

in the fact that the standard of education has been lowered through the action of the University in fostering learning in grooves. Cramming has been most emphatically encouraged. Teachers, knowing that by the results of this examination they are liable to stand or fall in the estimation of their constituents, have been subjected to the irresistible temptation of priming their boys with answers to the most likely questions. Some of them require also that their boys should be absolutely neat, that they should rule their folios, paint their lines, and pin their sheets together. Everything goes all right for the crammed if the examiner happens to ask the stock questions. But if it occurs to him to ask questions which require thought and are out of the common beat, there is nothing left for the unfortunate schoolboy but to admit his ignorance, and take the consequences.

For the sake of giving some idea of the results of the Junior Examinations we have looked up the record of students examined during the last four years, inclusive of 1886. In this space of time there have been 490 candidates. Of these 277—counting those who have been successful on a second trial—have passed. There are no figures to show how many of those who presented themselves for examination were boys and how many girls, but of the 277 who passed, 88 were girls and 189 boys. This last examination has proved a field-day for the girls, inasmuch as out of 66 candidates 37 passed, whilst only 41 out of 93 boys were successful. It is further worthy of notice that out of nine candidates in the first class no less than six were girls. All of these were sent up from the Advanced School for Girls. Of the second class, the girls who passed comprised about one-third, while in the third class there are 24 of them as against 23 boys. Twelve schools prepared the 37 successful girl candidates, and to this number the Advanced School, it is only fair to note, contributed 20. At a time when people are beginning to consider more seriously the position of women in the world, it is interesting to

notice that girls are able to hold more than their own against boys in the elementary fields of learning. The high places for the boys are mostly gained by Prince Alfred College and St. Peter's, the Christian Brothers coming in a good third. The most satisfactory record that we know of is that furnished by the Mount Gambier School, which gives 100 per cent. of pupils. There may be others in the same fortunate position, but we mention this mainly because the first local examinations have been held this year in the country at Mount Gambier. This local examination branch of the system will probably be extended in time, and it is only right that it should be. All interested in education in the colony will join in hoping that the University will gradually be able more and more to enlarge the basis of its operations and to raise the tone of education throughout the colony.

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UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

EXAMINATIONS IN MUSIC.

The following are the results of the examinations held at the University this year for the degree of bachelor of music. Eighteen candidates entered—nine for each of the years—and of these 15 passed:—

ORDINARY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MUSICAL BACHELOR.

FIRST YEAR.

CLASS I. (in alphabetical order).—Mary K. Simpson, Florence M. Tilley.

CLASS II. (in alphabetical order).—Sophie R. Bagot, J. Bruer, C. Long, Evangeline Norman.

CLASS III. (in alphabetical order).—Ida Hill, Jeanie R. Wilson.

SECOND YEAR.

CLASS I.—None.

CLASS II. (in alphabetical order).—T. H. Jones, Franziska Puttmann, T. N. Stephens, Anna M. P. Whittell.

CLASS III. (in alphabetical order).—Ellen M. Cave, Mary C. Hamilton, Sarah Kay.

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THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The result of the examination for the degree of Bachelor of Music, which we publish to-day, must be regarded as a very satisfactory indication of the good work which is being done by the University School of Music. Last year, it may be remembered, forty-three students were enrolled for Professor Ives's first course of lectures on music. Many of these probably joined as much from motives of curiosity as from an earnest desire to improve their musical knowledge. Be this as it may only some twenty-three completed their attendance at lectures, and of these sixteen passed the first examination for the Mus. Bac. degree, two others failed, while five others did not present themselves. This year twenty-three students were enrolled, of whom fifteen have passed the examinations, and the rest have either, we assume,

not gone up or have failed to pass. The general result, we repeat, is very satisfactory, and must be a source of gratification to those gentlemen whose efforts brought about the foundation of the University Chair of Music. While the large number of students who joined in the first year cannot be taken as a fair standard for judging of the result of the experiment of inaugurating the Chair, the second year's numbers may be safely accepted as a guide to the future. It is perhaps not generally known that any person may attend these lectures without being obliged to go forward to the examinations—that, in short, the lectures are open to the general public as well as to the aspirants for degrees in music. If this were clearly understood we are sure there would be a still larger attendance at the University lectures on music.

The Board of Musical Studies—why not a Faculty of Music?—which has recently been formed has considered and approved a scheme of local examinations in the theory and practice of music. The regulations have been approved by the Senate, and the first examination will take place next year. We assume that Professor Ives is the author of the scheme, and we are glad to see in the provisions thus made for encouraging the study of music ample evidence of that earnest desire to provide