

"The Register, 21st Aug. 1897.

system for the cultivation of a perfect technique, and the Macdonald-Smith system—"From brain to keyboard"—all of which seem to have much to commend them. I am, however, studying each practically, and hope to give further opinions later. I have not said anything about the special music for the Diamond Jubilee. To tell the truth, I am tired of the "Jubilee" phrase. Boys hawk Jubilee matches, and even offer to polish your boots with Jubilee blacking. Grocers display posters, offering Jubilee tea with ditto sugar for sweetening purposes, and one gets quite tired of the word. Music written for special occasions generally savours of the made-to-order variety, and the "Jubilee" music has not proved any exception to the rule. Sir G. C. Martin's "Te Deum" has some good passages in it, but I think he has written better music. However, that is purely a matter of individual opinion. Most musicians will be glad to hear of the knight-hoods that have been conferred upon the worthy and deserving organists of St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey. It is especially gratifying to find that Her Majesty has thought fit to further recognise the musical profession in these distinctions, and few men have exercised more influence upon sound musical education than Sir J. F. Bridge, while Sir G. C. Martin's influence upon Church music has been most beneficial.

I had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Kennedy, the South Australian scholar, at the Royal College of Music, sing a few days ago at the house of his master, Signor Randegger. He has made much progress in his studies, and the Signor speaks well of his powers. What a clever man Randegger is! Besides being the greatest singing master of the day he conducts excellent orchestral concerts weekly at the Queen's Hall, the orchestra giving Beethoven's symphonies and other important works without rehearsal. His Choral Society gives such works as Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" and Handel's "Messiah" also without rehearsal; and Signor Randegger tells me that this is because he is so busy that he cannot find time for the practices. After attending his concerts I was truly surprised to learn this.

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News has come to hand to the effect that Mr. H. S. Newland and Mr. Sangster have passed for the M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P.; that Mr. Hornabrook has passed in surgery and Mr. Campbell in midwifery for the same degrees, and that Mr. Bonnin has obtained his L.R.C.P. These gentlemen are all studying at the London Hospital.

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MUSICAL NOTES

An examination for the Elder Scholarship of Music must of necessity be held within the next few months, as the extended term granted to Mr. Wallage Kennedy, the present holder of the Scholarship, will shortly expire. Seeing that there are persons interested in this matter, and that no doubt a number of candidates are already preparing for the final test, it will not be out of place in this column to explain some of the principal circumstances connected with it. Some twelve years ago the late Sir Thomas Elder purchased, for we believe the sum of £3,000, this Scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music, London. It entitled the holder to instruction in a principal subject, a second study, and the right to attend certain classes, also residence during the terms of the College. The passage to England and back, board during the vacation, and other incidental expenses were not and never have been included in the gift, though in some cases it was generously undertaken by the donor. For the first examination a Board composed of local

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professional musicians was appointed. These gentlemen selected Mr. Otto Fiesher, the baritone singer. The two subsequent examinations were conducted by Professor Ives, who chose respectively Miss Guli Hack, A.R.C.M., and Miss Adelaide Koeppen Porter, and the last examination was undertaken by the Adelaide University. This naturally meant that Professor Ives again acted. In all these cases Sir Thomas Elder himself nominated the examiner or examiners, and seeing that this was then entirely a private matter, the public could not very well take exception to the donor's action. The death of Sir Thomas Elder, however, places a slightly different aspect on the case, and should his executors appoint the University to regularly manage this Scholarship, the public will naturally look to that body to conduct the examination tests in the best and most complete manner possible.

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I had not seen Professor Ives for some time until I ran into his arms at Warlies on Saturday, he having been away on tour visiting places of literary and historical interest. From London he went first of all to Stratford-on-Avon, and after spending a few days in Shakespeare's country went on to Warwick and duly went over the famous castle. He also visited Kenilworth Castle, the ivy-covered walls of which are fast succumbing to the ravages of time and tempests, and Stoke Pogis, in the churchyard of which Gray wrote his famous Elegy and where that sweet writer sleeps 'neath the shadow of the ivy-clad church walls. A tour in the Highlands ensued, but it was somewhat marred by bad weather, and then visiting Glencoe (a place of evil memory) Mr. Ives got a thorough drenching, in consequence of which he was for a time (to use his own phrase) "in a state of suspended animation." Having got rid of a severe cold he returned to London, and on Saturday evening was the guest of the associated board of the Royal Academy of Music at their dinner at the Hotel Metropole. The chairman in his speech made flattering allusion to the good work done by Mr. Ives on behalf of sound musical education since his arrival in England. Last night the professor was the guest of the R.A.M. Club. Mr. Ives is now busy studying some new systems for the development of pianoforte technique and is also spending a good deal of time at the British Museum examining old manuscripts and rare works on music.

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Professor Ives will probably sail for Australia by the Polynesian, leaving Marseilles on September 12. He tells me that all his enquiries point to the establishment of a Conservatoire of Music in Adelaide in connection with the late Sir Thomas Elder's recent bequest.

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THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

CHIEF JUSTICE WAY'S DUTIES.

London, August 21.

Since the Right Hon. S. J. Way has been sworn of the Privy Council His Honor has heard arguments in connection with no less than thirteen Australasian appeal cases, besides delivering an important judgment.

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THE ADELAIDE HOSPITAL AND THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The *London Hospital* of July 10 says:—

"We hear from Adelaide that the South Australian Government has instructed a firm of solicitors in London to take legal steps to prevent the British Medical Association expelling Dr. Ramsay Smith and Dr. Leith Napier, who, in accepting office at the Adelaide Hospital, are stated to have 'acted in opposition to the strongly-expressed feeling and opinion of the medical profession in Adelaide.' We do not think, however, that it will be necessary for these legal gentlemen to take any action, for we cannot believe that the British Medical Association will be so ill-advised as to attempt the exercise of such disciplinary powers as the power of expulsion may possibly give it in reference to such a much-disputed question as that of the Adelaide Hospital squabble. In regard to the propriety of the new staff accepting the appointments offered to them by the Hospital Board, a body directly nominated by the South Australian Government, it may be well to recall to mind the position of affairs at the time that the appointments were made. There can be no doubt that the members of the new staff, in accepting their appointments went in opposition to the expressed wish of the great majority of the medical men practising in Adelaide; but unless we are prepared to admit that no one ought to act contrary to the expressed wish of the majority—an admission which, if generally acted on, would tend to fossilise all medical practice—we must allow to each man the right to consider both the nature of the question and the grounds on which the majority have arrived at their conclusions. If this is done in regard to the Adelaide Hospital dispute we find that the origin of the quarrel was not any important ethical question but a mere detail of hospital management, in regard to which it was perfectly open to everyone to hold his own opinion. On October 3, 1896, we published an article on the Adelaide Hospital and the Government of South Australia, written by a contributor, who from his position in the British Medical Association appeared to us likely to know all that was going on. Almost simultaneously an article in the same strain, and apparently from the same source, appeared in the *British Medical Journal*. The object of both these articles was to illustrate the evils which arise from Government interference in hospital management, but the history told in both of them showed how thoroughly political the

affair had been from the beginning, and that the action against which the medical staff protested was one taken, however wrongly, by the responsible Government of the country after the matter had been investigated and reported on by a Royal Commission. Unless, then, there is something in the background which has not appeared, any attempt to expel men from the association because they have accepted Government appointments offered to them under such circumstances would seem a very high-handed proceeding. The British Medical Association has better and more appropriate work to do than fighting the Labor Party in South Australia. The whole question is a very hot potato which had better be dropped before the association burns its fingers."