

entirely beneficial, but it is only right to recognise the anxiety of the Council and Senate to turn the elaborate machinery under their charge to good account in the interests of the country. It is in the work the University does as an examining body that signs of progress are chiefly to be met with. An inspection of the records treating of this branch of its labours gives abundant proof of its extending popularity. Thus, at the Higher Public Examinations 44 candidates entered as against 26 in 1891; at the Special Senior Public Examination in March 6 as against 4, and in November 90 as against 69; at the Junior Public Examination 116 as against 110; at the Preliminary Examination in March 86 as against 46, and in November 336 as against 331; at the examinations in the theory of music 133 in the junior and 28 in the senior division as against 92 and 21; at the examinations in the practice of music 143 in the junior and 61 in the senior division as against 111 and 57. These figures without exception exhibit an increase, and without entering into details as to the results of the several examinations it may be stated that in the majority of instances the proportion of passes last year was rather above than below that for the previous year. The attendance at evening classes conducted by Professors Bragg, Rennie, and Tate, and by Dr. Stirling and Mr. R. W. Chapman, has been fairly good, although not so satisfactory as in 1891, and the large staff of Professors has also been able to do signal service in connection with the School of Mines.

The financial statement appended to the report of the Council shows that the receipts for the year exceeded the expenditure by about £200. This state of affairs is due to an increase of £500 in the income from interest, and in a lesser degree to an enlarged revenue from fees. The amount derived from the last-named source was £3,250, and by far the largest advance for the year was in the payments by musical students. In all £588 was received from them—a sum more than sufficient to meet the salaries and other expenses connected with examinations and with the training of students engaged upon the Mus. Bac. course. The funds provided for the South Australian scholarships have not been entirely withdrawn, as was at one time threatened, but the grant has been reduced from £1,000 to £800. It would be false economy to discontinue this contribution, and it is to be hoped that no attempt will be made to still further diminish it. There has been no increase in the staff of professors and lecturers, which ought to be quite sufficiently strong to meet the requirements of the Institution for years to come, but the outlay upon examiners, &c., has been slightly augmented. From the manner in which the accounts are now presented it is more easy than in former times to get an approximately correct idea of the financial position, but there are still points that require to be cleared up. For instance, it is rather difficult to understand why a portion of the capital account should be brought into the statement of current receipts and expenditure. Then we gather that on December 31, 1892, there was on deposit in the E.S. and A.C. Bank £15,950, and in the Bank of Adelaide and Savings Bank £3,050, and that on the same date the investments in mortgages totalled £23,450,

and in Treasury bills £2,250. These sums together make up an aggregate of £20,300, or some £4,600 less than the acknowledged total of the endowments, special endowments, and contributions to the medical school. It would be interesting to know what has become of the balance. Then in one set of figures the amount expended on the University building is stated at £28,424 18s. 2d., while the only particulars given elsewhere are "contributed by Her Majesty's Government £18,014, contributed by private donations £1,800 5s.," or £19,904 5s. in all. How is the other £18,520 13s. 2d. made up? We presume it is useless to look for the abandonment of the practice, to which we have frequently called attention, of transferring to general account the unexpended yearly balances of income from special endowments, but we feel it necessary to continue our protest against so objectionable a procedure. While admitting that the accounts generally now appear in a more intelligible form than in some previous years, we are bound to say that there is still much room for improvement.

## The Advertiser

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1893.

We have received an advance copy of the report of the Adelaide University for the year 1892. The council is to be congratulated upon the comparatively early date at which this record of the work of the past twelve months is completed. A University of such recent foundation, which owes no small amount of her endowment to the State, that is to the public, is called upon from year to year to show that, like wisdom, she is justified of her children, and that she not only gives opportunities of higher education, but gathers within her lecture-rooms and examination-halls no inconsiderable percentage of the youth of both sexes. Unlike some foundations whose roots were planted in remote ages the Adelaide University does not reply to "the woman at the gate"—

"Quid feminis  
"Commune est cum monachis?"  
"Nec te nec uliam aliam  
Admittimus in insulam."

On the contrary, she meets one of the highest aspirations of nineteenth century young ladyhood, and offers admission to the noble army of Bachelors in place of the bonds of matrimony. Whatever date may be hereafter chosen for the celebration of the centenary of the University, its real foundation was laid when the late Sir W. W. Hughes executed that deed of gift which appears as a schedule to the Incorporation Act of 1874. In the few years which have passed since the Christmas Eve of 1872 the University has made strides and achieved a position which was little expected by the University Association when they entered upon their work. The advance has been a steadily increasing one, and the report under consideration justifies still more sanguine anticipations for the future. To our thinking one of its most encouraging paragraphs is the 21st, which recites the donation of £1,000 to the University library by Mr. R. B. Smith. A library is one of the most essential members of the University body, and though it is too much to look forward to such a collection of literary treasures as the Bodleian at Oxford possesses, there is no reason why the local University should not only have, as it ought to have, a first-class collection of books and manuscripts, but