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Schnitzer, Ph. D., and Philip Lutley Sclater, M.A.

At the anniversary dinner in the evening, Mr. FRANCIS GALTON, in returning thanks for the toast of "The Gold Medallists," said:—It is expected on these occasions that the recipient of a Royal medal should become egotistical and give some account of the influences that moulded his scientific career. I am very glad that I can do so briefly. To me, the first determining influence was a youthful spirit of adventure that goaded me to explore South Africa. I started in 1850 with abundant moral support from the Geographical Society, and succeeded, among other things, in being the first to traverse Damaraland, that country which has recently fallen under the protection of Germany, and where I saw enough of savage races to give me material to think about all the rest of my life. Shortly after returning home one of the gold medals of the Geographical Society was awarded to me. I was elected a member of their council and then their honorary secretary, in which capacity I energetically occupied myself in furthering new expeditions, in planning instrumental equipments, and devising arts of travel. It was a heyday time for explorers. Almost the whole of Central Africa and Australia was unknown; historical Asiatic geography was little known and largely misunderstood. Steamships and new methods of sledging gave hope of an unlimited range to Arctic discovery. There was in every direction what Americans would call a great "boom" of travel. For the part I had played in all this, I had the honour of being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1860. The ethnological aspects of geography now began to attract me more than the physical ones. It was about this time that the fact dawned on scientific men that the key to the origin of society among civilized nations and to many of their unexplained customs was to be found in the habits of contemporary barbarians. I can assure you, as a specialist in heredity, that I am not speaking without reason when I say that qualities which I seem to have inherited through two of my grandparents gradually yielded precedence to those that I certainly inherited from the other two. Recollect, please, that this medal is awarded to me for "statistical inquiries into biological phenomena." I can account fully both for the statistics and the biology. You must, please, allow me the pleasure of dissecting myself. On my father's side, I know of many most striking, some truly comic, instances of statistical proclivity. I have in my possession many pounds weight of ruled memoranda books, severally allotted to almost every conceivable household purpose, which belonged to an aged female relative who died years ago. I also reckon at least five other remarkable instances of a love of tabulation within two degrees of kinship from myself. Again, as regards biology, I am sure there is a similarity between the form of the bent of my mind and that of my mother's father, Dr. Erasmus Darwin. The resemblance chiefly lies in a strong disposition to generalize upon every-day matters that commonly pass unnoticed. I have myself attempted some of the very inquiries to which he had drawn attention, in complete unconsciousness that he had done so. It was owing to this hereditary bent of mind that I was well prepared to assimilate the theories of Charles Darwin when they first appeared in his "Origin of Species." Few can have been more profoundly influenced than I was by his publications. They enlarged the horizon of my ideas. I drew from them the breath of a fuller scientific life, and I owe more of my later scientific impulses to the influences of Charles Darwin than I can easily express. I rarely approached his genial presence without an almost overwhelming sense of devotion and reverence, and I valued his encouragement and approbation more, perhaps, than that of the whole world besides. This is the simple outline of my scientific history. I conclude by assuring you of the pleasure I have in the thought that this medal is a new bond, literally a golden bond, to connect me even more firmly than before with the Royal Society.

THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

Yesterday a special meeting of the Royal Albert Hall Corporation was held in the west theatre of the hall to

several days before the night of Wednesday, the 15th inst., and last of the night, the Stocks will be transferable ex dividend. It will be PAID to the stockholders personally or to the London and Westminster Bank (Limited), Lothbury, and the dividends can be forwarded by post to stockholders within the United Kingdom at their risk. Forms of remission of dividend warrants by post can be obtained from the London and Westminster Bank, Limited.

For the London and Westminster Bank (Limited) London, 1st December, 1886. W. ABT

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES.—The Agent-General for New South Wales gives notice, that the London and Westminster Bank (Limited), E.C., will PAY, on and after the 1st January 1887, YEAR'S INTEREST, due in London on that date, on DEBENTURES issued by the Government of New South Wales.

Coupons and claims for interest must be left three clear days before examination, and forms for specifying the same may be had on application at the Bank.

HAUL SAMUEL, Agent-General for New South Wales Government offices, 5, Westminister, London, S.W., 1st December, 1886.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES for £1,000,000, issued under the Act, 31 Vict., No. 11, of the Colonial Legislature.—The London and Westminster Bank (Limited), as agents for the Government of New South Wales, hereby give notice, that the FIFTEENTH DRAWING of £20,000 of the above DEBENTURES will take place (in conformity with the terms of the Act) at the offices of the said Bank, No. 41, Lothbury, London, on Monday, the 13th day of December next, and holders of the above Debentures are entitled and sent.

For the London and Westminster Bank (Limited) London, November 8, 1886. W. ABT

BONDED DEBT of SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—BONDS due on the 1st January next, and on the same date, will be PAID by the National Bank No. 149, Lendenhall-street, on and after that date, at 10 o'clock; Saturdays between 12 and 1 o'clock. The Bonds then due must be left at the office of the undersigned clear days for examination, and will be received from the Agent-General if sent in their coupons during the first and second week of the month. The Lists to accompany the above can now be obtained either at the National Bank of Australasia, 149, Lendenhall-street, or at this office.

ARTHUR BLYTH, Agent-General for South Australia. No. 8, Victoria-chambers, Westminster, December 1st, 1886.

COLONY of QUEENSLAND.—The Queensland National Bank Limited, will PAY on and after the 1st January next, the HALF-YEAR'S INTEREST, due on the DEBENTURES, issued under authority of the Colonial Legislature, 29th Vic., No. 24; 34th Vic., No. 24; 39th Vic., No. 8; 40th Vic., No. 19; 41st Vic., No. 10; 43rd Vic., No. 6, if endorsed on the above Debentures of the Loans of 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 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