

brutal. But most persons have to seek first the means whereby they may supply themselves with at least bread and butter. And it is now admitted on almost every hand that the training of the intellect in order fully to equip it for that search can be as well accomplished by causing it to master matters affecting every day duties as things which do not come within the ken of ordinary men in the struggle to make a living.

Subjects of the kind which might be treated with advantage will readily suggest themselves. For instance, what is calculated to be more useful at this juncture than a really able course of lectures on political economy which intelligent working men and others would find little difficulty in attending? What could have more fascination for many people than some thoroughly up-to-date deliverances on the entrancing subject of evolution? Again, who can estimate the possible worth of a series of addresses setting forth in a broad and impartial spirit the teachings of history? Nothing could be more useful from a social point of view than a few graphic and masterly sketches of the rise and fall of nations, clearly exhibiting at once the causes of decay and the sources of abiding power. In contrast to this yet equally practical in its aim would be a course of study on a searching analysis of the characteristics and tendency of modern commerce. Never before in the history of the Empire have such large and interesting issues, vital alike to Great Britain and the colonies, loomed upon the horizon. The views taken of them both here and in the mother country will be almost equally important. The opinions of the two democracies, owing to identity of interests, must necessarily act and react upon each other. Let, therefore, the people both of England and of Australia gain all the instruction, strength, and inspiration they can for their mutual benefit by a careful study of the past and a generous interpretation of present signs of the times. Another branch of popular study is that of literature. How greatly the claims of English literature might be advanced by a number of lectures, capably and sympathetically presenting some of the greatest writers of our race, and illustrating the most approved methods of criticism so as to help forward the cause of real creative art. We are quite aware of the splendid service of the Home Reading Circles in this relation, but none the less we think that lectures of the class indicated would be of immense use. Other subjects which might claim attention could of course be mentioned. There are professors and lecturers at our University fully qualified to do the work to which allusion has been made. It would be unfair to the present staff of University teachers to omit to mention the readiness with which they have this year agreed to co-operate in the inauguration of a scheme of evening lectures with a view to accomplishing a portion of the work of bringing the University closer to the people, and particularly to those young men who desire to study for degrees, but whose duties preclude their studying during the day. The aim of the University extension movement, however, is to extend the benefits of culture to a much wider circle than that of the students who are determined to qualify for academic

distinctions. Popular lectures in addition to day and evening classes would perhaps be beyond the limits of the amount of work which could fairly be demanded from the present staff. But if they have not the necessary time at their disposal others approved of by the authorities might undertake it. The general public would then be availing themselves of the University method of study. If the spirit of the suggestion we have made is carried out, and the same kind of thing is done in the other colonies, the Australian Universities will bid fair to exercise a far-reaching influence upon national life under the Southern Cross.

THE LIVER SCHOLAR OF MUSIC.—Mr. H. M. Kennedy, who was requested by the University Council to proceed to London by tomorrow's boat to prosecute his studies at the Royal College of Music, has been unable to secure a passage, the steamer being full, and he has therefore been compelled to defer his departure for a week.

The Advertiser

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1894.

By the Bank Holidays Act which was passed last session it is provided that "whenever any of the following bank holidays, viz., the birthday of her Majesty or her successor, the anniversary of the accession of her Majesty or her successor, the birthday of the Heir Apparent, would fall on any day other than a Monday, the following Monday shall be a bank holiday instead of such day." By the next clause the Act is made to apply also to holidays in the Civil Service. This year, therefore, the holiday in respect to the Queen's Birthday, instead of being proclaimed on Thursday, May 24, will be held on Monday, May 28; the Queen's Accession Day will be celebrated on Monday, June 25, instead of Wednesday, June 20; and the Prince of Wales's Birthday on Monday, November 12, instead of Friday, November 9. It will be well for amusement committees and the public generally to remember these arbitrary changes in the dates of their ancient festivals. For more than half a century the Queen's Birthday, except when it fell on a Saturday, has been a fixed holiday. Henceforward, except when it comes on a Monday, it will be a movable one.

The Register.

ADELPHI: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1894.

MR. W. A. HORN'S EXPEDITION.—We are informed by Dr. Stirling, C.M.G., that he has found it impossible to make such arrangements for the due discharge of his duties at the University and elsewhere as will permit him to be absent for the period occupied by Mr. W. A. Horn's expedition to the MacDonnell Ranges, and he has been obliged with much reluctance to relinquish the idea of accompanying the party. The regret is all the greater too because he has previously made observations of a part of the locality to be covered, which is of extreme interest geologically, zoologically, and ethnologically. Dr. Stirling believes that much valuable information is to be gained by a more thorough examination than has yet been made. To have been a member of Mr. Horn's expedition would have been a source of great satisfaction to Dr. Stirling, and his inability to join it is to him a matter of deep regret.