ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECTION OF ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.*

It is now nearly twenty years since anthropology attained to the dignity of being awarded a special and independent section in this association, and I believe it is generally admitted that during this period the valuable nature of many of the contributions, the vigor of the discussions and the large attendance of members have amply justified the establishment and continued existence of this section.

While the multifarious and diverse nature of the subjects which are grouped under the term anthropology gives a variety and a breadth to our proceedings, which are very refreshing in this age of minute specialism, I feel that it adds very considerably to the difficulty of selecting a subject for a presidential address which will prove of general interest.

A survey of the recent advances in our knowledge of the many important questions which come within the scope of this section would cover too wide a field for the time at my disposal, while a critical examination of the various problems that still await solution might expose me to the temptation of pronouncing opinions on subjects regarding which I could not speak with any real knowledge or experience. To

* Southport meeting, 1903.