it is worse to misquote the words or to misapply a quotation which is verbally correct. I confess that I have sinned in both ways many a time and oft. I always used to think that in the line, "conscience does make cowards of us all," the word "conscience" was used in the theological sense. But I see now that it is explained as meaning "conscious thought, speculation about the future." Many years ago, when I was young, I was guilty of writing "the fls that flesh is heir to." As Hamlet says, "we are arrant knaves all." Ten years ago an actor told me of a humorous misquotation from "Hamlet." It was made by a fellow-actor of his, who had an idea that the scene between Hamlet and the Queen was played on board ship. He justified his theory by misquoting Hamlet's words on the disappearance of the Ghost:—"Look where it goes, even now, out at the port-hole!"

## UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

### CIVIC WELCOME TO PROFESSOR HENDERSON.

The Mayor (Mr. J. H. Cummins) and councillors of Kalgoorlie gave a civic reception to Mr. G. C. Henderson, M.A., Professor of English History and Literature in the University of Adelaide, last Saturday morning in the presence of a number of representative townspeople.

The Mayor extended a welcome from the council and residents to the Professor upon the occasion of his second visit to the goldfields.

Cr. A. S. McClintock, who proposed the health of "Our Visitor," made a suggestion that the professor should use his influence in bringing about an affiliation of the School of Mines at Kalgoorlie with the Adelaide University upon somewhat similar lines to the arrangement in force between the Ballarat School of Mines and the Melbourne University. Local students could then get diplomas from the Adelaide University in respect of science, metallurgy and kindred subjects. The idea was carried out in regard to the Perth Technical College, from where students could get degrees in science from the Adelaide University.

The toast was enthusiastically honored.

Professor Henderson thanked the council and citizens for their kind hospitality, and the company, for the cordial manner in which they had received the toast. It was an unexpected honor from a council representing so many shades of opinion and ideas of life. He liked to be among men who held opposite opinions. He believed what Carlyle believed when he wrote "My friend and I walked along altogether differing in opinion." However much they might differ he felt they were all doing something to build up the substratum of their great Empire. He was very much impressed with the magnificence of their city. He must confess that to his mind the development of the place within a comparatively short period of 13 years was most amazing. It reminded him of the sterling capacity of the Anglo-Saxon when he put his shoulder against the wheel to change the face of a country such as they had there. Stepping off the train from the coast a marvellous scene burst upon their view in Kalgoorlie and its surroundings. It was such things which showed that the people of the fields were helping to build up the wealth and prosperity of their country. He could not help remembering the remark of the Dutchman who was looking through a powerful telescope at the moon. The man asked him what he thought of it. The Dutchman replied, "I am sure there are no goldfields in the moon." The man asked "Why?" The Dutchman answered—"There is no Englishman there." He had been to the Kalgoorlie golf links the previous day. They were the roughest he had ever played on, and the roughness of links was supposed to inculcate the vice called blasphemy. There were great possibilities on the goldfields. (Laughter.) Concerning the institution he represented, he would be pleased to do anything that he could to facilitate the development of education in West Australia. It was not a matter, however, for the exercise of a mere personal opinion. Many matters had to be studied before the School