

cesses to the result we wish to obtain. The soil may be too good and the vine may be allowed to bear too plentifully. It is not enough that we should plant vines anywhere and expect to grow suitable grapes for wine-making without any further care; nor is labour all that is necessary, for labour that is not guided by skill and knowledge soon becomes wearying because of the disappointment to which it leads, whereas when it is so guided it begets an absorbing interest and amply repays the toiler for the trouble he has taken.

Register October 6 1888.

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Kindly allow me to correct a misapprehension which appears to exist in the minds of the writers of the letters signed “Justice” and “Fiat Justitia,” and in doing so to acknowledge the courteous tone of their criticisms. First, as to the University examinations. The papers are distinguished by numbers only, and the examiner cannot have the slightest idea as to the personality of the writers of the answers submitted to him. Further, the teaching at the Advanced School is done by the Head Mistress and her staff. I am of course responsible to the Minister of Education for the general management, but as there are 500 other schools to look after as well, I leave your readers to conjecture how much I can know of the details of the work. I doubt whether I could even give the names of twenty girls in the school. Let me add that any one who is interested in the question can have every facility for making the fullest enquiry, and that I should not think of acting for the University if I believed that the slightest injustice could result to any one.

I am, Sir, &c.,
October 5. JOHN A. HARTLEY.

Register October 8th 1888.

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Mr. Hartley evidently has not perfectly understood the gist of the last paragraph in my former letter, as in it I distinctly intimated that he could not possibly have any “idea as to the personality of the writers of the papers submitted to him.” And although he has 500 schools to look after, as well as the Advanced School, and can therefore, as he says, know little or nothing of the details of the work in each, is not the method of education pursued in all likely to be hinged, and very properly so, with his own modes of thought? No one who knows Mr. Hartley would imagine that he would ever abuse his power. The question is, should such power be given to any examiner?

I am, Sir, &c.,
FIAT JUSTITIA.

Register October 9 1888.

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR,

Sir—Allow me to refer to a letter from Mr. Hartley which appears in your columns. I fully believe Mr. Hartley would not be unjust, and that he is competent as a linguist to set and correct papers in modern languages; but that does not render it a safe precedent or a right principle for our University to employ as an examiner a gentleman who is responsible for and has ever taken the deepest interest in a collegiate school of this city. Having many others to supervise would only be an additional reason for paying special attention to the leading school of the department. As a conscientious manager Mr. Hartley might not seek to know the names of the girls in it, but he would be exceedingly careful to ascertain how they were taught, and only to retain on the staff teachers who conformed to the methods he deemed the best. Those who are accustomed to look through answers cannot help knowing from the handwriting, general character, and arrangement those which come from pupils under the same system; names are not necessary to furnish the information. I have no personal feeling in the matter, and am aware that under the new regulations students may enter on the degree course without having passed either the preliminary, junior, or senior examinations.

I am, Sir, &c., S.

Register October 10 1888.

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR,

Sir—If "Fiat Justitia" will make enquiries into the real facts of the case he will find that he is frightened by the shadow of a shadow. But it is very far from my wish to act as examiner for the University if the feeling indicated by his letter is at all general. The teachers who are interested in these examinations have an organization, and if they endorse your correspondent's views I shall unhesitatingly withdraw from the position. It may be as well to explain that the alternative is to get an examiner from Melbourne or Sydney who would necessarily be less familiar with what may be fairly expected from young people in our schools.

I am, Sir, &c.,

JOHN A. HARTLEY.