

Register - July 24th 1907.

"Advertiser"

July 20, 07.

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

The second orchestral concert of the session will be given by the Conservatorium orchestra on July 29. The programme will include Grieg's Peer-Gynt suite, No. 1; Beethoven's "Leonora" overture, No. 3; "Marche hongroise" from Berlioz's "Faust;" Weber's "Concert-stuck, op. 79," for piano and orchestra; and vocal numbers. The orchestra will be under the conductorship of Herr H. Heinicke. Tickets may be obtained at the University office.

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The examinations to be conducted jointly by the Universities of Melbourne and Adelaide will be held in September. Intending candidates are reminded that August 8 is the last day of entry. The examiners will be Professor Peterson and Mr. W. A. Laver, of Melbourne. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

Register July 23rd 07.

LEADERS OF THE PURITAN AGE.

JOHN MILTON.

Professor Henderson, M.A., of the Adelaide University, delivered his second lecture on the leaders of the Puritan Age before a large audience at the Jazoe Street Hall, Semaphore, on Monday evening. His subject was John Milton, the idealist, whose wonderful personality, love of liberty, and robust individuality were portrayed in graphic language and with telling force. The political and religious conditions in England prior to Milton's renouncement of the Episcopalians were clearly described, and the lecturer dealt rather with the historical side of Milton's life than his literary genius. While admitting an intense admiration for Milton and his work, Professor Henderson criticised him in some respects as lacking in corporate spirit. Though he wrote defences of the English people, he was really an intellectual aristocrat, and had no real sympathy with the people. Professor Henderson's final lecture on Cromwell will be delivered next Monday evening.

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SYDNEY, July 23. AUSTRALIAN MUSICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Mr. Laver (Vice-Director of the University Conservatorium of Music, Melbourne) is negotiating with the Sydney University authorities in connection with a proposal for the establishment of a chair, or conservatorium, of music here. He suggests that Sydney and Brisbane should amalgamate with Melbourne for the purpose of conducting examinations. There would then be an Australasian Board for examinations, and New Zealand might also be expected to join in the scheme.

CLASSIC ROME.

LECTURE BY PROFESSOR NAYLOR.

The Prince of Wales Theatre, Adelaide University, was crowded on Tuesday night to hear Professor Darnley Naylor begin his extension lectures. His title was "Life in classic times in Rome and Greece." The speaker had no difficulty in winning and retaining the interest of the audience by his masterly style and flashes of cultured wit. The treatment in places was light, but the Professor was no doubt true to the atmosphere of the subject. The lecturer opened by explaining that although he had gilded the pill of knowledge he was giving his audience genuine medicine. As Rudyard Kipling had said:—

Truth is a naked lady, and it behoves a gentleman to give her a print petticoat.

—A Sovereign for a Penny.—

"So to my 'print petticoat,' for the pattern of which I apologize to those sedate scholars, those 'living dead men,' who would have the ancients talk and act with the dreary ponderousness of a Teuton commentator. If, on the other hand, any be present who are neither scholars nor sedate I would ask them to remember that though my conversations are fictitious, my facts are facts, and all I saw and all I heard might well have happened; indeed, probably did happen, in the year of our Lord 100." Then, in the words of Pliny,

Here's a story worth a sovereign; search your pockets for a penny.

—In Imperial Rome.—

The lecturer gave a delightful word picture of a day in Imperial Rome, with its massive temples, shady porticoes, and marble baths—a picture painted by a literary artist of life in classic times, the bustling crowd, the narrow streets, "small houses propped with slender shoring," the warm sun well up in a clear blue sky. "I stood before the vestibule of a house, neither pretentious nor small. Everything seemed real and true, and yet I knew I was dreaming. But as in dreams the incongruity of my costume—our masterpiece of ugliness—in no way struck me. I held in my hand a sealed paper containing an introduction to Marcus Valerius Martialis, and this was his house before which I was standing. Martial had sold his country house, and was intending to return to Bilbilis, his native town in Spain, there to spend his last years in honourable retirement." Martial's study was described, but the whole effect was not particularly pleasing. It had the suggestion of a paperhanger's shop, and there were round high boxes in which the ladies of to-day kept their bonnets. Then followed the interview with Martial, who was waiting in his tunic for ease and coolness. Something is quoted from Ramsay's "Antiquities":—"By Jove," cried the poet, "you're the very person I want. Will you have a look at a few little things of mine, tell me what you think of them, and explain the points to those English commentators. It is positively painful to have one's best epigrams ruined in the lecture rooms. If you'd only bring them a little bit up to date, with names people can understand, I'm sure there's money in it. Not that I ever made much out of them. Old Tryphon, my bookseller, gets a profit, the vagabond, selling a book at 4½d. So you see, I'm fairly popular." A book for 4½d.! It is explained that 4/6 was obtained in Britain and the colonies, but the statement was hidden that where 10,000 gave 4½d. in Rome one gave 4/6 in Adelaide! Martial proceeds to describe literary life in Rome. Unknown authors secured an audience by making morning calls regularly, giving recitals of works.

—Some Epigrams.—

Selections from Martial's epigrams were given by the lecturer. Here was a valentine concerning Phoebus, who was a bit bow-legged:—

Your legs, so like the moon at crescent,
A bathing tub will scarce look neat in;
So, Sir, I send you for a present,
A drinking horn to wash your feet in.

Or another:—

'Tis Mary, Edwin calls his dear,
Mary his dear? Pray, Sir, which one?
The one-eyed Mary? Faith, 'tis clear
She has but one eye; he has none.

—The "Tom Hood" of Roman Literature.—

The poet hastens to point out that "this is not the only sort of thing I can write." He had a little slave girl. She was only six when she died, "poor little mite," and he sent her back to her parents before the end. Some one had been frightening her with bogies and devils in the other place. The lecturer-dreamer read from the manuscript which Martial handed to him, "and as the verses shaped themselves in our awkward language I realized how truly that critic wrote who called Martial the 'Tom Hood of Roman literature.'—Here, then, was a verse about the little mite of a slave:—

Soft be the turf that shrouds her bed
For delicate and soft was she,
And, Earth, lie lightly on her head,
For light the steps she laid on thee.

—Roman Customs.—

An entertaining account was given of Martial's life. How he arose at half-past 5, had a snack of bread and wine, paid morning calls, dined at 3 o'clock, then a siesta and writing. The poet had a nice little room for exercise with the punchball, because the public sports of quoits, wrestling, boxing, and the like were too much for him. Martial invites "our new arrival from Britain" in the person of the lecturer to a bath, which costs a quarter of a farthing, and the building is found to be besieged by crowds of dirty ruffians. Pliny, jun., is met, and he explains that a few centuries ago their forefathers washed themselves completely only on market days—that was once a week. "In our generation I have known people bathe seven times a day." After the bath Tacitus is introduced, and the party lunch—Martial, Pliny, jun., Tacitus, and this lecturer-dreamer. First lettuce, oysters, and eggs, but there were no knives or forks or tablecloths. With each course a fresh table top is introduced and fixed on an ivory leg. These table tops were beautifully made, some of maple, others of cypress. Two cost £400, and Martial knew of a person who had one valued at £1,200. After lettuce and oysters and eggs came cakes, sweetmeats, and fruit, then wine, with hot or cold water. All these things tell on the company, however. Martial becomes somnolent, and Tacitus has a far-away look, which, if the cause is forgotten, is most impressive. The dreamer, too, has passed the comfortable stage, and when Pliny, jun., commences to read one of his letters the lights flicker ominously and the room goes a-whirling. "The fire, which had blazed brightly at the beginning of my dream, had died out, and the first glimmer of dawn was peeping through the grey clouds of an Australian winter morning."

Advertiser July 27th 07.

RIVERTON, July 26.—A representative meeting of those interested in making this town a university examination and extension lecture centre was held in the institute last night. Dr. Glynn presided, and mentioned that the district would benefit by the scheme because many who were unable to get to the city for examinations could be attended to locally. Mr. C. R. Hodge, registrar of the University, outlined the work in connection with country centres. It was unanimously resolved to establish a centre for examinations in Riverton, and the following committee were chosen:—Dr. R. Mc. Glynn, chairman; Mr. C. R. Doudney, LL.B., secretary; Revs. John Watts and A. M. Webb, Messrs. John Kelly, J. G. A. Shawyer, A. J. Davis, W. H. Moss, Messdames W. Cairns, J. S. Gordon, and J. Wilson.—Mr. H. A. Davis' chaffmill had a narrow escape from being destroyed by fire on Wednesday afternoon. Through part of the oil engine being overheated a piece of wood became ignited and set fire to the engine room. The blaze was immediately discovered, and willing helpers soon had it under control without doing any damage.