

SCIENCE

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ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE¹

TO-NIGHT, for the first time in its history, the British Association meets in the ancient city of Leicester; and it now becomes my privilege to convey to you, Mr. Mayor, and to the citizens generally, an expression of our thanks for your kind invitation and for the hospitable reception which you have accorded to us.

Here in Leicester and last year in York the association has followed its usual custom of holding its annual meeting somewhere in the United Kingdom; but in 1905 the meeting was, as you know, held in South Africa. Now, having myself only recently come from the Cape, I wish to take this opportunity of saying that this southern visit of the association has, in my opinion, been productive of much good; wider interest in science has been created amongst colonists, juster estimates of the country and its problems have been formed on the part of the visitors, and personal friendships and interchange of ideas between thinking men in South Africa and at home have arisen which can not fail to have a beneficial influence on the social, political and scientific relations between these colonies and the mother country. We may confidently look for like results from the proposed visit of the association to Canada in 1909.

One is tempted to take advantage of the wide publicity given to words from this

¹ Leicester, 1907.