

with the Conservatorium a position he has occupied for the last seven or eight years with marked success. His subjects are elements, harmony, counterpoint, and history. For six months during Professor Ives's absence in England, Mr. Jones took his place.

"The establishment of the Conservatorium," said Mr. Jones, "together with the institution of University examinations in music, has been a great incentive to the culture of the divine art in South Australia. Periodically concerts are given by the staff in the fine Elder Hall, the most modern of writings being submitted for the edification of the large audiences that attend. Every facility is afforded students in the matter of appearance before the public, but this, of course, is always at the discretion of the director, whose aim is to encourage any latent talent he may discover. From time to time local scholarships are awarded. In addition is the Elder scholarship, given triennially, and entitling the holder to a three-years' course at the Royal College of Music, London. Mr. Brewster Jones, a clever pianist, has just taken this scholarship and gone home. It may be awarded for any branch of music, such, for instance, as singing or violin-playing. The Conservatorium is practically affiliated with the Associated Board of the Royal College of Music and Royal Academy of Music, with which it co-operates in the matter of local examinations. South Australia is the only state where this is so. We have Trinity College examinations also."

"The effect of these examinations and the work done by the Conservatorium has been," said Mr. Jones, in answer to the query, "to raise the musical taste of South Australia to an incalculable degree. Twenty-five years ago the fantasia, the variation type of composition, was practically the only class of music heard. Everything is now of the best. Only that which reaches the highest ideal is tolerated."

It may be mentioned that Mr. Jones is a well-known organist. It was he who inaugurated organ recitals at the Adelaide Town Hall. This he did in 1885 to crowded audiences. For just upon 20 years he was organist of Brougham Place Congregational Church, North Adelaide, and for the last three years has held the dual position of organist and choirmaster at Pirie-street Methodist Church, often called the "Cathedral of Methodism," and over which the Rev. Henry Howard, a popular preacher, presides. The parents of Mr. Clem Hill, who not long ago married an heiress from "Bifrose," Launceston, are members of this church. Mr. Jones is a Victorian by birth, but has spent many years in South Australia, where he conducts a large teaching practice, pianoforte and other branches of the musical art. Miss Elsie Jones, who is making a name for herself in the old country, is his daughter. At present Miss Jones is touring England, Ireland, and Scotland as prima donna of a concert company, under the management of the well-known firm Messrs. Vert and Co., and whose performances have been highly spoken of in the London press.

It would appear to Mr. Jones that climatic influences are strongly at work in bringing Australian vocalists to the front. It is a fact, he considers, upon which we may well compliment ourselves.

Mr. W. W. Thornthwaite (city organist) took occasion of Mr. Jones's presence—it is his first visit here—to show him the Albert Hall, and the organ, which has been the subject of some adverse comment. When asked about the instrument, Mr. Jones contented himself with the admission that it required a very great deal doing to it. "Yes," said Mr. Jones, "I have had experience of electric power for organs. My organ at Adelaide is fitted with electric power, but it has its drawbacks. For instance, a variation in the pressure has been responsible for fusing, with the result that on occasions we have had to dispense with the instrument for the rest of the service. Three organs in Adelaide have been fitted with the electrical attachment. That in the Town Hall still retains its water-power. An organ to be kept in order requires constant attention. Many people are surprised when I tell them that mine is tuned every Saturday. Your organ is out of tune. Tuning every six months is not sufficient. An organ cannot receive too frequent attention, for the force and vibration are responsible for many things that require to be kept in constant view if the best results are to be attained."