such a change as is now in course of completion is certainly one which ought to be submitted to the criticism of public opinion. It is practically asking the founder of a chair to submit to a diversification of his gift to another purpose, if such additions are made to its duties as to crowd out the subjects which he sacrificed so much property to have thoroughly taught. Sir Thomas Elder may next expect to see pressure brought to bear upon him to incorporate with the chair he has endowed other things tending to throw into the background the subjects in which he was especially interested. The precedent attempted in this instance seems to be one of doubtful wisdom; and it is desirable that the whole subject should be submitted to public criticism.

**REGISTER, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1881.**

**UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS.** The Hughes Professorship of English Literature, rendered vacant by the death of the late Professor Davidson, has been temporarily filled by the appointment, for the year 1883 only, of the Rev. W. R. Fletcher, M.A., who has been discharging the duties of the office during the past few weeks. The salary has been reduced to £500 per annum, an amount which reaches the lowest margin that ought to be recognised in fixing the stipend of a Professor; and it is to be feared that after the next year, when it becomes necessary to appoint a gentleman whose whole time will be devoted to the work, some difficulty may be experienced in finding one of adequate attainments at that salary. Still, in view of the present position of affairs, the University Council are perhaps wiser in erring on the side of economy than in going to the other extreme. There are many desirable objects to which the limited funds at the disposal of the Council may be applied. One of these is the preparation for the ultimate establishment of a School of Medicine. The first step in this direction has been taken in the appointment of F.C. Stirling as Lecturer in Human Physiology. A committee has been asked to report at next meeting on the best method of arranging the new course of study which is thus to be added to the University curriculum. By imparting instruction in human physiology the University will meet the demand, existing in the convict institutions, for knowledge, especially among young men destined to enter the profession. It is to be hoped that before long steps will be taken to secure the recognition by other Universities and by the various diploma-granting bodies of all those courses of instruction given in our University, which can fairly be considered as forming part of a medical education. Several of the other subjects might advantageously be remodelled with that view, and the result would be that medical students might obtain half their
education in Adelaide University, and
complete the course for a degree or a
diploma by an absence of only a year or
two from the colony, instead of the long-
period of exile which the training of a
medical man at present involves. There
are, no doubt, difficulties in the way of
effecting this arrangement, but they would
probably be found not insuperable.
Comparatively few young men studying med-
icine would enter for a year’s course of
human physiology at our University
unless they knew that their work would
bring them nearer the goal of their ambition,
namely, a medical degree or a diploma
entitling them to practice. The new
subject is set down in the new regulations
as one of those prescribed for students in the
third year of the Bachelor of Science
course. But if this be the only use to
which the lectures are to be applied it is to be feared that for several years to
come Dr. Stirling will have but few pupils.

REGISTER, THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 3, 1891.

THE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

The reorganizing of the examinations
held in connection with the Adelaide
University is an event of no little im-
portance in the development of that insti-
tution. All tests which are appli-
cated for determining the quality of the work
which is being done, both inside the
University and by those outside of its
immediate control, must affect to a great
extent the direction of the channels
into which the intellectual energies of
the rising generation will be directed.
The University is valuable to the com-
community as an active teaching agency; but
it is of still more importance as a tribunal
for deciding on the nature of the studies
to be pursued, and for awarding dis-
tinctions to those who have earned them.

As regards the matriculation and
primary examinations, and the com-
parative advantages of keeping an entirely separate or of merging them
into one, we pointed out a few weeks
ago that in Sydney the former course is adopted, while Melbourne
University, on the other hand, has
chosen the plan of using the same exam-
inations to serve the objects of both.
The Council of Adelaide University in the
new regulations which they have just
adopted have followed a middle course.
The two examinations have been rendered
identical, so far as regards the six
elementary and compulsory subjects of an
ordinary school course, and the same
papers will be set before the candidates for
both. But for the matriculation course...