

University in this respect goes to show that no such remarkably successful result can be reasonably anticipated.

A vigorous experiment in this direction is, however, well deserving of a trial. Night classes may in many instances have the effect as, the Rev. P. E. Raynor reminds us, of imparting only a smattering of knowledge. But even where this is the case, surely a smattering is better than nothing at all! The real question at issue should not be lost sight of. If it be considered desirable to establish night classes, will this resolution involve the discontinuance of the University scholarships? The two matters really have little or nothing to do with one another. The question of night classes ought to depend upon the result of the enquiry whether the Professors already do all the work that can be expected of them, or whether they could not arrange to transfer certain of their lectures to the evening so as to give a chance to students who may be engaged during the day. It matters little to students who have their whole time at their disposal whether they attend lectures at night and do some private study in the daytime, or *vice versa*. Surely such a matter might easily be arranged so as not to render necessary the abolition of the scholarships which assist poorer students to maintain themselves while studying? Mr. Hartley on Thursday indulged in some word-splitting in order to prove that we had erred in saying that the contemplated step would place the Adelaide University in an isolated position. Every one knows that in some other Universities the scholarships are provided for out of the funds of the institutions, which, on the other hand, receive regular annual grants from the Governments, whereas in South Australia the scholarships are given by the Government direct without ever passing into the coffers of the University. The important point for the student who is without means is that if the scholarships are abolished no help will be forthcoming for him in his endeavour to go to the University, and in this respect we repeat that the threatened step would place the local University in a position unique in Australasia.

Dropping the scholarships will apparently mean the virtual abolition of the arts course, because the students attending the lectures of that course are in nearly every case University scholars. Students attending night classes could not hope to take the arts degree unless they took up the subjects piecemeal, and extended their studies over six or seven years. The course is, to a very large extent an unpractical one, and does not lead a man into any avenue of money-making. To convert the University into a school for professional studies only would be contrary to the designs of those benefactors who founded the institution in the first instance. Night classes cannot be entirely relied upon to prevent this result from coming about. If the present line on the Estimates providing for the annual scholarships be allowed to lapse the University will probably find that in grasping at the shadow it has lost the substance. The case is one demanding prompt action. The year in which candidates have to prepare for the next examination test is

already well begun, and no textbooks have been set for the subjects of study. The University by its calendar this year practically invites the Government to strike out the line providing for the scholarships without any equivalent having been promised. Even if it were certain that money for the night classes would be provided the new fund would be mainly spent in additions to the Professors' salaries for doing work which, by a little arrangement, they would no doubt be willing to carry out without the necessity for mopping up the annual scholarship grant. The decision arrived at by the Senate to confer with the Council on the question of what shall be done is one of those middle courses which are a salve to the conscience of the irresolute. Nominally it leaves the matter open, but it means delay, which, as there is no time to be lost, may be fatal. We trust that the Government will not temporise in this case, but will let it be distinctly understood that the practice of granting scholarships, which has been so beneficial in the past, and which has in it the certainty of benefit in the future, is not to be discontinued.

## The Register.

ADELAIDE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1893.

HONOUR TO DR. STIRLING.—We understand that a telegram reached Adelaide on Tuesday notifying that Dr. E. C. Stirling, of Adelaide, had been selected by the committee of the Royal Society for election to that body in June. This is the usual course taken in admitting members to the Society, and the committee's favourable decision amounts virtually to election. The distinction is only enjoyed by one other South Australian, namely, Mr. C. Todd, C.M.G., the Postmaster-General. Its conferment on Dr. Stirling in recognition of his researches in the interest of science, particularly in the department of natural history, is well merited, and will give general satisfaction to South Australians.

## The Advertiser

MONDAY, MAY 8, 1893.

The list of pieces for the pianoforte for the advanced course of the public examinations in music at the Adelaide University has been supplied to us by Professor Ives. Candidates will be asked to play one piece from each of the following lists:—List A—Fantasia and fugue in G (Mozart); prelude and fugue in F minor, book 1, No. 12 (Bach); prelude and fugue in F minor, No. 5 of six preludes fugues (Mendelssohn). List B—Sonata in A, op. 2, No. 2 (Beethoven); sonata in D, op. 10, No. 3 (Beethoven); sonata in E, op. 6 (Beethoven).