

Advertiser October 15th 1887.

THE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL EXAMINATION.

As it is not generally understood what a comprehensive scheme our new public examination in music is, a representative of this journal waited on Professor Ives on Friday for the purpose of obtaining a few particulars regarding it which might prove of interest to our readers.

"In the first place," said Professor Ives, "these new examinations are specially designed to encourage the study of good music among all classes. Hitherto one important branch of music has been neglected, that is theory, and this is plainly shown by the fact that there are no entries at all so far for the senior division of the theoretical examination, although there are 27 candidates for the junior division."

"Is it only people who wish to possess musical degrees, or to enter upon a professional career, who are likely to be benefited by these examinations?"—"No; all persons, be they those who take to music as a pastime or those who may be studying it with a more serious intent, will be benefited by them. The young girl at school will be encouraged in her study of theory if she knows she can obtain a junior certificate. Others more advanced may try for a senior certificate in theory, and if successful in this a student may be encouraged to go in for the first year's degree course, and if again successful may decide to further continue his studies and ultimately become the possessor of a degree in music. You will thus see that the scheme of examination in the theory of music is a very comprehensive one. These examinations are exceedingly popular in England, and some of the examining bodies are having as many as 3,000 or 4,000 candidates in each year."

"Is matriculation necessary for these public examinations?"—"No; matriculation is not necessary till the final examination for a degree, when the subjects are much easier than are required for a medical course for instance. Before a degree can be taken a candidate must have passed the senior public examination, or must pass in (1) English, (2) in one other language, (3) in one other subject selected from division B of the senior public examination scheme."

"What is the difference between the public examinations in the theory of music and the practice of music?"—"The one is intended, as I have already explained, to encourage the study of the theory of music; the other will give equal encouragement to those whose tastes lead them to practice singing or playing on the pianoforte, organ, or any other instrument."

"What form does the examination take?" "Players or singers will be asked to perform a solo selected by themselves or their teachers, from lists of pieces which are published in the University calendar. They will also be asked to play a short piece at sight, to answer questions in elementary theory, and to play or sing scales. As I am selecting pieces entirely of a classical nature they should be a powerful factor in the study of the works of the great masters, and should be of much assistance to those teachers who are endeavoring not only to train the fingers of their pupils, but to develop their good musical tastes at the same time."

"Can only advanced pupils hope to obtain these certificates?"—"No; junior pupils—of course I don't mean beginners—may by playing, say a Clementi sonata, in good style obtain a first-class certificate, and so be encouraged to continue their studies, and in the following year try for a senior certificate, when a Beethoven sonata, a Bach fugue, or some such work will be required. The entries for the theory of music extend over the whole of the colony, and I am pleased to say examinations will be held at Adelaide, Crystal Brook, Moonta, Mount Barker, Wallaroo, and Yorketown."

“How will the examinations be conducted in those places?”—“Local secretaries have been appointed, to whom the examination papers will be sent in sealed packets and opened by the local secretary in the presence of the candidates. After the questions have been answered, they will be sealed up in the presence of the candidates and returned to the University for inspection. I might mention with regard to the examinations in the practice of music that this year at any rate they will be held only in Adelaide, unless some other local centre has a sufficient number of candidates to meet the expense of sending an examiner, as of course a practical examination necessitates the personal attendance of an examiner.”

The interview then terminated.

Register November 5th 1887.

PRESENTATION TO PROFESSOR KELLY.

Owing to ill-health the Professor of Classics at the Adelaide University (Professor Kelly) has found it necessary to obtain leave of absence, but the students at the University determined not to allow him to go to England without expressing their sympathy with him. On Friday morning a meeting was held in the University Library to present him with a beautifully illuminated address. Professor Bragge occupied the chair, and Mr. R. B. Andrews was deputed by the students to present the testimonial. He said that the value of the services rendered to the cause of education and the University by Professor Kelly was thoroughly well understood by all. The difficulties of a Professor's position were hardly recognised by many people, but the Professor seemed to have overcome all those difficulties, and had proved himself thoroughly suited to the position in the opinion of those who had had the benefit of attending his scholarly lectures. The students who had been under his instruction fully appreciated the advantages they had derived from attending his lectures. They sympathized with him in his affliction and deeply regretted that his health necessitated a holiday. The address was but a faint token of their appreciation, and would have been signed by many more students but for the fact that they were at home, well upholding the reputation of the University, and showing that they had benefited by being under Professor Kelly. (Cheers.) He then presented the address, as follows:—“David Frederick Kelly, Esq., M.A., Professor of Classics, Adelaide University.—Dear Sir—As present and past students of the Adelaide University we desire on the occasion of your departure from the colony for a time—an occasion we all deeply regret—to show by this token, however humble, the high esteem and great respect in which your qualities both as a Professor and as a man are held by us. Those of our number whose privilege it has been to attend your scholarly lectures will not soon forget the uniform courtesy and kindness you have at all times shown towards your students and the genuine interest taken by you in their welfare. Your attitude in the Councils of the University has always been that of an advocate of what you judged to be our best interests, and in various other ways have you proved yourself as a true friend. We beg your acceptance of this testimonial as a slight memento of many happy hours spent with you, and we join together in fervently hoping that, completely restored to health, you will soon take your place again in our midst.—We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully.” Then followed the signatures. Professor KELLY, who was received with cheers, and was considerably affected, said that he wished he felt himself more competent both physically and mentally to thank them for the kind expression of their regard. He had always done what he considered to be his duty since he came to the colony just a little short of nine years ago. During that time a good many students had passed through his hands, and he ventured to say that the position they had assumed since they had gone forth reflected credit on their Alma Mater, who had reason to be proud of many of them. No one would deny the improved tone of education in the colony and the advance in ideas. A good deal of that was undoubtedly due to the University, which must exercise a beneficial effect on the public education. Since he had been at the University there had been nothing like a quarrel or any annoyance between himself and the students. He had always determined to do what he thought was his duty, and judging by their action he might flatter himself that he had succeeded in pleasing them. He had come to regard himself as a thorough South Australian, and would have to return to the colony as early as possible. He thanked them most sincerely for the address, which he hoped was deserved. (Hear, hear).

Three hearty cheers for the Professor terminated the proceedings.