

S. A. CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the S. A. Caledonian Society was held at the society's rooms on Tuesday evening. The chief (Mr. J. L. Stirling, M.P.), presided, and there was a fair attendance, among those present being the Hons. D. Murray, M.L.C., Dr. Campbell, M.L.C., and Mr. D. Bews, M.P.

It was decided that the hon. piper to the society should have all the privileges of membership without being called upon to pay any subscriptions.

On the motion of Mr. D. Bews it was resolved that gentlemen residing within 20 miles of the city should be admitted as life members on payment of £5 5s, and gentlemen residing beyond that distance from Adelaide on payment of £3 3s.

The annual report, which was presented by the hon. secretary (Mr. J. Drummond), showed that during the year 30 new members had joined the society, making the number on the roll about 500. The financial position was not so satisfactory as could be wished, but an effort would be made during the year to wipe off the overdraft. The choral society was still successfully carried on, but they had been unable to resuscitate the literary society. Five successful socials had been held during the twelve months, and on St. Andrew's day the Hon. Alex. Hay had given a fete to the society at his residence, Lindon, which was in every way a success. An effort to revive the interest of the members in the society had been made during the past few months by holding informal Saturday evening entertainments with marked success. In March the society was invited to become affiliated with the Burns Federation League which was to be inaugurated at Kilmarnock during this month to celebrate the centenary of the first publication of the poet's works. This invitation was accepted with pleasure. The Hon. A. Hay had been appointed to represent the society at the demonstration, and he had announced his intention of being present. The balance-sheet was also presented, and with the report was adopted.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—Chief, Hon. J. H. Howe, M.P.; chieftains, Hon. D. Murray, M.L.C., Sir R. D. Ross, Mr. D. Bews, M.P., Mr. John Duncan, M.P., Dr. A. S. Paterson, and Mr. James Hay; directors, Mr. W. T. McLean, Captain McMichin, Messrs. J. Duncan, J. Bertram, and T. W. Fleming; treasurer, Mr. D. Tweedie; auditors, Messrs. J. W. Scott and J. J. Niven; committee, Messrs. Ormiston, J. Nicholson, and A. Thomas; hon. secretary, Mr. John Drummond. A vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring officers.

The CHAIRMAN apologised for the absence of the chief elect, who was unable to leave the House of Assembly, and the customary installation was postponed till a future occasion.

An illuminated address was presented to Mr. J. L. Thompson, who is about to leave for Victoria to take charge of the Dookie agricultural farm in that colony. The CHIEF, in making the presentation, said in looking back on his connection with the society the thing which he would have to regret most would be that during his occupancy of the chair he had had to bid good-bye to Mr. Thompson, whose departure from the colony was sincerely regretted by all the members of the association. He had rendered valuable services to the society, and had won the respect and esteem of everyone connected with it. In wishing him God speed they felt that they were parting with one of the most useful and enthusiastic members of the society. He then handed to Mr. Thompson the address, which had been handsomely engrossed by Mr. Max Heizenroeder, and was worded as follows:—"To John Low Thompson, of Beefacres, South Australia.—Dear Sir—We learn with great regret that you contemplate leaving this colony to settle in Victoria, and we feel that we cannot allow you to depart from amongst us without some expression of the kind feelings this society entertains towards you, and of our appreciation of the valuable assistance you have always been ready to render, and of your magnanimous efforts to promote its interests, and our heartfelt wish for your future happiness and prosperity. In carrying out our annual sports your assistance has been of the greatest service to us, and your careful attention to the duties of director when on the executive committee is well known to us. In wishing you God-speed we feel assured that you will still feel deeply interested in the welfare of this society, and that in future years in looking back on your connection with it you will be enabled to recall many happy recollections of the days of 'Auld Lang Syne.' Signed, J. L. STIRLING, chief; J. DRUMMOND, hon. sec." Mr. BEWS also expressed his regret that Mr. Thompson was leaving the colony, and read a Scotch poem composed in honor of the occasion by a member of Parliament. Mr. THOMPSON suitably responded, and expressed the hope that as the colonies were connected by rail he would still be able at times to take part in the gatherings of the society.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ADVERTISER, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1886.