

"LIFE OF LORD ROBERTS."

• A very interesting lecture on "The Life of Lord Roberts" was given in the Guild Hall last evening by the Rev. Jas. A. Forrest. Mr. D. F. Griffiths (president of the Guild) presided. The lecturer said it was his good fortune, many years ago, to see a great review of troops in one of the parks of Glasgow. Everybody cheered when a little man rode up to the saluting post; a little man on a big horse. It was Field-Marshal Lord Roberts—"Old Bobs," and he was first favorite with the crowd. The soldiers were never tired of telling of his kindly consideration and his military genius. Mr. Forrest spoke of his work in India, particularly at the mutiny, the Afghan war, when 10,000 soldiers were marched 313 miles to Kandahar in 20 days, and then defeated the enemy, and in the Boer war. The keenness and application of a great soldier were remarkable. As an instance of his application it was shown that he commenced to learn Hindustani in May, and passed the examination in July. Lord Roberts had prophesied the present war; had urged that Britain should prepare; but when the crash came he was too much of a man and soldier to say "I told you so." The last visit to France, where he died within hearing of the guns, showed the sort of soldier he was. There could be no real conception of the love the British soldiers had for "Bobs," and a pang of sorrow went through the Empire at the news of his death. The lecturer said he was once an officer in a boys' brigade in Scotland. "Bobs" shook hands with all of them, and the memory of the impression that he made could never die. On active service the British soldiers would fight, not only for the flag, but for this loved leader. Lord Roberts was a Christian and a staunch advocate of temperance. There was much in his life that could be taken to heart, and not the least important was his work in opposition to the drink traffic.