

MANCHESTER STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

as by Sir ROBERT GIFFEN, K.C.B., LL.D., F.R.S.

the Society's Annual Dinner, October 17th, 1900

It is an honour to propose to you the toast of the Manchester Statistical Society. I ask leave to do so, although your guest, being entirely a stranger. I have been present at one of your meetings, a good many years ago, I fear, and I may claim some acquaintance with your proceedings and your distinguished members now and in former times, beginning with Professor Jevons, and coming down to yourself, Mr. Sidgwick, whose reputation is a growing one, and whose labours in the study of statistics and economics, it may be said flatteringly, will certainly in due course occupy a considerable part of the world.

It is a privilege to have this opportunity of bearing my testimony to the statistical and economic work of Manchester. Owens College is so strongly that while older universities like Oxford and Cambridge, established as places of learning exclusively, or almost exclusively, have their special educational value, still a university in a city of industrial capital like Manchester possesses advantages of its own sort, and especially advantages in connection with the study of statistics and economic learning. Whether by papers read at the Society's proceedings, or by papers which, though produced elsewhere, have been inspired or stimulated by the spirit of Manchester, the world is greatly indebted to Manchester, and to your society as a centre, for economic ideas