

knowledge of men, and had cultivated, by personal study in many branches, the fine intellect with which he had been endowed. He must also have felt himself fortunate in having as his Vice-Chancellor so wise, so prudent, and, in university matters, so expert an assistant as Bishop Short. If we may judge by the present conditions of our University, they laid the foundations well and truly, and for this we of to-day owe grateful thanks to them for what they did; they laboured and we have entered with their labours.

It was owing to Sir R. Hanson's death and the elevation of Bishop Short to the chancellorship that he was the presiding officer at the first commencement; he was to be its first graduate, but as he could not confer a degree on himself, it was left for Chief Justice Way to admit him to the degree of M.A. The recipient was, of course, a D.D. of Oxford University, but the charter of the Adelaide University had not, and has not, any school of divinity, and therefore the M.A. degree was all that was possible.

A Memorable Gathering.

I have before me the notice paper of the public meeting which was called for the commencement. It runs as follows:—"A public meeting to confer degrees ad eundem gradum on the graduates of universities recognised by that of Adelaide, who have signified their intention of accepting such degrees in order to constitute the senate will be held in the Town Hall, Adelaide, on Wednesday, May 2, 1877." Supporting the Chancellor on the platform were His Excellency the Governor and wife, the Council of the University, and the professors, the graduates being accommodated in the body of the hall, a large number of their friends and the general public also being present. It was one of those occasions which, owing to its unusual character, and its significant importance, remains for all time photographed on the memory. I can, after all these 50 years, recall the picture then presented, and can still remember much of the learned address which the Chancellor delivered. Apropos of this, Archdeacon Fr. who happened to be leaving with me at the close of the proceedings, said to me, "What a very fine address!" and I replied, "Yes, I do not think there is another man in the colony who could have made it," and I really feel proud that he was my Bishop. He took his M.A. degree at Oxford in 1826, exactly one hundred years ago. The nearest I can find in the list of the newly admitted graduates is Mr. G. A. Labatt, in 1839, and among the most recent is the name of E. E. W. Hawker, who graduated at Cambridge as LL.B. in 1873.

Surviving Graduates.

In perusing the list of the graduates I have a mingled feeling of surprise and regret of surprise that I have known, and had more or less intimate acquaintance with, the major part of them. In the lapse of years they had faded into the distance, but their names and the recollection of the scene in the Town Hall call them back to me; but I experience a regret that so few, so very few, can answer the roll call to-day. Some of them are among my dearest and best friends, and all old people know how difficult it is when in the grey and yellow leaf to make new friendships. It is rather noteworthy that of the twenty B.A.'s of Oxford and Cambridge the last more than half were clergymen, a tribute, I should imagine, to Bishop Short's reputation, attractive power, and character.

I have for some time held the opinion that I myself am the oldest graduate. I had not examined the records, and now that I have done so I find it is open to question. Among those who are alive to-day and took their earliest degrees at their parent university before 1870 I can find but three remaining. Their names are the Rev. J. H. Coran, of Dublin University, and now of Hobart; the Rev. Canon Hay Sharp, Oxford, now resident, in Sydney; and myself. All three of us graduated in 1808. Professor Lamb was B.A. in 1872, M.A. in 1875. The only other names of those whom I know to be living to-day, and who took the ad eundem fifty years ago, are Sir Lancelot Stirling, Mr. E. W. Hawker, and Sir John Cockburn. Should there be any others, they will, I am sure, unite with me other survivors in congratulating a congratulation to the University at this time of its first jubilee.