

that although the work to the examiners is increased by the plan adopted, the advantage to the student is very considerable. The alteration is therefore an exceedingly desirable one.

One of the subjects for examination at the close of the fifth year is the "elements of hygiene." Sanitary science is a matter which has only of late years been brought to light and regularly affiliated with the study of medicine. There are now chairs and lectureships devoted to it in several universities and schools. It has become clear that the prevention of disease is as great an object with the true physician as the cure of it, and the responsible positions which many medical men are called upon to occupy even in public life demand that they should not merely have an elementary but a very extensive knowledge of hygiene. Moreover, a lectureship on this subject, as on that of physiology, is one which can be made popularly useful. In the inclusion of hygiene in the curriculum we have another evidence of the carefulness and desire for thoroughness with which the whole course of medical study has been laid down. It is a curious oversight, however, that while provision is made for every other subject in the memorandum of the year's course of lectures which the student must attend, no reference is made to the means by which he is to secure his knowledge of hygiene. If he is to secure it by private study then why may he not in the same fashion obtain his acquaintance with some other subjects on which he is examined? We see no reason why a lecturer should not be appointed to this important subject. It may be an oversight that no provision to that end seems to have been made, but if so it is one that may be easily remedied. Admirable as the whole thing looks on paper, the practical efficiency of the scheme depends after all solely on the men who work it out, either as professors or lecturers. Those who have already filled the position of professors are tried and proved men, but those to come are not. That Adelaide enjoys a fair share of clever practitioners is undoubtedly true, but we utter a mere truism when we say that it does not

follow that the clever workman holds the same position as a teacher. The teaching faculty is a gift in itself, and scarcer too than cleverness of handicraft. No doubt, however, a fair field and no favor will be shown by the council in the selection of lecturers. It is to be hoped that under the new and expanded régime our young medical school will take a worthy position, the necessity of attaining which is evidently appreciated by the compilers of the curriculum.

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Register October 21<sup>st</sup> 1886.

## THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The University Senate has formally adopted the regulations concerning the Medical School of the University. This means, in other words, that there is now to be a regular school of medicine in Adelaide in connection with the University. We cannot but think that this is much to be regretted. Australia might well rest content with the schools at Melbourne and Sydney. These will supply more than enough of medical men for any requirements we may have for some years to come. The medical graduates of Sydney and Melbourne could of themselves swamp the profession here. Added to these are the graduates of the European Medical Schools. It seems that South Australia is to add to the sources of supply, and that every opportunity is to be given here for the instruction of pupils in the healing art. An apologist for the action of the Council in the matter sought to defend it from the charge of being introduced too soon. He said that "the question of prematureness should have been considered and argued when the question of founding the school was raised at first." This is a very lame argument. Donations to the extent of £16,000 were made, and it would have ill become those who had the interests of the University at heart to notice such munificent contributions in any but a friendly and thankful spirit. They sufficed to establish a school which would furnish the needful elementary instruction, and so far there could be no objection. By means of Sir Thomas Elder's and Mr. Angas's donations pupils could receive a certain amount of their medical education here. It was not necessary that they should, but if private persons were generous enough to furnish the needful money it was certainly right the critics should be slow to denounce such liberality. The case is

now changed. Public money is to be employed, and the public benefit should be consulted. Now only can public critics, in all courtesy, say that the establishment of a Medical School in Adelaide is premature. What we could not do when the endowments were made by private persons we can certainly do when it is proposed to endow the school with public money.

The case for the establishment of a Medical School was presented yesterday under the most favourable circumstances. It was introduced by Dr. Whittell, a man who is well known here, and who is admired and respected wherever he is known. In his own cheery way Dr. Whittell urged the advisability of establishing a Medical School in connection with the University. His very appearance disarms opposition, and inclines people to believe that the course which he recommends is the best under the circumstances. Then Dr. Whittell was able to say that the Professor of Anatomy had earned to a wonderful extent the confidence of his pupils. About this there can be no doubt whatever. Professor Watson is a man in a thousand. An enthusiast himself, he is able to inspire enthusiasm in those who are under his charge; a brilliant scholar, he is able to make his pupils strive eagerly after the attainment of scholarship. If we were asked to name a Professor of Anatomy who would do the best possible for his pupils, we would name the learned Professor who