

to
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UNIVERSITY LECTURE.

On Thursday evening Professor Ives delivered the first of a series of lectures on music in the library of the University. The large attendance which assembled proved that much interest was felt in the subject treated—"Some English Songs and their Writers." In opening his remarks the Professor stated that he had been from time to time requested to lecture upon music, not only by professional musicians, but also by those who studied the art merely as a recreation. Without devoting himself to entirely technical matters, which would interest perhaps students only, and without confining his discourse to historical or biographical disquisitions, he had endeavoured to render his lectures such as would be appreciated by the student, the lover of music, and the general attendant of concerts. The programme already announced being of a decidedly diverse character should meet with the approval of all classes. By the appreciation shown the Professor hoped to be guided not only as to the choice of his subjects, but also as to the continuation of the series of lectures. His object would be to show that much of the music which is sometimes considered dull and uninteresting is well worthy of study and notice. The lecturer divided his remarks into a review, concisely and plainly given, of the writers of the later centuries. He mentioned that a recent musical publication of English songs showed that we possess one of the finest collections of national music that is to be found in the world, and he maintained that England has always been musical. The oldest piece of music in existence was written by an English monk. In the time of Elizabeth music was so much in vogue amongst the upper classes that visitors who could not sing at sight the parts presented by their hosts were but lightly esteemed. Many songs now frequently sung were written in this age by men whose names have become unknown. It might not be difficult, nor indeed require much musical knowledge, to write an ordinary melody, but the harmonization needed the skill of a true musician, and in the sixteenth and seventeenth century the musical compositions were remarkable for the care which had been devoted to the parts. Thus it was noticeable in many instances that neither the soprano, alto, tenor, or bass had any predominance, but all worked up to the composer's complete design. The eighteenth century was exceptionally rich in songs and musical compositions, especially in the latter end, when the success of the British Navy gave occasion for the writing of now popular sea songs. Drs. Boyce and Arne contributed several of these. About this period our National Anthem came into existence, though from whose pen it is hard to say. "Rule Britannia," another national song of this period, was said by Wagner to be highly characteristic of the peculiar features of English character. The nineteenth century writers were numerous. Amongst them the lecturer mentioned as worthy of special mention Sir Henry Bishop, and others of later days, whose works were worthy to rank with the compositions of the men of any other nation. Although perhaps the national love of freedom and the loyal instinct common to all Britons has been exemplified in such songs as "Rule Britannia" and "God save the Queen," still English writers have been remarkable for their ability to write in the more tender strains such as love songs require. The lecturer expressed the opinion that amongst English writers too much importance was devoted to the melody at the expense, or at least without equal regard, to the value of the accompaniment or harmonization. He also believed that should music form an important feature in our educational system we, in this colony, would be able to produce composers equal to those of much older countries. The lecture was illustrated by a wisely chosen selection of ballads and part-songs mentioned by the Professor. All must have been pleased by the excellent rendering of the music. The programme carried was out by Mesdames T. H. Jones, J. W. Ramsay, and Messrs. W. M. Green and G. V. Wood. So pleasing was the rendering of Mr. Wood's "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep" that the audience insisted upon a repetition of the last verse. Much of the success was due to the skilful accompaniments played by Mr. T. H. Jones. The next lecture of the series, "Classical Music; what is it?" will be given on August 22, in the presence of His Excellency Lord Kintore and the Countess. On this occasion the lecture will be illustrated by a specially engaged string quartette.

Our University.

THE CHANCELLOR AND THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.—On Thursday morning, August 8, the undergraduates of the University of Adelaide met the Chancellor (His Honor the Chief Justice) in the Library, Seated on the platform beside the Chancellor were the Vice-Chancellor (Archdeacon Farr), Bishop Kennion, Professors Boulger, Bragg, and Ives, Drs. Stirling and Verco, and the Registrar (Mr. J. W. Tyas). Addressing the students, the Chancellor deplored the necessity to censure them for alleged misconduct on three occasions. The misconduct consisted of a dance in the Library after the recent Tennis Club concert, smashing furniture, &c., in the undergraduates' room, which will not be used by them until they renew the furniture, and attending Mr. Beverley's benefit concert in the Albert Hall on the 26th ultimo, when they engaged in song singing. The Chancellor appealed to the gentlemanly feelings of the students, and in hoping that he would not have occasion to again complain, felt sure but that a minority of the students were guilty of the alleged disturbances. Before the Chancellor arrived at the University the students amused themselves in singing songs and behaving in a somewhat boisterous manner.

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AUSTRALIAN NATIVES' ASSOCIATION.

PROFESSOR BOULGER ON "EDUCATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA."

The President (Mr. W. H. Wadey, J.P.) occupied the chair at the meeting of the Adelaide No. 1 Branch of the Australian Natives' Association at Beach's Rooms on Monday evening, August 19. Seven new members were elected, and fifteen others were proposed. Mr. P. McM. Glynn, M.P., forwarded to the branch for distribution amongst the members copies of his pamphlet on "The Case against a State Bank," and the Taxation Reform League sent copies of "The Land for the People—An address delivered by Henry George." Mr. H. M. Knight, President of the Fitzroy Branch (Victoria), was welcomed as a visitor, and in acknowledging the compliments paid to him spoke of the rapid progress of the national movement in the colony which he represented. Forms of claim for the city and suburban electoral districts were brought down by the Electoral Committee and signed by unregistered voters amongst the members.

Professor BOULGER, M.A., then delivered a lecture upon "Education in South Australia." Preliminarily he spoke of the importance of the Association. It was, he considered, a growing body, ultimately destined to very largely affect the interests of this colony. Continuing, he said—"I have selected as my subject "Education in South Australia," firstly on account of the paramount importance of education in every civilized community; secondly, because I have been engaged in educational work for over twenty years; and, lastly, because a residence of six years in this colony has afforded me opportunities of becoming acquainted with your educational machinery in various departments. Some days ago a frank friend remarked that I had scarcely the knowledge of your educational systems to criticise them. Very probably he was quite right; but, however scrappy may be my acquaintance with education in general, and with South Australian education in particular, it may nevertheless be of use to set forth my views on the subject before a meeting like this, especially if such action conduce to the consideration and discussion of the subject by persons more thoroughly qualified than I am to express an opinion. At the outset let me briefly explain what I mean by education. An old Roman author describes the various processes connected with the care of the young as follows:—*'Educit obstetrix, educat nutrix, instituit paedagogus, docet magister;*' that is to say, the midwife brings out, the nurse brings up, the tutor trains, and the schoolmaster teaches, a child. Education, therefore, was primarily a term much more restricted than it is at present, when its meaning varies with the prejudices of each educational expert. Roughly speaking, it may, I think, be defined as the development of those faculties in a man which are most conducive to his own happiness and to