

Advertiser
19th Dec. 1901.

Advertiser 19th December 1901.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"Parent" writes:—"The Adelaide University and the Elder Conservatorium of Music are kept alive mainly by parents who pay fees for their children attending these institutions, but when there are functions held in the Elder Hall people who pay are honored with back seats. The commemorative celebration on Wednesday was one of numerous instances. Many who do not pay a cent to either the University or Conservatorium, and take no interest in either, were favored with tickets for front seats, whilst parents whose children are students had the privilege of having white tickets, by which they were admitted to nearer the other end of the hall. I am of opinion that the people who patronise the institution should have the prior claim to front seats."

"Right of Purchase Blocker" writes:—"Are the lease theorists honorable, or even humane, in forcing down the throats of the other side what suits them? No; they are tyrannical, selfish, dictatorial. The right of purchase blocker, on the contrary, does not ask for interference with the leaseholder. Further, is it all patriotism that impels the lease theorist? I heard one declaiming against right of purchase that, under a lease, if you had to compromise with your creditors, they couldn't touch your lease. There is a difference between the homestead blocker and the perpetual lease blocker. The former can get an advance up to £45 from the Crown, the latter, nil! The firstnamed also can only select up to 5 acres (at least so it was at Klemzig). All above that come under 'perpetual lease,' 'residential,' or 'non-residential,' according to one's luck, and the 'residential' has no more privilege. Hence the one who wants to build is helped, whilst the other, who wants to produce, is ignored! Which would best serve his State?"

"Fair Play," writing with reference to University examinations, observes:—"All the hickerings about unfair questions being set would be avoided if examiners were compelled to supply a complete set of answers to each set of papers they send in. This is done in the best English Universities. Professors are so fallible, and often set absurd or impossible questions. Then why are the senior and junior results so long delayed? Could not the examinations be held a month earlier, and so give students the benefits of cooler weather, and examiners longer time to correct the papers and clear up private differences of opinion?"

Advertiser 19th
Dec. 1901.

THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

COMMEMORATION DAY.

The annual commemoration in connection with the University of Adelaide was held in the Elder Hall on Wednesday afternoon, December 18. The chair was taken by the Chancellor (Sir Samuel Way, Bart.), and the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow), members of the Council and Senate, the teaching staff, candidates for degrees, and the registrar, occupied seats on the platform. His Excellency the Governor and Lady Tennyson, accompanied by Lord Richard Nevill, Captain Feilden, and Miss Dussan, were present.

The Vice-Chancellor announced that a memorial tablet had been erected in the hall in memory of the late Surgeon-Captain Hopkins, B.A., M.B. In doing so, he said:—"Mr. Chancellor—To your personal generosity and that of the council, I owe the opportunity of performing the simple ceremony of to-day. The erection by this University of an inscribed tablet in memory of Surgeon-Captain Hopkins is but a recognition by us of the natural craving for honor. All men crave distinction nobly won; all men's relatives and friends long for the bestowal of posthumous honor on loved ones, whom death has claimed before merited reward has reached them. The great English schools—Eton, Harrow, Rugby—erect monuments in memory of former students slain by ruthless war. Our University needs neither Western marble nor the costly magnificence of an Eastern mausoleum to dignify the cherished memories of her gallant dead. We have established faculties of art, of science, of law, of medicine, and of music. Is there not scope for yet another faculty? Will not Australians, so warm-hearted, so generous, so proud of their kinsmen's achievements, welcome the new departure when the University of Adelaide to-day inaugurates for her students a crowning Faculty of Honor, in which peace may win her noblest triumphs, and the daring deeds of war be fitly commemorated? And if a faculty of honor be approved, who can be more worthy than William Fleming Hopkins, to be admitted in absentia—the first graduate in honor? (Cheers.) In order to fairly estimate his true worth and realize what an ornament he was of the superb profession of medicine one must read what has been written of him by his superior officers—by war correspondents—in the private letters of comrades. I must not detain you by reciting their testimony; suffice it to prophesy that when all these panels shall have received the names of academic worthies, and fame shall have girdled with her beard, roll the ample circuit of this hall, none of those whose memories this University shall have dignified will be found more worthy than Surgeon-Captain Hopkins. A non-combatant, yet foremost, where all were brave, in courting danger for the sake of others, utterly regardless for his own life if only he could tend the wounded or rescue from an imminent peril comrades fallen in the strife—we must all agree heart and soul with Captain Staughton's soldierly sentiment:—"If any man should

get a V.C. it is he." And did he not indeed reach the standard of the Cross for Valor? Since his lamented death his Majesty the King has decorated Captain House, a gallant officer of the New South Wales Medical Staff Corps, with the Victoria Cross because "During the action at Vredefort, on the 24th July, 1900, Captain House went out under heavy cross fire and picked up a wounded man, and carried him to a place of shelter." Truly a splendid feat, and long may Captain House live to wear the coveted cross. But as a single instance of high courage gained worthily for him a soldier's highest ambition, so surely had longer life been accorded to Surgeon-Captain Hopkins the cross would have decorated him too. We who survive must not let his renown lie buried with him in a barren grave. A distant land holds his ashes, and the ashes of many another gallant Australian.

And we will pray that from their clay
Full many a race may start,
Of true men, like "those" men,
To act as brave a part.

(Cheers.)
The deans of the various faculties then presented to the Chancellor the undermentioned candidates, on whom degrees were conferred:—

LL.B. Degree.—Richard William Bennett, Stanley Herbert Skipper.

M.A. Degree.—Caroline Clark, Ethel Roby Holder, John Kollosoche.

B.A. Degree.—John Colville, George Alfred Hancock, Arthur Hartley Harry.

B.Sc. Degree.—Willoughby George Bell, Richard Leslie Eugene Bosworth, Andrew Fairweather, Norman William Jolly, Gertrude Josephine Jude, David William Stanley McArthur.

The undermentioned graduates of other Universities were admitted ad eundem gradum:—Rev. John Husey, M.A. (University of Oxford), Rev. Reginald Arthur Adams, M.A. (University of Cambridge), Rev. Alexander Macully, M.A. (University of Melbourne), Frank Gordon Tolley, LL.B. (University of Cambridge), Frederick Lucas Benham, M.D. (University of London), Arthur Henry Gault, M.D. (University of London), Edward Angus Johnson, M.D. (University of Göttingen), Elizabeth Eleanor Weld, M.B. (University of Melbourne), Frank Magarey, M.B. (University of Sydney), Sydney Manton Verco, M.B. (University of Sydney), James Frederick Harris, M.B. (University of Melbourne), Henry George Chapman, M.B. (University of Melbourne), J. P. V. Madsen, B.Sc. (University of Sydney).

The Dean of the Faculty of Science (Mr. R. W. Chapman, M.A.) presented to the Chancellor Bertram Whittington, B.Sc., who has obtained the diploma in mining engineering and metallurgy of the University of Adelaide, and the Fellowship of the School of Mines and Industries. The Chancellor congratulated him on being the first student of the University to obtain these distinctions, and wished him every success in his future career.

The Acting Director of the Conservatorium (Mr. F. Bevan) presented the associates in music—Charlotte Ethel Violet Parkinson, Alice Mabel Sayers, Francesca Spehr, Helen May Whillias.

The Dean of the Faculty of Law (Professor Salmond) presented the Stow prizemen—Richard William Bennett, James Leslie Gordon, Herbert Kingsley Paine, and Stanley Herbert Skipper, and the Stow scholars—Richard William Bennett and Stanley Herbert Skipper. To Mr. Bennett the Chancellor said:—"I congratulate you on winning the highest distinction in the Faculty of Law of the University of Adelaide. The Stow scholarship has been established for 18 years, and you are the third student who has succeeded in obtaining it. I am sorry I am unable to present you with the gold medal."

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (Dr. Lendon) presented to the Chancellor the Dr. Davies-Thomas scholar, Helen Mary Mayo (student in medicine of the fourth year); and the winners of the Elder prizes—Robert Douglas Brummitt, Walter Henry Russell (equal) (students in medicine of the first year); Eudie Hardy Hinton Burnard, Phoebe Chapple (equal) (students in medicine of the second year).

The Dean of the Faculty of Arts (Professor Bensly) presented the John Howard Clark scholars—Elsie Eleanor Cowperthwaite, Annie Louisa Virginia Trehy, B.Sc. (equal); the Roby Fletcher scholars—James Leslie Gordon, Herbert Kingsley Paine (equal).

The acting Director of the Conservatorium presented the Elder scholars—Florence Olga Schache (pianoforte), Eugene Horatio Alderman (violin), Maurice Clayton Chenoweth (tenor), Harold Stephen Parsons (violin), and the winner of the Robert Whinham prize for elocution—Ennie Burford.

The Chairman of the Public Examinations Board (Professor Mitchell) presented the winners of the Tennyson medals for English literature—Mervyn Garnham Skipper (junior), Winnifred Breakspere Holder (senior), Emily Milvain Good (higher).

Lord Tennyson ascended the platform, and handed the medals to the successful students.

The proceedings concluded with the National Anthem, and the rendering of a grand Commemoration March (Scotts) (Clark) by Mr. T. H. Jones, Mus. Bac., who presided at the organ.

THE STUDENTS' DEMONSTRATION.

Varsity students the world over are wont to celebrate Commemoration Day with a demonstration all their own, in which relief from study is displayed by an exuberance of spirits and a boisterous good humor which cannot but prove contagious to all save those who have forgotten their own youthful days, and are apt to marvel at the pranks they no longer understand. It was announced on Wednesday that the students' performance would commence at 1.45 p.m., and long before that time the entrance to the Elder Hall was besieged by an eager and expectant crowd, who vainly sought admission. The doors were locked, and there appeared to be no disposition on the part of those in authority to open them. Some "sweet girl graduates," having taken time by the forelock, had obtained possession of the cloak-room, where they donned their academical robes, and from the window chaffed their less fortunate fellow-students. "You can't get in unless you push your way through the crowd," was the laughing rejoinder to every appeal, and as this means of forcing an entrance was well-nigh impossible those on the outside turned away with an impatient exclamation or a

plaintive sigh. At last one young lady, whose University career has earned her considerable distinction, approached the window, and one instinctively listened for the words which trembled on her lips, knowing full well that they must proceed from the fount of English undefiled, as befitting so scholarly a personage. "Chuck us my rag," was the sentence which fell upon the ear of the astonished bystander, and this being answered by a voice from the window, "I presume you mean your gown" was responded to with "Right you are, fling it here," and the gown was immediately projected through the window.

Just at this time the doors were opened, and a procession of students in burlesque robes was observed marching from the University building towards the Elder Hall. The highest authority on academical attire would certainly have been puzzled to distinguish the various faculties represented by the nondescript robes proudly worn by the students, and would probably have utterly failed to recognise Science in the two mud-bespattered gentlemen in mining costume, who, armed with pickaxe and spade, held a prominent place in the procession. Filing into the hall the students took possession of the platform, and immediately commenced the enactment of a low comedy in four acts, entitled "A tale of two ways," which turned out to be a burlesque of the customary commemoration ceremony. A managerial announcement respecting the comedy ran as follows:—"This most exciting, original, entertaining, amusing, and mirth-provoking production of many and numerous embryonic playwrights, the minority of whom have already attained unparalleled notoriety in their untiring, albeit fatiguing, efforts to reach the pointed pinnacle of fortune's fickle fame, and are ever now sustained in those mighty mazy meanderings in realms of retributive ridicule, and intend to endeavor to lose themselves in the leviathan labyrinths and wandering ways of effervescent effusions and evanescent ebullitions, sparkling with satirical scores, will be presented for only one consecutive performance, and of this there is no possible shadow of doubt whatever that its like will never be seen before." With the aid of wigs and other hirsute appendages, the students counterfeited the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, and the deans of the various faculties, endeavoring by characteristic actions to imitate the peculiar idiosyncracies of the various personages represented. The synopsis of the proceedings will give a fair idea of the performance. Act 1 showed a gathering of the clans with opening chorus—news of the arrest of chief of clan (chorus expressive of regret)—advent of chief under escort (policeman's song)—his release on bail. Act 2. Address of welcome—presentation of successful candidates by the deans of the various faculties—song, "Lay of schools." Act 3. Procession of gravediggers, &c., accompanied by the "Dead march"—exhumation of the Medical School—resuscitation according to novelist pneumatic notions. Finale. Chief rear-rested—attempted escape and recapture. The funniest incident in the comedy occurred in the third act, the resuscitation by means of a bicycle pump of the corpse representing the Medical School, being humorously conceived and carried into execution. During the subsequent ceremony the students were much quieter than in former years, and although they occasionally made a noisy demonstration, which sometimes was not in the best of taste, they appeared to have expended most of their energies in the production of the comedy.