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THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE BATTLE OF COLENZO.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN NATAL.]

THE PLAN OF THE ATTACK.

At the battle of Colenso, which was fought on December 15th, 1899, there were, roughly, about 20,000 British troops engaged. These included about 16,000 infantry, 3,000 cavalry and artillery, and some 1,000 irregular cavalry. The plan of attack was that the Fifth Brigade, under General Fitzroy Hart, should force its way across the Tugela river and try to turn the right flank of the enemy. At the same time General Barton's Brigade was to endeavour to cross the river further down, and to seize a steep hill on the left flank from which they could enfilade the Boer lines. General Hildyard's Brigade were to make a front attack on the position, whilst General Lyttelton's was held in reserve.

The Boers were strongly entrenched amongst the steep kopjes around Colenso, the centre of the position being Fort Wylie, which stands just behind the village of Colenso.

The battle was begun at 5.35 A.M. by a shell from one of the naval guns. This was immediately followed by a terrific fire from our guns, which was maintained throughout the action. At times Fort Wylie appeared as an actual sheet of fire from the bursting of our shells. The Boer artillery fire was comparatively ineffective, and many of their shells failed to burst. Their musketry fire was reserved until our infantry were little more than 500 yards from their position, when they were assailed by a perfect tempest of bullets. The Fifth Brigade, under General Hart, being most exposed to the fire, suffered severely.

NATURE OF WOUNDS.

The Fifth Brigade Field Hospital, under the command of Major G. H. Younge, R.A.M.C., had quickly 24 officers and 285 non-commissioned officers and men admitted with bullet wounds. The following analysis of these wounds, according to the region involved, is interesting: Head 19, face 7, neck 3, back and spine 20, upper extremity 76, lower extremity 118, other wounds 6.

From this it will be seen that wounds of the lower extremity greatly predominated. Of the 309 only 8 were returned as shell wounds; the remainder were without exception caused by Mauser bullets. The wounds caused by these bullets were humane in the extreme. The wounds both of entrance and of exit were small, and presented a clean punched-out appearance, being almost entirely free from contusion or laceration. Amongst the cases brought to hospital hæmorrhage was conspicuous by its absence.

In Major Younge's field hospital only 4 cases of gunshot fracture were admitted—1 of the femur, 1 of the humerus, and 2 of both bones of the leg. In none of these were the bones extensively comminuted, and it is more than probable that all 4 cases will recover with useful limbs.

Many of the wounds were curious and interesting. One man presented symmetrical Mauser bullet wounds one inch below the centre of each clavicle. Both bullets passed directly backwards, but no wounds of exit could be found. In another case a man was struck whilst lying down. The bullet entered near the centre of the parietal bone, passed downwards and forwards through the brain, the orbit, and the hard palate, and was found projecting beneath the skin behind the symphysis menti, from which region it was removed without difficulty by Major F. T. Wilkinson, R.A.M.C. There was extensive effusion of blood within the orbit, which caused marked protrusion of the eye and lids. The patient was perfectly conscious, could give an accurate account of how he was wounded, and on the following morning was able to walk without difficulty to the stretcher on which he was carried to the hospital train.

TREATMENT IN THE FIELD HOSPITALS.

In only a few cases was it found necessary to perform operations in the field hospitals. As the cases arrived the wounds were washed with perchloride lotion and dressed with double cyanide wool and gauze. Long before night fell the whole of

the wounded, exceeding 600 in number, were comfortably lodged in the field hospitals.

On the day following the battle the wounded were transferred to the stationary and base hospitals with a celerity which was absolutely marvellous. In effecting the transfer the greatest assistance was given by the Volunteer Ambulance Corps of 1,000 men, which was organised at Maritzburg by Colonel T. J. Gallwey, C.B., R.A.M.C.

THE CONDUCT OF THE R.A.M.C. UNDER FIRE.

During the action many acts of heroism were performed by both officers and men of the R.A.M.C. Conspicuous amongst these was that of Major W. Babbie, C.M.G., R.A.M.C., who rode through a tempest of bullets to succour a number of men of the Royal Artillery, who lay wounded and exposed to the enemy's fire. Wherever the fire was hottest there were to be found medical officers attending to and dressing the wounded with as much coolness and skill as if they were in the wards of a hospital.

In all I saw 3 cases which were brought to the field hospital without dressings, and in almost every case the dressings were applied with a neatness and precision which would have done credit to any hospital. The rapidity with which the wounded were dressed and removed from the field by the bearer companies was the subject of favourable comment on all sides. The ambulances were several times fired on by the enemy's guns and several of them were damaged by fragments of shell, yet the medical officers worked steadily on with a devotion and heroism which was beyond all praise.

THE MEDICAL ASPECTS OF THE WAR.

BY A SOUTH AFRICAN CAMPAIGNER.

IX.

HEALTH OF LADYSMITH.

THE thrilling news of the splendid defence made by the garrison at Ladysmith at least shows that whatever condition a certain number of the garrison may be in, the healthy and fighting men are as good as ever they were. Nevertheless, reports now make it certain that the epidemic of typhoid among the garrison is of a serious character. Thus, on January 8th and 9th no fewer than 16 deaths from dysentery and typhoid were returned. One correspondent, writing early in December, says that of his battalion of 550, 90 were down with typhoid fever. In the face of this heavy mortality there is little doubt that the water supplies used by the troops have become contaminated. Probably the heavy rains, which invariably mean surface drainage into wells and streams, have contributed to this contamination. We can scarcely suppose that the latrines themselves are so placed as in any way to imperil the purity of the water supply. At any rate, from some cause or another it is evident that this pollution has occurred, and in this connection it is of interest to note that the troops are all supplied with filters. For protection against typhoid filters cannot be relied upon under conditions of camp life. The best remedy against an infected water supply is boiling the water, and we fear very much that considerable difficulty may be experienced in a camp in inducing soldiers to use this precaution, but at the same time, looking to the heavy losses now entailed, it is certain that vigorous measures to enforce this practice wherever practicable should be used.

The British losses in the engagements on the 6th and 7th are fortunately smaller than we had been led to anticipate, 13 officers and 135 men are reported killed, and 28 officers and 244 men wounded. Here the proportion of killed is unusually high, and is doubtless due to the hand-to-hand character of the fighting which occurred on Wagon Hill and elsewhere. The Boer losses are stated differently in every report which reaches us, so that it is impossible to arrive at any accurate information, but we may rest assured that the forces engaged in attacking our positions must have lost very heavily.

ORANGE RIVER.

From the Orange River, which may be taken as the base for the operations on the western border of the Free State, it is interesting to learn that the health of the troops is thoroughly good, and a Reuter telegram of January 8th states that during the present lull in the fighting the hospitals there are almost empty. All the serious cases have been sent to the field hos-

pitals at Wynberg. Large quantities of medical comforts including mineral waters, preserves, fruits, tobacco, and furniture and clothing, are stored in each of the hospitals, and are much appreciated by the men, who are keenly sensitive of the great kindness shown them by the donors. The inhabitants of Cradock, a town on the Karoo, forwarded over £200 worth of goods for the sick and wounded. This is satisfactory on every ground, as there are a number of Dutch in the Cradock districts whose loyalty has sometimes been called in question.

PHYSIQUE OF THE YEOMANRY AND VOLUNTEERS.

One of the questions which has been raised in reference to the various yeomanry and volunteer corps now going to South Africa, apart from their military qualifications for the work in hand, is as to their physical fitness for the task before them. On this ground I do not think much anxiety need be felt. The climate of South Africa is, on the whole, healthy and invigorating; and men accustomed to outdoor exercises, such as are enjoyed by our town middle classes and yeomanry, have all the qualifications for this outdoor life. In many respects the volunteers and yeomanry now proceeding to South Africa will have the same qualities as the colonists who have been of such excellent service in the field, although they cannot, of course, compare with the colonists in experience of the country and the peculiarities of South African life. Nevertheless, this knowledge will be gradually acquired by them, and the yeomanry and volunteers will form excellent material out of which most valuable forces for warfare in South Africa will soon be made.

FIELD AMBULANCE FOR MOUNTED TROOPS.

In the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of January 13th is an interesting article by Dr. Caverhill, Surgeon-Major to the Lothians and Berwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry, describing an ambulance scheme for the mounted service. In this article the writer argues with considerable force that on tactical, humanitarian, and surgical grounds the bearer company, with cavalry or mounted infantry, should itself be mounted, and that it should be provided with fittings for transporting men sitting or lying down, either in a regular or improvised manner, and should have sufficient surgical appliances. The special mobility and rapid movement of a cavalry force obviously require equal facilities for movement in its surgical staff and bearer companies. The flying hospital, suggested by Dr. Horace Manders, is, as stated in the *JOURNAL* of January 13th, to consist of a hospital car and an ambulance car, constructed on the principle of the Irish jaunting car, each to be drawn by two horses attached to a pole, on the same modification of the curicle principle as that adopted in the Cape cart. The Cape cart is a hooded four-seated vehicle on two wheels. Any wheeled ambulance which could be moved rapidly about the field and was capable of following the movements of cavalry must undoubtedly be of advantage, and in many respects the proposed car is excellent. At the same time, I would point out that a long experience of driving over all sorts of roads and over the veld itself in South Africa has convinced me that no two-wheeled vehicle in the world can compare for a moment in either comfort or safety with one having four wheels. In driving over the veld at anything but a walk, two dangers are constantly presenting themselves, the ant heap and the ant-bear hole. Both of these occur over almost the whole of the South African veld, and either of them is capable of readily upsetting a two-wheeled vehicle. It might be urged that a careful driver or postillion would naturally avoid both these obstacles. But a man who, whether as postillion or coachman, is driving a vehicle across the veld has his attention constantly distracted to some distant object. In warfare, I take it, he would have to keep his eye to some extent upon the enemy's lines. In hunting of all sorts, where the Cape cart is frequently used, and in which I have had some experience of its use, the driver's attention is constantly taken up by watching the troop of buck or other object of the chase, and one of the wheels is very apt to run over an ant heap or drop into the grass-covered, and almost entirely concealed ant-bear hole without much warning. In this way many capsize occur. On the other hand, if a strongly-built, four-wheeled American "spider" be used, a capsize is almost impossible. The

Americans are a practical and ingenious people, they have had the problem of the settlement of pathless tracts of country to deal with, and I have no hesitation in saying that they have solved the question better than the South African Boers. An old American engineer and pioneer once remarked to me on the subject of the Cape cart, that it had fallen to his lot to travel in many countries, and that he always went with an open mind prepared to discover that the peculiar institutions and appliances of various sorts adopted by any particular country, had some special fitness for the purpose designed. For a long time he had applied this principle to the Cape cart, and racked his brains to discover its peculiar virtues and fitness for the work required of it, but he confessed finally that he had completely failed in this instance, and that the preference for a four-wheeled vehicle either in the shape of a buck-board, "spider," or waggon over a rough and pathless country which obtains universally in America, was undoubtedly rational. The four-wheeled vehicle is invariably safer than a two-wheeled, and one wheel of an American "spider" can be dropped into a hole or cross an ant heap, or almost any other obstacle, without absolutely capsizing the vehicle. On these grounds I have no hesitation in saying that a spider-built ambulance would be safer and more comfortable.

In conclusion, I will merely add that personally I have twice been pitched out of a two-wheeled vehicle in South Africa, but never out of an American "spider," which latter vehicle of later years I invariably used for all sorts of work.

SNAKES.

An article in the *Spectator* of January 13th contains the statement that among the casualties at Modder River were several cases of snakebite. The snakes of South Africa, it is added, are both common and deadly, cobras of all sizes, pale yellow to black being the most active and dangerous. One the Boers call the "spitting snake," because they believe that it can spit the venom which oozes from its fangs. I have not seen the reports of casualties from snakebite referred to, although I admit that it is possible they may have occurred. At the same time it must be pointed out that the number of deaths from snakebite in South Africa during a year are extremely small. I have myself spent months on the veld, and have been through a campaign, yet during the whole of my South African experience I have only seen some three cases of snakebite. In the column in which I served through a campaign lasting some three months not a single instance of snakebite occurred, in spite of the fact that the operations were conducted in the coast districts where snakes are most abundant. The fact is that in South Africa the country is so bare that there is little cover for the snake, which almost invariably makes for its hole on getting sight of man. Snakes are fairly plentiful, but they seldom attack unless trodden upon, and they usually avoid being trodden upon by escaping in the manner described. With regard to the "spitting snake" I can testify that this is no mere legend. There is a small active snake which does squirt a poisonous fluid in this way, and a case came under my notice in which a personal friend, while stooping to pick up a stone with which to destroy one of these reptiles, had this fluid squirted into his eye by such a snake, a "ring hals." Fortunately he was near a stream, to which he rushed and in which he at once bathed the eye. When I saw him the whole of the conjunctiva was acutely inflamed and remained in this condition for several days, although the eye eventually returned to its normal condition.

THE RED CROSS ORGANISATION.

The need for a permanent central organisation for the control of voluntary relief was recognised by the formation early in 1899, under the auspices of Lord Lansdowne, of the Central British Red Cross Committee, under which the British Red Cross Society, the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and other voluntary bodies, are federated. When the war broke out Colonel J. S. Young was sent out by the Central Committee to act as its Commissioner, with instructions to make use of the ample funds and materials at his disposal as seemed best on the spot, in co-operation with the Principal Medical Officer of the Field Force and with the local aid societies. Lord Wantage, who is chairman of the National Society for the Aid of Sick and Wounded in War, has given some interesting de-

tails of the work recently accomplished. He refers to the excellent services rendered by Colonel Young, who is working in touch with the Army Medical Service and with the local branch at Capetown, under the auspices of Sir Alfred Milner. He is also supplying warm clothing for invalids on their return journey.

The Society is engaged in equipping a convalescent home at the Cape for both officers and men; a large extent of ground, with suitable houses, belonging to Sir James Sivewright, has been generously placed by him at the disposal of the Society at Somerset West, a beautiful and healthy site thirty miles from Capetown and eighteen from Wynberg, with railway communication. It can provide 200 beds, which can easily be increased by huts or tents. The Society is also establishing a convalescent hospital, consisting of Doecker huts, in the near vicinity of Netley Hospital. The Society acts in connection with the military medical authorities both at home and at the seat of war, and thus forms the recognised channel for providing "comforts," etc., for the sick and wounded beyond what are supplied by the Army Medical Service. The Commissioner of the Red Cross Society has assured the executive at home that complete harmony exists between him and the officers of the Army Medical Service. The promptness shown by them, Lord Wantage adds, in bringing the wounded down from the battlefields to the hospitals at the base deserves the highest commendation. Indeed the excellence of the hospital field organisation in this campaign seems to be greatly in advance of that in any previous war.

One of Colonel Young's letter from South Africa, dated November 30th, states that he had inspected the trains fitted up under the direction of Colonel Supple, P.M.O. These trains have been proved, in the transport of the wounded from the engagements at Belmont and Graspan, to be very efficient for the conveyance of the wounded over the long distances usual in the country. He says:

One train carries 92 and the other 96 officers and men lying down in five carriages with passage down the centre, all communicating with one another, and with carriages fitted, one for carrying arms and kits, one fitted as kitchen and pharmacy, and a saloon carriage accommodating eight first-class and 15 second-class passengers, two medical officers and two nursing sisters being provided for in this saloon with a portion of the other male attendants on the wounded.

The ventilation is admirable, and I was only able to suggest the provision, which I agreed to pay for, of movable bed trays for the patients, who could sit up, to eat their food from. I also provided an ice chest for one train at the request of Colonel Supple.

Further on Lord Wantage comments on the numerous applications for employment under the Red Cross which are made in many instances by fully qualified and trained nurses. He points out that 40 qualified nurses were forced by the Boers to quit Johannesburg, and are now in Capetown earnestly desiring to be employed. Their case certainly seems a hard one, and deserving of consideration should occasion arise for supplementing the navy or army nursing staff in South Africa.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE NON-COMBATANT FICTION.

The following appeared in the *Morning Post* of January 12th:

"R.A.M.C.

"It is most necessary here to say a word in praise of the Royal Army Medical Corps, who faced a hot fire all day long, going close up to the firing line to bring back our wounded. It seems almost incredible that during the day five hundred wounded men should have been brought back by the Medical Corps, though to get them back stretcher bearers and searchers had to cross and recross a zone of fire at least a mile wide."—War Correspondent of the *Morning Post* at Magersfontein.

"He marches with the rest of us, he swaggers all the way, His step ain't right, but his boots is bright, and he draws a soldier's pay, He wears a kit of a perfect fit, and his figure is just the one To go ahead when the ranks outspread and the bayonet's red on the gun;

But when its "Charge!" he stays behind—he doesn't swarm no kop— But don't you think that his morning drink is a basin o' dribblin' sop, He doesn't shy when the shots whizz by, nor he doesn't shake when a shell Splits over his head, and his friend falls dead who was sound as a bloomin' bell.

Look at the doctor! We don't look at him,
Not till a bone's disarranged in a limb;
What he is doing ain't nothing to us,
What he is thinking, now, who cares a cuss?
We must go fighting, and he must stand still,
Bust all the doctors until a chap's ill!

"But when our leg is broke in half, and, truth, we must go sick,
He joins the strife with his long lean knife, and cuts at the wounded quick,
His words are short, but you can't pay court to one of a hundred such,
And we don't grouse when he wastes his nous on some of them groaning Dutch;

O his hand it kind o' soothes the pain, when the eyes see only red,
He stays behind, but he stays to bind a regular splitting head,
And if we die of our scratches, why, it isn't his bloomin' fault
Who stays behind (which is very kind) while we carry the hot assault.

Go for the doctor, and mind where you tread,
Tell him I'm feeling that bad in my head,
Tell him the pills as I've swallowed ain't good,
Tell him I've lost lots o' flesh, likewise blood,
Go for the doctor, and tell him come quick,
Fetch up old Sawbones, a Tommy's gone sick.

"In barracks, morning stables done, on Saturday he comes,
We have to show our chests in a row, and he looks between our thumbs,
We don't go sick for a horse's kick, but a bite when you're bending down
Will make you feel as your goin' to peel from the ball of your foot to your crown;

And so we go to hospital, and if he orders port
A man lies low. "Are you better?" "No," you ought to hear us snort!
But it's hard to stick when another's sick—there's a empty bed in the room,
And worse still, when we've finished drill, there's another old hoss to groom!

But, here's to the man of the R.A.M.C.,
Buzzing about on the field like a bee,
Tending the wounded where lead's flying hot,
Biting his lip when he gets himself shot;
Brave as the best of us, hurt and not tell,
Doctor he may be—he's soldier as well."

CASUALTIES IN LADYSMITH.

In the list of casualties reported from Ladysmith is the name of Major C. G. Woods, of the R.A.M.C., who is returned as wounded. Major C. G. Woods entered the Army Medical Service in 1885, and was promoted Surgeon-Major in 1898. He served with the Hazara expedition, and received the medal and clasp. He was on general duty with the medical staff in Natal.

The name of Lieutenant Hornabrook, Medical Officer of the Local Forces, is also returned as wounded. This gentleman is, we believe, Dr. Hornabrook, who was for some time engaged in plague duty in India.

HOSPITALS AND CONVALESCENT HOMES.

Charing Cross Hospital hopes to provide 20 beds for the sick and wounded soldiers. At the Convalescent Home at Limpsfield, Surrey, 30 beds will be available for convalescents.

The Committee of the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital have offered to place two wards (20 beds) at the disposal of the War Office.

The Nicolson Mackenzie Memorial Hospital at Strathpeffer Spa, N.B., has offered 4 beds for the treatment of sick and wounded soldiers, specially those of the Highland Brigade.

The Paisley Eye Infirmary has offered to place 8 beds at the disposal of the War Office.

The proposal to place the Atkinson Morley Hospital at Wimbledon at the service of the War Office for the reception of the sick and wounded from South Africa is uncertain of fulfilment owing to legal difficulties in connection with the trust.

The Glasgow Corporation has offered to set aside 8 wards in the new hospital at Ruehill for the use of the wounded. The Glasgow (St. Andrew) Ambulance Society also offer to supply, free of charge, a full staff of surgeons and nurses.

The Committee of the Syracuse Convalescent Home at Torquay, for wounded soldiers, sailors, and marines, appeal for funds to support 50 sufferers—the accommodation which the home can afford. The War Office has approved the scheme, and it is proposed to apply half the accommodation to wounded men from the Devon Regiment and the remainder to other urgent cases.

The scheme which is being organised by the *Anglo-American Gazette* of Nice for bringing wounded officers to the Riviera is meeting with great success. Almost every hotel owner between Marseilles and Mentone has offered to take in guests free of charge. It is computed that already accommodation for 200 or 300 officers can be found. It was hoped that the War Office will see its way to send a hospital ship to Villefranche.

An appeal to the residents of Hampstead has been made for £1,000 to equip Golders Hill as a convalescent home for the Brigade of Guards and Household Cavalry, and place it at the disposal of the military authorities.

The Marquis of Zetland has given his residence, Kerse House, Falkirk, for the use of the sick and wounded from South Africa.

Mr. G. R. Vernon, of Auchano House, Kilmarnock, has given the house to be used as a hospital for convalescent soldiers from South Africa.

The Kent and Essex General Investment Company have offered to the War Office the use of Purrock Hall, Gravesend, rent free for twelve months, as a home for sick and wounded from South Africa.

Rules have been promulgated by the War Office directing the conditions of the work entrusted to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society in arranging accommodation for convalescent soldiers and sailors.

There is a movement in Capetown to raise from £20,000 to £30,000 by public subscription, with a view to establishing a South African Field Hospital on similar lines to the Portland. It is proposed that the hospital should be staffed wholly by South African colonists.

TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS.

The *Nubia* having been transformed into a hospital ship the local authorities at Durban are placed in a position to undertake the care of wounded officers and men from the Tugela battle who have had to be kept in the hospitals at Frere and Estcourt. They were brought down in the ambulance train and arrived at Durban on January 10th.

General Buller's call for the European and British Indian Ambulance Corps to proceed to the front was very promptly responded to. The two corps aggregate 1,400 trained men, and all have arrived in Frere camp.

The Bearer Company of the South Midland Brigade also includes members of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, the 1st Volunteer Battalion Worcester Regiment, and the 1st Volunteer Battalion Leicester Regiment. Surgeon-Major Freer, who commands the Bearer Company, offered to the army medical authorities his own services at the front, and stated that if desired he could provide at least a section from the Birmingham volunteer contingent. He has received from the Director-General A.M.S. a communication thanking him, and stating that should any of his officers, non-commissioned officers, and men desire to volunteer for active service in South Africa he should take proper action. Twenty-two men have given in their names and expressed their willingness to serve in South Africa. The number included Surgeon-Major Freer, Surgeon-Captain Whitcombe, and Surgeon-Lieutenant Macdougall.

THE FLITTING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

A MEETING of Convocation of the University of London, probably the last in the present University Buildings, was held on January 15th. Mr. E. H. BUSK, Chairman, presided.

THE LATE SIR JAMES PAGET.

The CHAIRMAN, after the suspension of the standing orders had been adopted, spoke of the conspicuous service rendered to the University by Sir James Paget, as Vice-Chancellor. His sympathetic apt words and singularly clear voice had given acute pleasure to very many persons in that hall, and would never be forgotten by the students whom he had addressed. He moved a vote expressive of the grief entertained by the House at the great loss they had sustained in the death of their late Vice-Chancellor. This was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY.

Mr. BLAKE ODGERS, Q.C., presented the report of the Standing Committee (an abstract of which was published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of January 13th, page 94), and moved its adoption. He congratulated Convocation on the termination of the conflict of nearly twenty years, which had, however, done good in various ways, especially in exciting a wide interest in the University. The scheme for the reconstruction, which was a compromise, promised to be productive of great good; its final shape was largely due to the Chairman of Convocation and the Special and Standing Committees of Convocation. Under the new statutes, Convocation would elect about one-third, or eighteen members, of the Senate, all of whom would be members of the Council for External Students, whose duty it would be to keep up the high standard of the degrees for those students. The election of members of the Senate would for the future be through the various faculties; the next election would be in May next, when Convocation would probably meet in its new home in the Imperial Institute. The University, however, was in no sense the successor of the body called the Imperial Institute; it had its title to the building direct from the Government. The portion of the building allotted to the University was the centre with the eastern wing, and the accommodation provided was ample, far in excess, indeed, of anything the University had ever had before. The library should become worthy of the University, and the graduates would have three other excellent rooms for writing, reading, and for meetings. The first election to the Senate was of great importance. Convocation should elect only men who were loyally devoted to the new scheme, and all should forget the differences that had parted them whilst the scheme was being perfected.

Dr. R. M. WALMSLEY, D.Sc., seconded the proposal. As regarded the past, he begged Convocation to "bury the hatchet," and hoped all would now do the best possible for the development of the University on the lines of the new charter, especially in the advancement of learning on post-graduate lines. In regard to research, too, he trusted that many of the needs of the University might be filled by donations from various public-spirited citizens. Lastly, he trusted that the transference of the University to its new home might be the occasion for some kind of public ceremony.

In the discussion which followed, the CHAIRMAN, in reply to Mr. G. EASTES, M.B., stated that the new building would accommodate under its own roof more than 2,000 candidates for any single examination.

Dr. SILVANUS THOMPSON earnestly appealed to the members to sink former party differences, and to elect upon the Senate the best men to be obtained, whose only pledge should be to do their best for the reconstituted university.

Mr. COTTON protested against the University being turned out of its present building, but the motion was carried with one single dissident.

THE NEW HOME OF THE UNIVERSITY.

Mr. ODGERS, Q.C., moved the following resolution recommended by the Standing Committee:

That the Chairman of Convocation be requested to place before the Senate the report of the Standing Committee of Convocation on the accommodation at the Imperial Institute, and to respectfully request that the matters referred to therein may be favourably considered, and the recommendations contained in it carried into effect.

Going into detail he dealt with three matters of importance in respect to the new building: (1) The accommodation for graduates, (2) the housing of the library, which he trusted would be in the three handsome rooms on the ground floor under the charge of a librarian, whose only business it should be to attend to the library; (3) the lavatory accommodation for graduates and for students attending examinations respectively, together with a refreshment room. He expressed a hope that all these apartments would be furnished in an appropriate manner by the Government. He particularly hoped their statue of the Queen, which adorned the present building, might find an appropriate space in the new home.

Mr. SPRATLING, B.Sc., seconded the resolution, which was carried.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN OF CONVOCATION.

Sir PHILIP MAGNUS was then voted to the chair, and Mr. A. BASSETT HOPKINS, M.A., moved a resolution expressing Convocation's deep sense of indebtedness to its Chairman for his inestimable services to the University during the past eight years. Especially during the last few years, in connection with the reconstitution of the University, extraordinary demands had been made upon his time, patience, and skill, which demands he had always fully and liberally met, to the great and lasting benefit of the University. When his motion was sent in, he explained, about the middle of December, he had no suspicion that Sir John Lubbock was on the threshold of the House of Lords. Still less did he expect that their Chairman would emerge as a Parliamentary candidate. Mr. Busk had asked him, in these circumstances, to withdraw his motion. He saw, however, no reason for such a course, and though he could not support Mr. Busk as their candidate, he had the greatest pleasure in moving this resolution. This was a unique opportunity, and through trying years and heated discussions, now happily ended, the tact, judgment, impartiality, and firmness of their Chairman had been beyond all praise.

Mr. H. A. NESBITT seconded the resolution.

Sir P. MAGNUS heartily endorsed all that had been said of Mr. Busk, and testified to the value of his services on the Senate, where he had always vigorously supported the rights and privileges of graduates.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN, who had withdrawn, at this point returned, and was informed by Sir P. Magnus of the resolution carried in his absence.

Mr. E. H. BUSK said he had never felt such difficulty, he might say impossibility, in expressing what was in his mind. The service of the University and of Convention was near to his heart. It was the special distinction of this University to have raised the banner of freedom from religious and all other restrictions. For such a University it was indeed an honour to work. In future he believed its work would be still more glorious, seeing that they were going to undertake the tremendous task of organising higher education in the metropolis and its neighbourhood, partly by the affiliation of certain colleges which would be called schools of the University in the area known as the administrative County of London, and partly by the recognition of teachers in educational establish-