

# The Advertiser

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1884.

THE University of Adelaide, as shown by the calendar for 1884, is making steady progress. We have always contended that it was impossible to judge of the usefulness and the success of this noble institution until several years had elapsed in its history. A new university must of necessity be far in advance of the general condition of education at the time when it is founded. Its mission in the community is to set a standard of proficiency above that which was deemed sufficient before it existed. Both the schools and the public have had to be gradually taught to value and to aim at a higher standard of education than was in vogue some years ago. For several years that process of educating the community was necessarily slow. Now, however, the results begin to show themselves. We find on comparing the calendar just published with that issued twelve months ago that very substantial advance is being made. The number of students studying for degrees has increased from 12 to 47. The fees have risen from £399 14s. to £617 4s. The number of candidates for the junior examination is about the same, being 96 in 1882, and 93 in 1883, but the number of passes is 52 in the former year against 56 in 1883. The candidates for matriculation increased from 28 to 55, and the successful ones from 24 to 36. The classes are open to all who like to attend even if the students be not intending to graduate. Some of these classes seem to be much more popular than others, and to maintain this popularity from year to year. The largest number are to be found in Dr. Stirling's lecture-room when he discourses on the recondite mysteries of the animal frame. He had 63 last year and 57 the year before. English literature comes next with an attendance of 29, which is two more than the previous year. The attendance at Professor Lamb's class on natural philosophy has risen from 11 to 28. Logic attracted 11 and 9 in the two years we are comparing. The total numbers recorded in all the classes are 107 in 1882, and 143 in 1883, but as some students attend more than one class the number of students is somewhat less than these totals.

The recent establishment of the law school accounts in some measure for the increase in the number of students and of the fees that have been paid, but the

law lectures are evidently not popular with outsiders, as only four such are to be found among those who have attended the law lectures. But friends of high class education will hail with satisfaction this large attendance of the public at the classes and lectures generally, and it is to be hoped that the University authorities will do all that they can to encourage it. It is not possible for every one who appreciates a college curriculum to enter upon the course of study required for a degree. Time and special aptitude may both be wanting. Every facility should, however, be granted for those who have a taste for particular studies to attend the classes which they may prefer, provided always that these outsiders are not allowed to be a drag upon the classes, and that the character of the instruction imparted is maintained at the proper academic standard. The University will not be complete until it affords tuition and grants degrees in medicine and in music as well as in arts, science, and law. Last year, for the first time, lectures were given in law, and the faculty of law was established under Mr. Barlow as its first dean. It was not without difficulty that this new school was founded, but the difficulties attendant on founding a law school are a mere trifle compared with those that surround the establishment of a school of medicine. A law lecturer may be accommodated in any of the ordinary classrooms. He wants no museum beyond the dusky pages of his volumes of reports. He cannot perform experiments in legislation before an inquisitive class. His students require no instruments save a pen.

The case is very different with the tuition of medicine. A medical school requires its own classrooms fitted up for its own uses. It requires also a large collection of specimens and diagrams. It must be provided with a dissecting-room and laboratory, and the range of subjects is so varied that a very much larger number of professors or lecturers than the science of law requires is needed to overtake the work. If the student, having completed a part of his course, prefers to finish his education in England, he will find that the Royal Colleges of Surgeons and of Physicians will not accept his certificates of the work he has already done unless given by different teachers in each branch. Though a professor might be able to teach with efficiency either anatomy or physiology, his certificate is only of value in England for one subject. Moreover, no medical school can attain a proper reputation for successful tuition unless it is attached to a large hospital, the value of clinical lectures increasing with the number of the patients and the variety of diseases that are treated. For these reasons it is manifest that the establishment of a complete medical