

Register July 25<sup>th</sup> 1889.

### THE UNIVERSITY.

We hasten to congratulate the Senate of the University upon yesterday's election to the Council. For the first time in the history of the institution a graduate of the University has been elected to a seat on the governing body. We shall not go so far as to say that the Senate has chosen the best man available, for the simple reason that one does not know who is available and who is not; but it is undeniable that Mr. James Henderson is well fitted to discharge the duties of the position to which he has been elected. We do not know nor is it of much consequence whether Mr. Henderson is a South Australian by birth or not. The material point is that he has special grounds for seeking to promote the progress of his Alma Mater on the right lines. Further, the stimulus which this election gives his fellow-graduates is worthy of notice. They may look forward to the time when they, like him, will take part in the government of the University. It would be easy, of course, to over-estimate the power of an individual member of the Council. He is merely one of a large body of men with different ideas about University matters. Of this body as at present constituted fifteen are University men, but they represent the training of eight Universities, and have consequently opposing ideas of training. Cambridge has three direct representatives, London has six, whilst Oxford, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Adelaide, and Dorpat has one each. The merest tyro in affairs educational knows that the scheme of education which would recommend itself to an Oxford man is not that which would be perfectly pleasing to



either of the sister Universities, much less to the Scotch and extra-British bodies. Mr. Henderson cannot be expected to set things right, especially if he has to contend against the representatives of the London University. Some amongst these are the strongest supporters of the mistaken system of examination *per se* as a test of education, and the new member of the Council, unless he enjoys special persuasive powers, is not likely to upset their convictions. Of the remaining six members of the Council all that need be said is that they have not experienced the advantages of University training. Some of them have done good service in the past, but it is doing them no injustice to hope that the time is not far distant when the University will be entirely under the control of University men.

The further proceedings of the Senate yesterday need not detain us long. Dr. Davies Thomas carried a motion providing that, for the present and the two following years, medical students of the fifth year need only have attended ten cases of midwifery. The regulation as printed in the calendar for the current year makes it compulsory on the student to attend twenty cases, but the Senate thinks half that number enough. Of course the reason is that the population is small, and that comparatively few cases of midwifery occur. Upon this point we say nothing. But does it not occur to the influential persons who made the colony believe that it was necessary for us to establish a complete Medical School that this spontaneous confession of Dr. Thomas rather tells against their cause? We cannot give each student twenty cases of midwifery per



annum, and yet we must have a Medical School! The Senate next devoted part of its attention to the subject of competitive examinations. The mover simply brought the matter under notice, and left it there until it was kicked out by the energetic feet of Archdeacon Farr and Mr. Hartley. Both these gentlemen believe in concrete facts, so far as education is concerned. The Archdeacon, who takes kindly to few things which have not enjoyed the advantage of being introduced by him, declared that the Council knew everything about the matter. He and those who thought with him had already said the last word. Mr. Hartley took a different line. He was jocose. Believing thoroughly in examinations—as he of all public men here ought to believe—he further hinted at the difficulty of providing another test. This provision, we respectfully submit, it was hardly the business of the Senate to make. It is for the Council, which should introduce amendments. But if the management of the University is left to the tender mercies of one or two prominent University members of the Council, who can count on the assistance, the indifference, or want of knowledge of three or four non-University members, we must expect to find it degenerating to the level of mere examining institutions.

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## BENEFIT TO MR. BEVERLEY AT THE ALBERT HALL.

A complimentary benefit was tendered to Mr. Frank Beverley at the Albert Hall on Friday evening by the Court Minstrels, who were assisted by several other performers. There was a good audience, and additional interest was manifested in the entertainment owing to the presence of the students of the University. The under grads had apparently heard of the displays of the gownsmen of the Melbourne Varsity on speech days, and determined to copy them. Mr. Beverley's benefit gave them the opportunity. At half-past 7 o'clock the students, some in gowns and caps and others with curious head gear, marched behind a brass band to the hall. At the head of the procession a student carried the banner (skull and crossbones) of the medical students, whilst the law students section could be picked by a waving flag on which were painted a barrister's wig and the scales of justice. Singing snatches of operatic and Salvation Army songs the "knowledge scrapers" wended their way to the hall, the back rows of seats of which they had reserved for themselves. Prior to the commencement of the programme they sung several choruses, and one of the students rendered "Killaloo," his fellow-gownsmen joining in the chorus. The bill set out that during the intermission the students of the University would render songs and choruses, and but few of the audience left their seats. Mr. A. E. Embling, armed with a shank bone as a baton, acted as conductor, and the orchestra consisted of a violin, cello, tambourine, tin whistle, and one or two instruments, the tones of which were hideous. Mr. D. Lawrance led off with the chorus which the Melbourne Varsity students gave at their last speechday, but it was localised for the occasion. The first verse ran—

We're Varsity students all,  
Professor Watson is our father;  
We love the lecture-hall,  
Admire the ladies rather.

The solo and chorus were both rendered with great spirit. Next Mr. G. Cavenagh gave a selection entitled "Education," sung to the tune of "Ballyhooly," for which they were also indebted to their fellow gownsmen of the sister colony. This was well given, but the gem of the evening was the song sung by Mr. Embling, who depicted a midnight carousal of students. The audience received these numbers with loud applause. During the entertainment the students behaved well and contented themselves with firing off a few interjections which were harmless. The general programme, which was a long one, was well carried out. The first part consisted of the usual drawing-room entertainment by the Court Minstrels. Those who took part were Misses Aggie Atkinson, Eva Clements, Bel Valentine, and Little Elsie, Messrs. T. Rosman, A. Duncan, R. Wolsey, J. T. Cook, J. Cates, E. Webb, J. Rice, Ernest Mowbray, D'Arcy Stanfield, J. Bruer, Frank Lloyd, D. Bloch (who gave an exhibition of Indian club swinging), G. Gardner, and Frank Beverley. The performance concluded with the comedy "Cut off with a Shilling," in which the performers were Mr. Brian England, Mr. D'Arcy Stanfield, and Miss Clements.

University  
Students