

The Register.

ADELAIDE: THURSDAY, FEB. 26, 1885.

THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

The calendar of the Adelaide University for the current year is slightly more bulky than its predecessors. Further improvements have also been made in the arrangement of the matter. Among them we observe that to the list of *ad eundem* graduates is attached the name of the University where they graduated and the date of their admission to the Adelaide University. An alphabetical list of all students who have matriculated is also given. This is more convenient than the plan formerly adopted, and the list at last occupies its natural place in the calendar. The teaching staff is now a large one. Including the recent appointments to the Chairs of Chemistry, Music, and Anatomy, there are seven Professors and two Lecturers. The statutes relating to the three new Professorships appear in this year's calendar. There is also the report of the Medical School Committee, which has been adopted by the Council on the understanding that the recommendations concerning the lectures and the curriculum are only provisional. For the present, the year is to be divided into two sessions—the long one beginning in March and ending in August, and the short one beginning in September and ending in December. Among the matters specially affecting those who intend to offer themselves for examination is the resolution of the Senate about the junior examinations. The regulation fixed 16 as the maximum age at which candidates must present themselves. A special regulation was passed providing that in 1883 and 1884 the word "seventeen" should be substituted for "sixteen." The Senate have sent in a recommendation that the alteration to seventeen should be permanently retained. The question is still under the consideration of the Council, and should the view of the

Senate ultimately be adopted notice will be given in the daily papers. It will be remembered that two important changes have been made by the Education Department in the regulations as to the University Scholarships, and these are incorporated in this year's calendar. Candidates must have been resident in the colony for one year and not two, as formerly, on January 31 in the year in which they present themselves for examination. It is also provided that any scholar who may fail at the examination held at the close of the University year will forfeit his scholarship unless the failure is due to ill-health or other unavoidable cause. The students are no doubt aware that Mr. J. B. Sheridan has offered a prize of £12 12s. for an essay on "Comparative Law and Custom." All students attending any of the University lectures are eligible to compete, and the essays must be sent in not later than

September 8. Information is also published about the Gilchrist Scholarship, which is of the value of £100 per annum, and is tenable for three years, and is open to natives of the Australian Colonies or to such as have resided therein for five years immediately preceding the examination. Local examinations are held in Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide.

Further particulars may be obtained on application to the Education Department.

Most of the subjects referred to in the report which is appended to the calendar have been dealt with by us as they have arisen. During the year the degree of LL.B. was conferred upon six undergraduates, and the degree of B.A. upon three undergraduates. Five members of other Universities were also admitted to *ad eundem* degrees. Several paragraphs are devoted to the School of Medicine and the appointment of the Medical Professors and Lecturers; to the Professorship of Chemistry; and to the School of Music; but there is no information given beyond what has already been published. The subject of evening classes, we are informed, has received much attention from the Council, but "they regret that they have hitherto been unable to establish such classes owing to want of funds." This is to be regretted on several accounts. For one thing, the University has never yet spent all its income in the maintenance of the University work. Thus the general balance-sheet shows that there is a balance of income from the beginning of the University, after payment of annual charges for salaries, examination, advertising, printing, &c., of £19,331. Even last year there was a considerable balance. The income for 1884, exclusive of interest and subsidy on Medical School Endowment was £8,189. The "annual charges" were £5,994, and about £605 was expended besides for the Library, Laboratories, Museum, and Medical School. If the building had not absorbed so much of the income there would have been ample funds for evening classes. The subject is still under the consideration of the Council. The progress of the University as shown by the class-lists is not very great, and indeed in some directions there is a falling-off. Thus in 1884 5 students began their undergraduate course for the Arts degree, as against 7 in 1883. The numbers for the periods named beginning their undergraduate course for the LL.B. were respectively 11 and 35. The total

number studying for the LL.B. degree was 42, and 3 non-graduating students were studying to obtain certificates to enable them to practise in the Supreme Court. In 1884 53 undergraduates and 99 other students attended the various courses of lectures, and 11 of the latter entered themselves for the ordinary examination. The numbers in 1883 were 47, 106, and 25. The numbers entering for the Matriculation examinations in March and December were 29 and 61. In 1883 the numbers were 8 and 47. The passes last year were 40, and in 1883 they were 36. For the Junior examination there were 107 candidates, of whom 80 passed. In 1883 the numbers were 96 and 52.

In the management of their landed estate the University have not been very fortunate. Last year we expressed an opinion that a large part of the £5,906 then due for arrears of rent was worthless as an asset. This year we find that no less a sum than £2,908 has been written off from the general rent account "because it was found to be irrecoverable." It is the Wirreanda Estate which has yielded such disappointing results. It consists of 15,000 acres, and in 1879 was let on lease to eight tenants, of whom only four now remain on the land. The others abandoned their holdings of 6,948 acres, which