

Register March 23/85

MATRICULATION EXAMINATIONS. —The following is a list of the names of those who were successful in passing the March Matriculation Examinations concluded last week at the University:—First Class (in order of merit)—Joyce, A. F., Prince Alfred College, Latin, Greek*, mathematics*, French, and German; Robin, A. F., Prince Alfred College, Latin, Greek, French, and German; Mead, Gertrude Ella, Advanced School for Girls, German, English, animal physiology*, botany*; Hay, Ida Cornish, Advanced School for Girls, German*, English, animal physiology, botany. Second Class (in order of merit)—Thomas, E. Kyffin, Mr. D'Arenberg's tuition, Latin, English, modern history; Stewart, A., Mr. D'Arenberg's tuition, Latin, German, geology. Third Class (in alphabetical order)—Foster, H. E., private tuition, English, modern history; Greer, G. A., Mr. D'Arenberg's tuition, Latin, English; Habich, A. R., Prince Alfred College, mathematics, German; Henning, R. H., Prince Alfred College, Latin, mathematics, chemistry; Plumstead, A. W. H., private tuition, Latin, botany; Swan, A. M., Mr. D'Arenberg's tuition, Latin, chemistry; Whitby, P. E. B., St. Peter's School Collegiate, Latin, chemistry; White, A. G., St. Peter's School Collegiate, French, German, chemistry. An asterisk following a subject denotes that the candidate passed in that branch of study with credit.

The board of examiners have decided to recommend to the council that the following gentlemen be recommended to the Minister of Justice and Education as University scholars for 1885:—In order of merit—D. H. Hollidge, R. Duence, and C. W. Hayward. Proxime accesserunt—A. F. Joyce and R. B. Andrews.

The Register.

ADELAIDE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1885.

MUSIC AT ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

It is rather a strange coincidence that the School of Music in Adelaide Univer-

sity should have been inaugurated almost exactly on the 200th anniversary of the birth of the founder of the systematic study of music as a science. On March 21, 1685, the prospects of musical culture as of interest to any but a select few were very scanty, even in Germany, the birthplace not only of Johann Sebastian Bach, but of the majority of his illustrious successors. On March 24, 1885, we find that in this remote quarter of the globe not only has musical culture a strong and abiding influence upon the people, but that it has at last been found possible to inaugurate the first Professorship of the art and science in this continent. Professor Ives in his inaugural lecture on Tuesday night had a large and appreciative audience, of whom, from the Chief Justice in the chair to the hearers at the furthest part of the hall, the great majority were lovers of music. The Professor showed practical wisdom in devoting his attention to the elucidation and amplification of the programme which has been sketched out for the curriculum of the degree of Bachelor of Music. Notwithstanding the fact that, unless in cases of an acknowledged natural deficiency, a certain practical knowledge of music is now regarded as almost an essential part of every liberal education, only a small proportion of students of music ever enquire what are the meanings of the terms "harmony," "counterpoint," "form in composition," and "instru-

mentation.' Without an explanation of these terms the advertisement setting forth the various points of the musical curriculum would to most people be almost meaningless. Presumably every one who attended the public lecture on Tuesday night was interested in music and musical culture, and if any one felt bored at listening to a disquisition on the scales and the dominant chords, that must have been because he either knew too much or too little of the subject.

Unfortunately, owing to several serious mistakes made by the University authorities, the musical classes for the first month or two are not likely to prove a great success in point of attendance. Of candidates for musical degrees it is almost impossible that there should be a single student. The regulations, which have only just been issued, require that previously to entering upon the course candidates must pass the matriculation examination. But the time for presentation at that examination is now past, and no other opportunity will offer itself till the end of the year. Unless, therefore, one or two of those who have already passed matriculation should enter themselves as candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Music there will be no undergraduate students at all. To require candidates for the Bachelor of Music degree to pass the full matriculation examination is in our opinion a mistake, at any rate for the first two or three years. In the last University Calendar the Council made the announcement that "The curriculum for the degree of Bachelor of Music will be based on the lines of the University of Cambridge for that degree, of which full particulars will be published when settled by the Council." Now, it is well known that at Cambridge the matriculation examination is little more than a mere nominal affair. In Melbourne and Adelaide, on the contrary, the matriculation examinations have been instituted on the lines followed by London University. This examination is intended as a test for scholars leaving the higher schools, and is practically a part of the

arts and science courses. It may appear a very simple matter to say that candidates are only required to pass in reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, history, mathematics, and elementary Latin, French, German, or Italian. But grammar may be made as difficult a subject as the examiner pleases, and the same may be said in regard to arithmetic, Latin, mathematics, &c. It would be quite sufficient that candidates should be required to pass an examination in the basis of an English education. For the present year, as we have shown, it will be necessary that the regulations should be relaxed if there are to be any candidates for the degree, and we would suggest that permission should be given to students to join the classes at present, and to present themselves at some subsequent period for an examination in the elements of education. Of course it would not do to allow an absolute ignoramus with a talent for music to take the degree of Bachelor of Music. But the theoretical nature of the subjects to be mastered, as well as the thoroughness of the knowledge demanded, would almost preclude that possibility. At any rate it obviously is not necessary that before a student can begin to study for a musical degree in the University of Adelaide he