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#### CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT.

There was a large audience, which included Lady Le Hunte, at the Elder Conservatorium on Monday evening, when the first chamber music concert of the season was given. The programme was of a somewhat more diversified character than usual, for, in addition to a Schubert trio for piano-forte and strings, it contained cello solo, several songs, and a Chopin duet for two pianofortes. Schubert's "Trio in B flat" for piano-forte and strings, which concluded the concert, is the first of the only two works in this form written by the richly endowed German composer. It is in four movements—an allegro, andante, scherzo, and trio, and final rondo. The opening section affords the string instruments excellent scope for display, while, in common with all Schubert's works, it abounds in beautiful melody. Full advantage was taken of this by Messrs. H. Heinicke (violin) and Mr. Harold S. Parsons (cello), while Mr. J. G. Reimann rendered good service at the pianoforte. The andante, a gem of Schubertian melody, which opens with some delightful phrases for the cello, subsequently taken up by the violin as a duet with the cello, was presented with much sympathy and refinement, and a good balance of power throughout. In the merry scherzo the ensemble of the trio was not always quite perfect, but with this exception the movement went well, and its principal features came out with pleasing effect. The rondo, which is probably a little less inspired than either of the first three movements, did not offer any particular difficulties to the three instrumentalists. It was presented with spirit and a well-marked rhythm, and brought the selection to an effective conclusion. Mr. Harold S. Parsons's one cello solo was a couple of movements the adagio and tempo di minuetto from Haydn's "Sonata in C," originally written for violin and bass, but arranged as a cello solo with pianoforte accompaniment by Alired Piatti, the celebrated cellist and composer. The opening section was delivered with appropriate breadth and satisfactory intonation. In the genial, sprightly second part the performer's technique was displayed to good advantage, but due restraint was observed throughout. Mr. Reimann played the pianoforte part in an unobtrusive and sympathetic manner. The concert opened with Chopin's "Duo for two pianofortes, Op. 73," which was presented by Dr. J. Matthew Ennis and Mr. Reimann. A good ensemble was manifested, and the performance was throughout well balanced. All the features of interest were well brought out, and the composition was worked up to a good climax in the final section. Miss Guli Hack, the vocalist of the evening, gave as her first number Bruhn's original conception, "The solitary," and therein did some good sotto voce work. Albert Mallinson's effective little ballad, "Slow horses, slow," was treated in an expressive and refined manner. Tessard's "Adieu du matin" (sung in French) was interpreted with warmth and appropriate tenderness; and Hahn's "Reverie"—also sung in French—was artistically treated and worked up to a nice climax. Mr. Arthur B. Williamson accompanied the vocal items with skill and taste. Liszt's showy and brilliant "Polonaise in F" was presented by Mr. Reimann with power and clearness, and its numerous technical difficulties were overcome with such a gratifying measure of success that he was twice recalled, but contented himself with merely bowing his acknowledgments.

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Professor Henderson will give his final lecture of the present series on "Hamlet and the Shakspearean drama" in the Town Hall this evening. A limited number of tickets may be had on application to the registrar of the University. The lecture will deal with the problem of Hamlet, and special arrangements are being made to provide accommodation for a large attendance.

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#### MODERN LEGISLATION.

##### THE UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES.

At Jagoe Street Hall, Semaphore, on Monday evening, Professor Jethro Brown, LL.D., Litt.D., delivered the second of his series of lectures on "The underlying principles of modern legislation," taking for his theme "Illustrations from life and thought in the nineteenth century." He dealt with the subject from the humanitarian point of view, dwelt upon its social phase, and upon the modern ideal of womanhood. Unfortunately time necessitated the elimination of the religious aspect and also the unity of movement evidenced, but the arguments adduced were none the less conclusive, and the lucidity with which the various points were explained afforded a distinctly educational treat. In introducing the subject Dr. Brown indicated that while law was the expression of the general will, lawmaking was essentially a phase of national life. The meaning, reality, and value of a legislative ideal might be tested, not merely in the sphere of legislation, but also in that of contemporary politics, social life, and thought. Nineteenth century optimism was not always justified; yet the presence of growing appreciation in the ideal, defined in the preceding lecture, was shown—generally by the increasing consciousness of the social problems, particularly by the achievements of the humanitarianism, the advance towards social equality, the progress of religious thought, and the new ideals of womanhood. So far as humanitarianism was concerned there was a danger of exaggeration. Much improvement was due to the intellectual appreciation of the fact that the equitable treatment of workmen paid; to the greater publicity of modern life; and to the increase in nervous sensibility. Making due allowance for such facts, the modern advance was apparent and unprecedented. In illustration of this he referred to the abolition of slavery, amelioration of the criminal code and prison discipline, treatment of the insane, of children, and of the poor, and to the passing of legislation favourable to the labourer. Social equality was a severe test of idealism, but he drew logical conclusions in proof that there was a marked improvement in the direction of realization. In referring to the modern ideal of womanhood, he compared modern chivalry with that of mediæval times. In the so-called age of chivalry "the general state of womanhood can be shown to have been one of enslavement and endurance of wrong, and one which knights and troubadours did much more to aggravate than alleviate." The new chivalry had its roots in the reverence of woman's strength rather than in her weakness—it preferred the refinement of action to inaction. Even where economic dependence continued the position of women had changed for the better. The newer ideal of social justice repudiated the subjection of women as much as the serfdom of the peasant. The advocacy and the lives of noble women, in conjunction with a wave of democracy, had appealed to men, and the position of woman had thereby been raised.

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#### UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURE.

In the Jagoe-street Hall, Semaphore, on Monday night, Professor Jethro Brown delivered the second of his course of extension lectures on the "Underlying principles of legislation." His remarks were most interesting and were much appreciated.