

"The Register" 16th Dec. 1897.

tution, possesses one feature in common with Professor Mahaffy's recent article in the *Nineteenth Century*. It embodies the thoughts of a liberal mind, steeped in classical lore, upon the general outlook for advanced education, and it naturally presents some of the same defects. The principal of these is that it assumes the existence of a broad distinction between culture as such and the acquisition of general and professional knowledge. If well and truly followed up, almost any subject of study may become the means of culture to the mind which undertakes it; and the sciences are now so intimately correlated that in most branches of knowledge even the close specialist must let his reflections roam over very wide fields. It is, in fact, from the same sources that literature culls its choicest flowers of poetry and prose. Thus, although the severe separation of culture from professional study may be convenient for purposes of classification, it would be a mistake to infer from it that any hard-and-fast line can logically be drawn between those collegiate studies which make for pure culture and those which relate to science or to professional learning. Ignatius Loyola declared that "he who does well one work at a time does more than all;" and in these days of smatterings the maxim is becoming increasingly impressive. The main difficulty in a young University such as that of Adelaide is to provide adequate teaching in the many different branches of knowledge in which students may require or desire to specialize. As Professor Bensly pointed out, there is no Chair of History, nor is there any devoted to the teaching of modern languages. The former is a peculiarly unfortunate omission in a country where the learning of the lessons of the past is so much needed. Bacon has declared that "histories make men wise," while "logic and rhetoric make them able to contend." If this be true it would be safe to say that South Australian legislators are better as rhetoricians than as sages.

Professor Mahaffy draws special attention to the great advances made in recent years by Continental nations, and particularly by France, in directing the agricultural education of the people. Yet he is obliged to confess that even French lads are crushing by thousands into the professional Colleges, while only a few hundreds seek the Agricultural Schools and Colleges. The same tendency is observable in Australia. There is a widespread but erroneous idea that if a boy is ever to become a gentleman he must never handle a spade, excepting for amusement. It is satisfactory to find that in the recently established Agricultural School on North-terrace some success is

being attained in attacking this fundamental error. Like the learned professions, the skilled industries concerned in the making of articles which South Australia can never hope to export are very apt to become overcrowded; and this is the main reason why we have so persistently urged caution regarding the artisan classes at the School of Mines. Time after time *The Register* has drawn attention to the significant fact that many sought the technical classrooms at that institution, and comparatively few resorted to the Agricultural College. It has also frequently been urged that city boys with tastes for rural industries should be taught in Adelaide in an institution in some way affiliated to the College. While country lads were constantly gravitating towards the city there

was no means of encouraging a compensating movement from the city towards the rural districts. The attendance at the new Agricultural School is gradually increasing, and this is satisfactory. The practical lessons which are taught will doubtless enable many youths to follow their natural bent, and acquire enough of knowledge and manual skill to render their services valuable in rural work. It seems questionable, however, whether the Minister of Education and Agriculture is justified in promising that the new school in the Old Exhibition Building is to be only one of many similar institutions which are to be started. Country boys, as a rule, do not require to be taught how to use the spade. They chiefly need assistance in the direction of their studies after leaving school, and it would be a mistake to provide for them exactly the same kind of curriculum as that in metropolitan schools. Then, again, the question of expense must be seriously considered. Dr. Cockburn's numerous fads are already costing the taxpayers a lot of money. It is quite difficult enough to provide ordinary State schools for every district in which they are needed, and if the duplication of educational institutions in rural localities should once be begun there is no telling where it will end.

The Advertiser 17 Dec 97.

By advertisement elsewhere those contemplating joining the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, or desiring to attend the meeting at Sydney on January 6, are invited to apply to Mr. Frederick Wright, the hon. local treasurer, Exchange Chambers, Pirie-street, who will afford them every facility in his power. Professor Rennie leaves for Sydney to-morrow to confer with and assist Professor Liversidge in the arrangements.

SHIPPING.

SEMAPHORE. — Thursday, December 16—High water, 6.45 a.m.; low water, 1.15 p.m.

ARRIVED.—DECEMBER 15.

CERES, steamer, 58 tons, J. Germein, master, from Port Vincent.

PERCY, ketch, 35 tons, G. McKay, master, from Port Wakefield.

MALCOLM, ketch, 21 tons, W. J. Spells, master, from Port Wakefield.

LINDUS, steamer, 1,080 tons, J. W. Roberts, master, from Newcastle December 9. D. and J. Fowler, City and Port, agents.

WENDOUREE, steamer, 1,066 tons, F. Sherriff, master, from Port Kembla December 11. D. and J. Fowler, City and Port, agents.

DAWN, steamer, 328 tons, W. B. Blown, master, from Edithburg.

ENDEAVOUR, ketch, 47 tons, A. Tainsh, master, from Kangaroo Island.

CLEARED OUT.—DECEMBER 15.

KADINA, steamer, 1,707 tons, G. W. Leslie, master, for Sydney, via Port Pirie.

AUSTRALIA, steamer, 3,590 tons, J. Reeves, master, for London, via ports. Passengers:—For Albany—Mesdames Robertson, A. W. Brown, E. Parry, infant, and 2 sons, M. Mitchell, D. R. Jemeson, Lean, M. A. Sandlecock, J. R. Joey and infant, and M. Wiedenbach, Misses G. Gerloff, Torr, Rowe, Greenshields, and Lean, and Messrs. Piesse, J. Martin, T. Neate, H. Wilkinson, V. R. Osborne, Robertson, Cornelius, Mason, D. Sells, F. Webb, C. T. Hyde, H. A. Webb, J. Leggoe, Rev. G. E. Rowe, Masters. A. Juett, W. and B. Rowe, Greenshiells, W. Gutteridge, Letchlie, Peart, V. Saunders, Green, Kenyon, and Conelly, and Misses Sercy, Durrach, and Dauggan. For Bombay—Mr. E. Geach. For Brindisi—Messrs. James Powell and A. J. Battle. For Marseilles—Hon. C. E. Pilcher, Q.C., and Mr. E. W. Wridgeway. For London—Misses M. G. and S. McMinn, Professor and Mrs. Bragg, and Messrs. R. Beatty, W. G. Hawkes, and A. Green, in the saloon; and original passengers en route.

PROFESSOR BRAGG.—The Executive Council have issued a commission appointing Professor W. H. Bragg an Honorary Commissioner to enquire into and report upon matters relating to public education outside of South Australia. The Professor left Adelaide on Wednesday for Europe on twelve months' leave of absence from the University.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMEMORATION. — The oppressive heat did not seem to interfere very much with the attendance at the Commemoration of the University of Adelaide on Wednesday afternoon. The library and the adjacent room were all too small for the graduates, students, and friends of the University who assembled. The annual demonstration at the chief seat of learning is very popular, and the demand for admission is so great that the authorities have to issue tickets to those who are not directly connected with the institution. The hall was thronged before the procession of the members of the Senate and Council wearing their academic costumes filed in, accompanied by His Excellency the Governor. The Governor and the Premier sat together in the front seats. Eight gentlemen and one lady graduates of the University were admitted to degrees, and eleven graduates of other Universities were admitted *ad eundem gradum*. Four South Australian graduates in medicine at the Melbourne University, who were formerly students at Adelaide, were among the latter. Miss Florence Way Campbell received the degree of Mus. Bac. The Chancellor, the Right Hon. S. J. Way, gave an address on matters relating to the University, and Professor Bensly delivered the annual oration, taking as his subject "True aims of a University and some needs of our own."

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