

The Register.

ADELAIDE: MONDAY, MAY 27, 1889.

CONVERSAZIONE AT THE UNIVERSITY.

INSPECTION BY THE GOVERNOR.

Thanks to the thoughtful liberality of the Chancellor (Hon. S. J. Way), the first official inspection of the University of Adelaide by their Excellencies the Earl and Countess of Kintore, and also by Rear-Admiral Fairfax, who has been visiting our shores with a detachment of the Australian Squadron, was made the occasion of a very pleasing conversation on Saturday evening, May 25. The Chancellor's fame as an entertainer, whether in his public or private capacity, stands high, so it was not surprising that with 700 invitations sent out for the conversation, fully 600 should have been accepted. With that number there was fair opportunity of thoroughly inspecting the departments in comfort, and of combining pleasure with profit. Portions of the building had been tastefully decorated. By the marble busts on the stairs facing the main entrance were arranged a row of choice shrubs of large growth and in splendid condition. The platform of the Library was similarly adorned, while over the floor in front were disposed handsome carpets and lounges for the use of the distinguished guests. The company were received by the Chancellor in the Library from 7.45 until 8.20. A deputation, consisting of the Warden of the Senate (Mr. F. Chapple) and members of the Council and professorial staff, met the viceregal party at the entrance and escorted them upstairs, where they were welcomed by the Chancellor, while the National Anthem was played on the pianoforte. The library at that time presented a brilliant and pleasing scene. There was much variety in the ladies' dresses, which, with the naval and military uniforms, were in pretty contrast to the evening dress of the private gentlemen. Besides the Admiral we observed Captains Hammill and Kane and a large number of the officers of H.M.S. Orlando and Calliope. Then there were the many academic costumes of the graduates and the novel sight of several young ladies appearing in the habiliments of University degrees. The programme for the evening was in keeping with the occasion, and served to illustrate the position assumed by the University in the cause of science and the æsthetic in art. In the library, a number of musicians, including the best local talent, rendered several choice selections. Professor Ives, assisted by Mr. Otto Fischer, conducted the entertainment, and Mr. C. J. Sharp fulfilled the duties of accompanist. Miss Püttman, the talented young pianiste, contributed two solos, Weber's "Polonaise" and Chopin's "Scherzo," and Signor Lombardi, the violoncellist, played an "Adagio" of Mozart's. The effect of the latter number was unfortunately considerably marred through the movements of persons entering the room. The lovely song "When All was Young," from Faust, received very effective treatment from Miss Nelson, a rising young vocalist. Miss Stevenson sang with taste "Matter's Dear Heart," and Miss Rosa Schomburgk gave "The Asra," by Rubenstein, and a "Lullaby," a very creditable composition by Miss Whittell, a student of the University—the latter with a violoncello obbligato by Signor Lombardi—both being warmly applauded. The same young ladies and Messrs. Ralph and Lawrence won encomiums for their effort in Pinsuti's "Good Night, Beloved." The concert, which had been divided into three parts of twenty minutes each, closed with the duet "Stillest Night," very correctly given by Misses Stevenson and Schomburgk.

Early in the evening the Earl and Countess, with their children, and Admiral Fairfax, were escorted through the building by the Chancellor, and manifested a lively interest in all they heard and saw. Lectures and experiments were carried on in the various rooms. On the first floor, in the law lecture-room, Dr. Symons and assistants gave demonstrations on the eye with the ophthalmoscope, and in the classics-room the School of Design apparatus and work were on view. In the chemical lecture-room, on the ground floor, Professor Rennie, D.Sc., made some pretty experiments with oxygen, and in the physical lecture-room Professor Bragg M.A., demonstrated the polarization of the sky. Dr. Stirling and assistants were kept busy in explaining the contents of the well-filled physiological laboratory; while the chemical and physical laboratories were in charge of several young students who evinced much skill both in conducting and explaining miscellaneous experiments in electricity, dynamics, spectrum analysis, the decomposition of liquids, &c. The museum, for the nonce, was turned into a refreshment saloon, and admirably fulfilled its purpose in the hands of Messrs. Beach & Son. An enjoyable programme, the successful carrying out of which was in good measure due to the exertions of the Acting Registrar (Mr. Charles R. Hodge), concluded at 10.30, when the company separated.

CONVERSAZIONE AT THE UNIVERSITY.— About 600 ladies and gentlemen attended the Chancellor's conversazione at the Adelaide-University on Saturday evening, May 25 on the occasion of an inspection of the departments by their Excellencies the Earl and Countess of Kintore and Rear-Admiral Fairfax, C.B. The whole of the building was thrown open. A concert was conducted in the Library by Professor Ives, assisted by Mr. Otto Fischer, while interesting lectures and experiments were proceeding in the various lecture rooms and laboratories, and refreshments were being dispensed in the Museum. A very pleasant evening was passed.

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CONVERSAZIONE AT THE UNIVERSITY.

A very pleasant evening was spent at the University on Saturday evening by a large number of guests, whom the Chancellor (Chief Justice Way) had invited to meet their Excellencies the Earl and Countess of Kintore and his Excellency Rear-Admiral Fairfax. The attractions of the conversazione were of a varied character, and calculated both to please and interest the fashionable assembly gathered together on the occasion. The Chancellor received his guests in the library from 8 o'clock until 8 20, when most of the seats in this large and handsome room were occupied in expectation of the concert which formed one of the principal attractions of the evening. The platform was tastefully adorned with plants and flowers, and the room, with its lofty, vaulted, and pannelled ceiling, its numerous lights, and its gay and animated throng, presented a beautiful appearance. The coloring of the scene was enriched by the academic robes of the graduates of the University who were present, as well as by the toilettes of the ladies and the uniforms of the naval and military guests. His Excellency the Governor and Lady Kintore, accompanied by Admiral Fairfax, arrived about half past 8, and were received by a deputation of members of the council and the professorial staff. The viceregal party were accommodated with armchairs immediately in front of the platform. Before leaving their Excellencies expressed the pleasure they had derived from the musical part of the entertainment, which was ably carried out under the direction of Professor Ives. Among the distinguished guests present were Captain Hammill, of the Orlando, and Captain Kane, of the Calliope, and there was a pardonable curiosity on the part of many of those taking part in the conversazione to see for themselves the hero of a naval exploit which for determination and coolness carries the mind back to the days of Drake and Raleigh. As soon as the first interval in the musical programme was reached a number of the visitors left the library and began to circulate through the lecture rooms of the University, in which interesting experiments were being carried out by the professors. One of the apartments on the ground floor was devoted to refreshments, and was very well patronised during the evening. In addition to those mentioned above the guests included several members of the Ministry, of the Legislature, and the Civil Service, as well as representatives of the learned professions of literature, art, and commerce. The company separated at a comparatively early hour, and the expression of opinion was general that it would be difficult to imagine a more satisfactory social reunion at the University than the conversazione was from first to last. The arrangements were in every way perfect, and for this result most of the credit must be given to Mr. C. R. Hodge, who is acting-registrar in the temporary absence of Mr. Tyas.

The musical programme, which was of considerable length and admirably selected, was under the control of Professor Ives, assisted by Mr. Otto Fischer, the accompaniments being played by Mr. Cecil J. Sharp in a very finished manner. Miss Püttmann distinguished herself in the opening number (a pianoforte solo by Weber), as well as by a scherzo of Chopin, which she rendered with much grace and depth of feeling later in the evening. One of the most enjoyable was the contralto song from "Faust," "When all was young." This was sung by Miss Nelson with great taste and a fulness of expression, which augurs well for the future success of the talented young débutante. A violoncello solo from