

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS AND EVENING CLASSES.

A chance now presents itself to our more wealthy colonists of advancing the cause of learning, and at the same time perpetuating the memory of their own public-spirited action by assisting in the establishment of the scheme of scholarships and small bursaries that has been agreed upon by the Council and Senate of the University. At yesterday's meeting of the Senate the report of the committee which conferred with the Council on the subject was adopted, and it was thus arranged that instead of three there should in future be, if

possible, nine scholarships. It will be remembered that no regulations of examinations for the ordinary University Scholarships under the Education Department next March were published by the Government, and an announcement was inserted in the "University Calendar" practically suspending the system under which these scholarships have hitherto been granted. It was proposed at first that the money saved in this way should go towards the establishment of free evening classes taught by extra lecturers. But owing to the assistance of the professional staff it has been found possible, as we suggested some weeks ago that it might be, to rearrange some of the classes in such a way as to give most valuable facilities for evening students as well as for those who have more time at their disposal. It has further been agreed that six small bursaries, covering fees and cost of books, shall be offered to evening students. The funds hitherto supplied by the Education Department would be sufficient to cover the total cost of the new scheme. But it must be admitted that these £10 bursaries are rather too small to be of very great assistance even to night students, and the other three of £35, £30, and £25 respectively are insufficient to cover the living expenses say of a student from the country who has to reside in town while pursuing his studies at the day classes. Even should there be no difficulty in again securing the vote of money, after it has practically been allowed to slip for one year, it is evident that the establishment of a few scholarships by private individuals at the present juncture would be most opportune.

The whole of the scheme as now adopted tends most decidedly in the direction of liberalizing the University system. So long as the taking of a degree was scarcely possible to any one who had not full command of his time it might be urged that the University was rather for the well-to-do than for all sections of the community. But as soon as the classes are thrown open to those who have to earn their living during the day the whole matter wears an altogether different aspect. We may reasonably hope to see the numbers of the students doubled or trebled if the proposed reforms are energetically carried out, and the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and more particularly that of Bachelor of Science, more accessible to many of our brightest youths from among all classes of the people. The thirst for knowledge is surely an aspiration which deserves to be encouraged, and it is a noble ambition for all who are in positions of affluence to provide the means whereby their poorer fellow-colonists may be enabled to drink at the fountains of learning. The names of

out his rendering of "The Bell" was more popular. The piece was given with a rhythmical swing pleasing to the ear, the sounding of the bells being imitated with admirable effect. "A prologue" from the pen of Oliver Wendell Holmes, containing the author's characteristic satirical wit, was given and heartily appreciated. The Professor showed no inconsiderable declamatory power, and his best effort was a representation of the churchyard scene from "Hamlet," although the intelligence of the audience hardly demanded the explanations he gave of the various incidents connected with it. His other numbers were "The Dying Gladiator," "The Children," "The Field of Waterloo," and "The Boys," in all of which he showed elocutionary ability, although at times his voice grew just a trifle monotonous. The recital of Byron's splendid poem was preluded by the remark that as Sunday was the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo the Chief Justice had suggested that the presentation of the work would be appropriate. At the conclusion of the recitals the Chief Justice expressed in brief but complimentary language the pleasure those present derived from the recital, and extended the Professor a hearty welcome to Adelaide.

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MR. A. MACULLY, M.A.

RECITAL AT THE UNIVERSITY.

In response to invitations issued by his Honor the Chief Justice, a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the University on Thursday, the occasion being a recital by Mr. Alexander Macully, M.A., professor of elocution. The night was one that would sorely tempt people to remain indoors, and therefore it speaks volumes for the reputation which has preceded Mr. Macully as an elocutionist of great ability that such a large number of ladies and gentlemen, who quite filled the large hall of the chief seat of learning, should have attended. Mr. L. W. Yemm, a rising young pianist, opened by playing a solo from the works of Beethoven, which he correctly interpreted with artistic skill. Prior to the recital Mr. Macully read a tersely written essay, the theme of his discourse being the "Culture of the speaking voice," which not only treated the subject admirably, but served another purpose—that of showing that in addition to being a clever elocutionist Mr. Macully is a good English scholar and one who appreciates to the full the beauties of the mother tongue. Then he recited those well-known lines, "Hamlet's advice to the players." The opening number served to show that as an elocutionist Mr. Macully takes high rank. He does not possess a voice "which rings out like a clarion," which latter, alas that it should be so, is too often the only distinguishing feature of those who rise on platforms to recite some of the gems of the greatest writers. Mr. Macully's voice is mellow and clear, and one has but to listen once to appreciate the fact that it is cultured to a high degree. To the "Dying gladiator" he added a new chorus, and his recital of "The bells" delighted his listeners. Not only did he deliver Edgar Allan Poe's well-known composition with marked ability, but his imitation of the clanging of the bells was so realistic that one could almost imagine he was listening to the gradual fading away of the sound. By way of varying the programme Mr. Macully next gave a prologue written by the gifted author of the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," which served to emphasize the fact that he is possessed of great dramatic power. Equally happy was the elocutionist in "The children," a charming selection, but in the delivery of "The field of Waterloo" he held his audience spell-bound whilst he unfolded Byron's vigorously descriptive poem. We have listened to several interpretations of this number, but we fancy we are speaking the voice of those who listened to Mr. Macully when we say that among the many his is the one that is likely to be accepted as the correct rendering of the great poet's lines. The "Churchyard scene" (Hamlet, act 5, scene 1) came in for artistic treatment at his hands, and the clanging recital, "The boys," was one that had to be heard to be appreciated. Mr. Macully had an appreciative audience, for during the recitals not a sound could be heard save the speaker's voice and the ticking of the clock when he paused momentarily. There can be but one feeling, and that of pleasure, that such an exponent of the art of elocution has come to settle in our midst. At the close his Honor the Chief Justice, to whom the audience were placed under deep obligation for having been the medium of enabling them to pass a pleasant evening listening to the cultured voice of a scholar reciting from the works of the great authors, rose and said he was sure that they would accord Mr. Macully a vote of thanks for the elocutionary treat he had afforded them. The motion was carried by acclamation. This evening Mr. Macully will give a second recital at the Victoria Hall, and there should be a large attendance.