

THE SENATE AND THE FIRST COMMENCEMENT.

By the Rev. I. Slaney Poole, M.A.

The University of Adelaide was not fully organized until the senate was formed. The council had been established in 1874; its first Chancellor was Chief Justice Sir R. D. Hanson, and its first Vice-Chancellor was the Right Rev. Dr. Short, the Bishop of Adelaide. For about 10 years the work of the University was carried on by the council and its officers, aided by the scanty band of its treasures, four in number. Among other important duties of the senate, when it had been formed, was to fill vacancies in the council as they occurred, and to make such representations to the council as the main body of its graduates might deem to be necessary. In order that the senate might be constituted it was required that there should be 50 graduates. But, at the time, the University had not a single graduate of its own, the difficulty was overcome by granting ad eundem degrees on graduates of other universities who might be willing to render their assistance. There was no little doubt and some anxiety as to whether there were in the province as many such graduates as the number required, and an exhaustive search was made, with the result that fewer than 75, properly qualified, were found. It may perhaps not be without interest if there are given the names and the number of the contributing universities. I give them in the numerical order of their supply, thus:—Cambridge, 17; Mon. 13; Edinburgh, 10; Oxford, 9; Lin. 7; Glasgow, St. Andrews, and Kielberg, 2 each; Jena, Giessen, Göttingen, Munich, Dorpat, Melbourne, Queen's University of Ireland, and Toronto, 1 each. It was a matter of universal regret that the learned and capacious Vice-Chancellor died a little while before the date fixed for the first commencement. The Vice-Chancellor was elected in his place, while the vacated office of Vice-Chancellor marked the commencement of that long and fruitful period of the late Chief Justice Way's tenure of office in the council, first as Vice-Chancellor and afterwards, on Bishop Short's resignation in 1883, as Chancellor.

Early Chancellors.

I, as well as others, have been somewhat surprised at the scant recognition which has been made of the unquestioned service rendered by its first two Chancellors. Sir R. D. Hanson, it is true, had not received a university education, but he was the possessor of a mighty and powerful mind, had obtained a wide and extensive



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