

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1899.

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE
BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE AD-
VANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.*

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He who until a few minutes ago was your president said somewhere at the meeting at Bristol, and said with truth, that among the qualifications needed for the high honor of Presidency of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, that of being old was becoming more and more dominant. He who is now attempting to speak to you feels that he is rapidly earning that distinction. But the Association itself is older than its President ; it has seen pass away the men who, wise in their generation, met at York on September 27, 1831, to found it ; it has seen other great men who in bygone years served it as presidents, or otherwise helped it on, sink one after another into the grave. Each year, indeed, when it plants its flag as a signal of its yearly meeting, that flag floats half-mast high in token of the great losses which the passing year has brought. This year is no exception ; the losses, indeed, are perhaps unwontedly heavy. I will not attempt to call over the sad roll-call ; but I must say a word about one who was above most others a faithful and zealous friend of the Association. Sir Douglas Galton joined the Association in 1860. From 1871 to 1895, as one of the General Secretaries, he bore, and bore to the great good of the Associa-

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