

the tasks I have set them have been my consolation during these days of cloud. I feel your sympathy and goodwill in the nice tokens you have given me. Most of you are at a time of life when all seems bright and hopeful—at a time when you have left to you your belief in the goodness of human nature and faith in those by whom you are surrounded. May those beliefs and that faith long remain with you. May the time come only in your remote years, if it must come at all, when your confidence in your fellow man shall become shaken. At a time like this when character is being formed it is important that you should set before yourselves models from which you may copy. Men of genuine excellence in every station of life—men of industry, of integrity, of high principle, of sterling honesty of purpose—command the spontaneous homage of mankind. It is natural to believe in such men, to have confidence in them, and to imitate them. All that is good in the world is upheld by them, and without their presence in it the world would not be worth living in. Great men are always exceptional men; and greatness itself is but comparative. Indeed, the range of most men in life is so limited that very few have the opportunity of being great. But each man can act his part honestly and honourably, and to the best of his ability. He can use his gifts and not abuse them. He can strive to make the best of life. He can be true, just, honest, and faithful, even in small things. In a word, he can do his duty in that sphere in which Providence has placed him. Commonplace though it may appear, this doing of one's duty embodies the highest ideal of life and character. At the same time, while duty, for the most part, applies to the conduct of affairs in common life by the average of common men, it is also a sustaining power to men of the very highest standard of character. They may not have either money, or property, or learning, or power; and yet they may be strong in heart and rich in spirit—honest, truthful, dutiful. And whoever strives to do his duty faithfully is fulfilling the purpose for which he was created, and building up in himself the principles of a manly character.

How happy is he born and taught,
That serveth not another's will;
Whose armour is his honest thought,
And simple truth his utmost skill.

It is customary and right that men holding high office in public institutions should conduct themselves with dignity, but you will do well to copy that which is real dignity and avoid imitating that which is only counterfeit. (Hear, hear.) True dignity can only come from a mind that is sincere, true, and lofty in its ideals, promptings, and instincts. Specious platitudes, honeyed flatterings, nauseating in their fulsome, are but evidence of minds that are either mean and paltry or else dangerous in their purposes. Students of zoology will remember that there is a member of the reptile order which obtains possession of its prey by sending forth sweet sounds from its mouth, and by fascinating them with its eyes, and when it has got them spellbound it slavers them well over in order that they may be swallowed more comfortably. Beware of the man from whose mouth sweetened saliva is always flowing. (Hear, hear, and loud laughter.) I have completed my course at the university after many years of faithful service, and I have good ground for disappointment at this moment when this conservatorium having been lifted up from nothingness and this beautiful edifice raised, a system for giving a complete musical education established, and everything being in good order, I have to step aside that some one may take advantage of my work. It would be a painful reflection under ordinary circumstances, but I can tell you frankly that my pain is not altogether unmixed, because I have consolations which come from a clear conscience, which tells me that in this important critical situation I have done my part as a man should do. (Cheers.) Though I have not received the good reward that righteous action merits my conscience is left with me as a faithful and cheering companion.

The meeting concluded with three cheers for Professor Ives, and the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

THE HARMONY PAPER.

Much sympathy has been expressed for the six third-year students for the Mus. Bac. course of the Adelaide University, who this year have had to face not only an unusually stiff examination all round, but an almost impossible paper in harmony and composition. The test for the third-year students is divided into four branches—Harmony and composition; counterpoint, canon, and fugue; instrumentation and form; and playing from a figured bass and from vocal and orchestral scores. For some years after the establishment of the chair of music Professor Ives acted as the sole examiner; but on the last three or four occasions Mr. W. H. Wale, Mus. Bac., Oxon., F.R.C.O., of Sydney, has assisted both in the setting of the papers and the adjudication of the third-year students, and a marked increase in the difficulty of the tests has resulted under the new arrangement. It, however, was never so noticeable on any former occasion as this year, when the harmony and composition paper presented a task which it was almost impossible to accomplish in the three hours allowed; indeed, one question, No. 4, about which so much controversy has arisen, might have fittingly found a place in the examination for the higher degree of doctor of music. This required the candidates on a fragment of melody to write the first movement of a sonata for clarinet and strings. Though the students were allowed to abbreviate certain portions of the movement, it would require a musician of infinitely greater experience than the average third-year student to complete such a task under four or five hours. In addition to this, the paper of seven questions contained a melody to be harmonized in five parts, showing imitation, and a difficult unfigured bass, also to be harmonized, that would take a clever student best part of two hours to work satisfactorily. Musical folk, however, who have had any experience in theory and composition will undoubtedly agree with the opinion of Professors Ives and Peterson that "question four was an absurd one, and that the whole paper was most unreasonable." In the other three departments of the examination the students appear to have done well, which suggests the idea that they were as well up in their work as most of their predecessors.

RETIREMENT OF MR. TREHARNE.

Mr. Bryceson Treharne, one of the two principal teachers of the pianoforte at the Elder Conservatorium—the other being Mr. G. Reimann—has announced his intention of retiring from that institution at the expiration of his term. He arrived in Adelaide early in 1899. During his residence here he has given a number of pianoforte recitals, at which much interesting and important music has been performed, and he has also been instrumental in the production of a large amount of chamber music. Mr. Treharne was engaged by the council of the Adelaide University for a term of three years at a salary of £500 per annum, and if he carries out his expressed intention his connection with the Elder Conservatorium will cease at the end of next year.

Reg. 19th Dec. 01.

THE 'VARSITY STUDENTS' PROGRAMME.

A MOCK COMMEMORATION.

The university students have hosts of friends and admirers, and the fact that they advertised their programme in connection with the commemoration would begin at 1.45 p.m. resulted in ticket-holders having an early luncheon and hastening to the Elder Hall. The doors were, however, locked, and it was impossible to gain admission until after 2 o'clock. In the meantime several of the students had secured a long ladder and obtained an entrance through one of the windows. The hall was crowded soon after the doors had been thrown open. A motley procession, which caused much amusement, then began, after the manner of the procession of the members of the council and senate. The academic costumes proper to their respective degrees and offices were too funny for words. The gravediggers in dirty blue overalls, carrying spades, and with lighted candles on the brims of their tin hats, looked desperate characters. The lady medicos were impersonated by male students; also the nurses, and the latter were really well made up. The three policemen were characteristic sketches. They arrived with the chancellor some time after the proceedings had started, and the gentlemen in blue knocked their charge about in a most unmerciful manner. A little toy black dog on the end of a piece of rope, which would have held an ocean liner, was placed on the table before the chancellor.

The students issued a special programme, which ran:—"Invitation.—The students have the honour to request the pleasure of the company of all fit and proper persons holding offices at this university, or their friends, on this occasion, when the hatchet of ill-feeling will be buried and goodwill extended to all. (Tickets of admission will be demanded only from university officials.) Explanation.—The chancellor, vice-chancellor, members of the council and senate, et ceteri hujus ceterati omnia genera have most graciously consented to allow the students the privilege of entering the Elder Hall and amusing themselves, and any one who may like to attend, provided they do not interfere with the official arrangements, which commence at 3 o'clock. Caution.—All friends are respectfully reminded that to avoid unnecessary delay the profoundest silence should be observed up till 3 o'clock, after this they are at liberty to amuse themselves as they like. Every lady who removes her hat during the performance shows a graceful head of hair to those occupying seats behind her."

The piece enacted was "A Tale of Two Ways" (a low comedy in four acts). Premeditated, Preambulatory, Prefatory, Peroration.—This most exciting, original, entertaining, amusing, and mirth-provoking production of many and numerous embryonic playwrights, the minority of whom have already attained unparalleled notoriety in their untiring, albeit fatiguing, efforts to reach the pointed pinnacle of fortune's fickle fame, and are even now sustained in those mighty many meanderings in realms of retributive ridicule, and intend to endeavour to lose themselves in the leviathan labyrinth and wandering ways of effervescent effusions and evanescent ebullitions, sparkling with satirical scores, will be presented for absolutely only one consecutive performance, and of this there is no possible shadow of doubt whatever that it like will never be seen before. All rites or reproductions and translation have in alcoholic spirits preserved been."

The dramatic personae was as follows:—Chancellor, The All Mighty Atom; Vice-Chancellor, Blinky Bill; Registrar, C. R. Awler, Esq.; The Hon. G.B., Andrew Carnegie; Dean of Medicine, Dr. Borrowin; Dean of Arts, Pitt (the youngster); Dean of Science, Not Too Bad a Chappy; Dean of Music, The Whitest Man on Earth; Dean of Law, Professor Fishodour—Sur Deane—But a Fish; Police, Sgt. Buzzfuzz, Cpl. O'Sullivan; Big Ben, Professor Pull Up Your Socks; doctor, Mareau (for want of a better name); gravediggers, Sila Jim, Dusty Rhodes; corpse, Ghost (not Hamlet's); nurse, Florence Nightingale; lady medicos, senate, council, and other shady characters by the students.

Synopsis of Proceedings.—Act 1. The gathering of the clans, with opening chorus; news of arrest of chief of clan (chorus, expressive of regret); advent of chief under escort (policeman's song); his release on bail; there's only room for one song. Act 2. Address of welcome; presentation of successful candidates by the deans of the various faculties (ladies only from medical school); song, "Lay of schools." Act 3. Procession of gravediggers, &c., accompanied by the "Dead March"; exhumation of medical school; resuscitation according to novelist pneumatic notions. Finale—Chief's rear-rested; attempted escape and recapture. Act 4. Grand Finale.—The (very) ordinary proceedings. Home for the weak-minded, December 18, 1901.

The "Dog Latin" address, which was delivered in an enthusiastic manner, was punctuated with many a laugh. The chief item, however, was the resuscitation of the medical school. A live corpse was carried along the passage-way on a stretcher headed by gravediggers and to the accompaniment of the "Dead March." The corpse was laid on the table, and there was loud weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth. Then the sawbones got to work in earnest while another scientist plied with great energy an immense bicycle pump attached to the side of the victim. With a start the corpse rose up and was all alive. Then there were shouts of jubilation and frantic trumpeting on penny whistles and foghorns. Altogether the students had a good bit of fun, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed it. When the real proceedings began the students, divested of all their strange costumes, wigs, and hirsute appendages, occupied seats at the rear of the platform. They spent the afternoon in throwing paper pellets, bursting balloons, which went off with a loud crack, and in singing many of their old familiar songs. One of the paper bullets hit the chancellor, while several ladies also found themselves accidental targets. The ladies regarded the incident with perfect good humour.

The Advertiser

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1901.

STUDIES AND REWARDS.

With one accord the heads of all scholastic and educational institutions are now winding up their affairs with a view to the most prolonged holiday of the year. In Australia, as in England, it has been found convenient to take that holiday at midsummer, and the fall of the seasons in this hemisphere makes the end of the year's work coincide with the end of the year, instead of coming half-way through it. Both by day and by night, during this week, the well-established routine is being gone through at schools both great and small; the gathering of students, the bringing together of parents and friends whose attitude nicely blends the enthusiastic and the critical, a formal report from those in authority, an address from someone whose voice is not so familiar as to have lost the force of novelty, and the distribution of rewards, which are usually prized more for the success they betoken than for their intrinsic value. On the latter point, books, from being less perishable than most other personal property, have come to be recognised as the invariable reward of merit in learning. They hand on the fame of the institution which awards them; and they can, with reasonable care, be produced a generation later on to self-assertive juniors as evidence that a parent, too, was of some account in his day—or hers. Yet there is noticeable in England a growing tendency to allow successful pupils to select their own reward, within a given limit of value, and the result is said to be an almost unanimous vote in favor of hand-cameras; these do indeed combine science and art with practical utility in a fashion that might have appealed to Miss Edgeworth, or the instructor of the Masters Sandford and Merton, but they are by no means likely to remain in evidence until the next generation.

Lord Tennyson, who has gained an enviable repute for never speaking unless he has something to say, is an ideal orator for occasions such as those alluded to. He has the gift of enchaining the attention of young people with precept and anecdote, which strike the happy medium between weight that may become dullness, and lightness that might degenerate into triviality. His Excellency touched recently upon the dual character of school life. First there is the obvious necessity for hard study, to lead up to the everlasting examination. By this last nearly everything is judged nowadays, and personal efficiency is quite naturally estimated by results attained; this in spite of numerous instances that could be adduced, in which the dunce of school life has proved an excellent man of business and a worthy citizen. Then, as all who work well expect to pass such examinations as they enter for, there is great outcry when the standard of success is raised; and indeed it would seem from certain recent papers set that examiners occasionally have a difficulty in remembering what is a fair level of capacity for a boy or girl of thirteen or fifteen years. There remains, as Lord Tennyson has said, the advantage to be gained from the establishment of a pride in the school, a desire to place it in the front, not only in games and in examinations, but in moral influence and ideals of conduct. The school magazines, now so generally published, the old boys' associations—not so universally supported as they might be—all these tend to establish and support the valuable feeling of a common pride, an enduring interest; but it can never be found to the full where, as generally in Australia, school is not at all a home, but merely a daily resort for work and play.

The University, at its annual commemoration yesterday, found itself faced by the usual problem of making fit allowance for the outbreak of undergraduate humor. The songs that formerly interrupted the proceedings at intervals have of late been made up into a definite programme, and the musical honoring of each candidate for a degree has preceded the conferring of it. It was certainly more dignified to recognise the undergraduate element in this way than to attempt to ignore it. Last year, for example, when the programme was not submitted to the