

Register January 21/89.

**THE LATE MR. S. E. HOLDER.**—We understand that no information as to the reported death of Mr. S. E. Holder has been received by his relatives in this colony. It was Mr. Holder's intention, according to the last letter received by his sister (Mrs. J. E. Morley), to leave for China as the medical officer of one of the vessels trading with the East, and he had arranged to return to London on special business in April or May. In the *Melbourne Daily Telegraph* of January 14 a cablegram stated that "The steamer Priam, from Hongkong, had encountered a severe gale off Cape Finisterre; nine lives lost." Our telegram on Saturday gave the name of the vessel from which Mr. Holder was lost as the Ehriam. There seems to be little reason for doubting that the vessel was the Priam for Hongkong, especially as the same steamer put into Gibraltar on the previous homeward trip with disabled machinery on December 5.

Melbourne Telegrams  
advertisement 5/2/89

Adelaide  
& Melbourne  
degrees

At a meeting of the University Council this afternoon a letter was read from Mr. G. H. Downer, who asked whether the University of Adelaide was recognised by the University of Melbourne. Mr. Downer was understood to make this request with a view to applying for admission to the bar in Victoria. The registrar was instructed to reply that the Adelaide University is recognised so far as its matriculation examination is concerned, but that the LL.B. degree in South Australia is not regarded as equivalent to the Bachelor of Laws degree here, inasmuch as law students in Adelaide are not required to obtain the B.A. degree before proceeding with their legal studies.

Register February 7<sup>th</sup> 1889

**ADELAIDE AND MELBOURNE UNIVERSITIES.**—At a meeting of the Council of the University, held at the Library of the Law Courts on Monday afternoon, the question of the recognition of the Adelaide University was raised (says the *Argus*) by a letter being received from Mr. G. H. Downer, of Adelaide, intimating that he had taken the degree of LL.B. at the Adelaide University, and asking if the Melbourne University would recognise it. It was stated that Mr. Downer was desirous of being admitted as a member of the Victorian Bar without having to pass any examination at the Melbourne University, and that the rule of the Supreme Court for the admission of barristers was that they must first of all take an LL.B. degree at the Melbourne University or at some other University recognised by that body. Some discussion arose as to whether the Adelaide University, as far as the law examinations were concerned, should be recognised by the Melbourne University, and it was decided to inform Mr. Downer that, while matriculated students of the Adelaide University had been recognised in this colony, no Bachelor of Laws of the Adelaide University had ever been admitted to the same degree in the Melbourne University, because the degrees of the two institutions were not regarded as equivalent.



*Registered March 4<sup>th</sup> 1889,*

### THE UNIVERSITY.

The University Calendar contains as usual a variety of interesting information. As usual it also contains a financial statement which is incomprehensible to the ordinary reader. The receipts were £34,016, but this included some £15,500 moved from one security to another, and the £4,000 which is the capital of the Engineering Scholarship. The fees of students are still but an inconsiderable item, amounting in all to £2,848, or about £400 more than in 1887. Government subsidies, interest, and rent make up with sundry donations the balance of income. The expenditure, which was £27,400 in 1887, was £32,700 in 1888; but transfers of capital partly account for the difference. The heading "annual expenses" gives account of £9,400, of which the item "salaries" absorbs £8,061, and the mysterious item "charges" £490. "Charges" cannot be either stationery or printing or advertising, for each of these is specifically mentioned. It is another name for "sundries," we presume—and a very good one too.

It is satisfactory to notice that the work done by the University is gradually growing in bulk and importance. In 1888 there were 109 undergraduates and seventy-seven students who attend lectures but do not propose to graduate. So far as can be seen the new regulations for the conduct of primary examinations give satisfaction, whilst it is evident from the proportion of passes to candidatures that great care is exercised by the examiners not to make the distinctions to be gained too cheap. There were 341 candidates for the preliminary examination, of whom only 133 passed; 79 for the junior public, of whom only 48 passed, whilst 36 out of 79 candidates failed to satisfy the examiners in the Senior Public Examination. Such wholesale plucking points to some radical defect in the schools, and the lesson will doubtless have been taken to heart by schoolmasters. The appendix giving the result of the Higher Public Examination shows that twenty-seven students entered in forty-seven subjects and passed in thirty-eight, the failures being most marked in Greek, Latin, and pure mathematics. Laws and medicine are still the most popular faculties in what some have ventured to call the Adelaide "Pill and Brief Factory." The total number of undergraduates studying for the LL.B. degree was thirty, or one more than in 1887, and the world has been enriched by the enrolment of nine more graduates in laws. The exact value of this degree is not to be ascertained. The Melbourne University for instance does not recognise it, and there is a possibility of its possessors degenerating into the position occupied by "Honourables," whose title cannot travel with them out of South Australia. The University should remedy this state of things without delay by making the course cover Arts as well as Laws. There are many of our Adelaide LL.B.'s who are worthy of better things than to be known as the holders of degrees which are practically worthless. The Medical School has still a large complement of students, including forty who attend lectures on physiology, and who are probably intending candidates for one or other of the primary examinations. Besides these, there are twenty-eight students who are in vari-