DR. SMITH AND THE HON. D. MURRAY.

TO THE EDITOR.
Sir,—I have no knowledge whatever of Dr. Smith, and have no wish to make his acquaintance. His remarks in the senate regarding the gentlemen appointed to choose a professor of English literature may be very funny, but they are equally silly. In a doctor of laws, may I ask, better qualified to judge any other man by his training, or otherwise to choose a professor of English literature; and what is the special qualification required to make such a choice? Is it customary to put a professor on his trial before such a committee, and to treat his credentials simply examined with mere and judgment? If the latter, I submit that the gentlemen chosen and selected as committee do not act as the learned Dr. Smith. No honest occupation is contemptible, and it is one of Dr. Smith's littlelences that he thought he would make a hit by referring to two of the committee as tradesmen. Does Dr. Smith think there are lower grades than lawyers, that they are ignorant and unlettered simply because they happen to be business men with, I dare say, a shade more common sense than himself? I am, &c.

W. M. MURRAY.
Gardner-place, July 12, 1888.

THE UNIVERSITY.

TO THE EDITOR.
Sir,—In a letter in to-day's issue of Dr. Smith writes that "the gentlemen" and council "seem strangely anxious to retain their places," "Will you allow an "outgoing" member to continue to run a course of twelve months had to make secret that on the expiration of my term, I am, &c.

My reasons for resigning are personal, and are in no way con

R. T. WHITFIELD.
July 12, 1888.

THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL.

TO THE EDITOR.
Sir,—In Dr. Smith's letter, which appears in your issue of to-day, the following passage occurs:--"The outgoing members seem strangely anxious to retain their places; and thought the election was made till November, a canvass has already begun for putting the same men in again." As one of the out

G. M. HARTLEY.
July 12, 1888.

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND MR. ANDERSON.

TO THE EDITOR.
Sir,—As a member of the senate of the Adelaide University, I am proud to be in and appreciate, I may perhaps be permitted to say, Andrew Anderson's letter in today's issue of your paper is beneath the mark, and without going further on that I would refer to Dr. Smith's letter, which rightly answers Mr. Anderson. On the lines quoted from Borneo the sentiment no doubt is very beautiful—

J. G. EBERT SABINE.
July 12, 1888.
THE UNIVERSITY.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Today I have read a letter published in yesterday's Advertiser, in which Dr. Smith, referring to the University Council, wrote:—

"The outgoing members seem strangely anxious to retain their places, and though the elections are not till November a canvass has already begun for putting the same men again." As I am one of the outgoing members allow me to say that my anxiety to retain my seat has not induced me to canvass for a single vote, or to abandon my hostility to the theory that the council is to act as the agent and obey the behests of the senate. To the opinions and wishes of the senate I will give the earnest consideration due to electors by their representative, but delegate I decline to be.—I am, &c.,

July 13, 1888,

WILLIAM BARLOW.

"UNWARRANTABLE DISDAIN."

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Although Mr. Egbert Sabine is a "member of the senate of our Adelaide University" I am certain that I could smash up and pulverise any quantity of men such as he one after the other in quick succession, but I will spare gently with him. He says my letter was beside the mark. He might as well have said that your leader was beside the mark. The subject of my letter was Dr. Smith's unwarrantable disdain for business men. Mr. Sabine's critical remarks on Burns are not just. Burns, although a ploughman, could hold his own in argument with the best scholars of his age. He loved learning, but loved common sense more, and he recognised the fact that these two are not always allied. Hence his satire on university blockheads. Mr. Sabine says that he resents my doctrine. I do not know to what doctrine of mine he refers. I respect learning as much as he does. I do not like the expression "horrid mediocrity." It is bad taste. We are always looking for perfection in particular men; and descendants, in a century from this will regard us as comparatively ignorant.—I am, &c.,

ANDREW ANDERSON.

Advertiser July 17 1888.

MR. SABINE REPLIES AND THE CORRESPONDENCE CLOSES.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—I did not know Mr. Andrew Anderson suffered from cacochythes scribendi, or perhaps would not have further irritated the disease; but I really cannot allow his remarks to pass unnoticed. He states that before anyone is in a position to express an opinion such as one should have a knowledge of the particular facts. Apparently Mr. Anderson has not, With due deference dear old Burns may be all very well in his way, but surely Mr. Anderson is aware that whose mind was not always evenly balanced, and as Mr. Anderson would not have us all kept ignorant all the days of our life, I say to him goodbye.—I am, &c.,

EGBERT SABINE.