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times fewer common bonds of sympathy between the inhabitants, except perhaps when a grant for a local public work is in question, than there is between the dwellers in larger cities.

That this is an undesirable state of things cannot be denied. One may ask whether we are doing all that we can to cope with it. Our present educational system has worked wonders, as any one will testify who is able to compare the elementary schools of to-day with those which were in existence in the colony 20 years ago. The extension of scholarships and bursaries is to be competed for by scholars in the country, and the adoption of a system of agricultural teaching of which many of the pupils will be able to take advantage, are evidences of a desire not to centralise the educational advantages in and near to the city. The establishment of branch schools of design in several local centres, and the facilities afforded to country residents for competing in the art examinations, have already had a marked effect in stimulating a love of decorative art, and thus affording a new source of pleasure and instruction. The youngest and not the least useful of our educational institutions—the School of Mines and Industries—has already branches in the country districts. We wish it could be said that a spirit of missionary activity characterised the richly-endowed University of Adelaide. The announcement recently made of a willingness to provide for examinations in music in country centres suggests that the authorities are beginning to wake up from their lethargy, and we can only hope that these signs of renewed activity may lead to greater things in the future. The professional courses at the University are well provided for, and our locally trained doctors and lawyers will no doubt do credit to their Alma Mater. But is all being done that could be done in the general arts course? If we deduct from the total number of graduates in arts and of those now studying for the arts degree those who have been enabled by means of scholarships to take advantage of the University curriculum we shall find that the balance is exceedingly small. Even the special advantages offered to teachers and others by enabling them to pass an examination in one or two subjects at a time do not seem to have had the desired effect.

Could not the University authorities copy beneficially the methods adopted by less pretentious institutions? Or if that is beneath their dignity could they not initiate the extension work of the older Universities of Oxford and Cambridge? Whether the Australasian Home Reading Union, which was formed at the beginning of this year under the auspices of the literature section of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science will accomplish much remains to be seen. But we can see no reason why it or a similar organisation should not do well if taken up by the University. As the vacation occurs during the hot months of the year it would probably be unwise to attempt special vacation courses of instruction in the country districts. But surely our country institutes might be utilised more than they are. If the duties of the University professors are too absorbing and too exacting to admit of their paying occasional visits to the country towns, could not the University authorities utilise the labors of others who are fully competent for the work? A chatty lecture by a competent authority on the books in a country institute and on other books which it would be desirable to purchase would be exceedingly

useful. If, following the example of the Australasian Home Reading Union, the University would mark out courses of reading in science and literature, and would arrange for each town or district to be under a competent director, who would probably be willing to give his services, the intellectual life of residents in the country would be greatly stimulated. Examinations might also be held for those who cared to undergo the ordeal. Granted that by such methods profound scholarship would not be imparted, yet a new source of perennial pleasure and instruction would be opened up for many who in the existing state of things find life very dry and barren. The work would rest upon the University, for the more the intellectual life of the home circle is cultivated the more likely is there to be an increasing desire on the part of parents for their children to have the advantage of the full University course. The University is a national institution, and would help much more than it does to mould the national life if it would show a little more readiness to adapt itself to actual requirements in its methods for diffusing the advantages it has to offer.

Register 3rd August 1892

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS.
Mr. ASH asked was it intended to abolish any of the existing University scholarships, and, if so, would any other means be adopted to enable the parents unable to pay the usual fees to obtain the benefits of University education. The TREASURER (Hon. F. W. Holder) said the matter was still under consideration, but in no case would the scholarships be abolished until after the next periodical examination.

Advertiser 12th August 1892

THE INTERESTING ASSAULT CASE.

TO THE EDITOR.
Sir—In the account in *The Advertiser* of "An Interesting Assault Case" I see that the blame of the disturbance in the theatre gallery on July 15 is thrown on the Varsity students, and the magistrate thought it necessary to call them "privileged larrikins," and to comment unfavorably on their conduct. Whatever may have been their behavior on former occasions I can testify that on this night it was exemplary, and those present will bear me out. The students were allowed by the management to come in before the general public and to join in several of the choruses, which they did with such heartiness and true regard for harmony that the piece went off splendidly. The facts of the disturbance are shortly these:—A man came in with two children just before the performance commenced, when every seat was taken, and in fact the audience were packed as tight as herrings. He proceeded to shove his children in between some good-natured people, much to their discomfort, and then elated by his success he tried to pull two young fellows apart—who, by the way, were not University students—and jump in between them. They naturally resented this as there was no room, and passed him on to the row below, with the natural consequence that in a few minutes he was tumbling about on the heads of the crowd and having, I dare say, an uncomfortable time. He was rescued from his unpleasant position by two constables, who promptly ran him out, and the cheer thus went up from all parts of the gallery showed that the sympathy of the audience, who had been interested spectators of this game of bluff, was altogether with the police. The Varsity students having been let in early secured the centre of the gallery, while all this happened at the side, some distance from where they were sitting, so that I think it is somewhat unfair they should be blamed for a disturbance which in reality they had nothing whatever to do.—I am, &c.

JUPITER.

Register 12th August 1892

ACCIDENT TO ARCHDEACON FARR.—On Thursday evening a rumour was current in the city that Archdeacon Farr had met with a serious accident. On enquiry at St. Luke's Parsonage we learnt that he had sustained a simple fracture of the left arm just above the elbow. He was engaged in visiting parishes, and while entering a house a dog rushed out and attacked the dog which accompanied him, knocking down the Archdeacon. A temporary sling was made, and he walked back to the Parsonage, where he was attended by Drs. Corbin and Michie. Archdeacon Farr hopes to be all right again in a few weeks.