

Register 30th July 1901.

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**PROFESSOR IVES.**

To the Editor.

Sir—In your issue of to-day appears a paragraph having reference to myself which, apart from its grammatical strangeness, contains some inaccuracies as to fact. You say I asked the Council for "a statement," but do not say of what kind. It should read "a statement of the reasons that have led to their decision." You also say that the Council received a communication from some members of the Conservatorium staff. It would have been more correct to say "a petition from all the members of the teaching staff of the Conservatorium save one—Mr. Bevan—an omission that will be readily understood by all musicians."

I am, Sir, &c.,  
J. IVES.

[The paragraph was officially supplied to us.—Ed.]

**PERSONAL NOTES FROM ENGLAND.**

[From our own Correspondent.]  
"The Register" Office, 80, Fleet street.  
LONDON, June 28.

In the course of a pleasant chat which I had with him a few days ago, Professor E. C. Stirling gave me some interesting information concerning his movements from the period of his leaving Adelaide at the end of January until the present time. In crossing the Pacific his first place of call worth mentioning was the Hawaiian Islands. Here he remained three weeks—the interval between the arrival of one steamer of the American line running between the United States and Australasia and the departure of the next. The main object of his stay was to obtain a good view of Kilauea, the most gigantic of all known active volcanoes. It was unfortunate, regarding the matter from a spectacular point of view, that the burning mountain was not in eruption, but its comparative quiescence was favourable to extended observation, and a week was devoted to an examination of the marvellous natural phenomenon. From Honolulu the professor went on to San Francisco, but although much struck with that progressive city he very soon yielded to what he felt to be the still greater attractions of the country. In the part of Southern California of which Los Angeles is the centre he saw something of the marvellous industry of fruitgrowing to which so much attention is devoted in the empire state. Externally the cultivated areas closely resembled what is to be seen at Mildura and Renmark, but the visitor could not fail to note the enormous advantage which the flow of water by gravitation instead of its supply by pumping gives to the American producers. Thence a journey was undertaken to Arizona in order to get a sight of the grand canon of the Colorado—a river worn chasm 230 miles long, 12 miles wide, and from 5,000 to 7,000 feet deep. "A tidy sized hole that!" truly remarked the Professor, who, after lingering long enough in its vicinity to allow some idea of its vastness to penetrate his mind, passed on to witness the glories of the Yosemite Valley and the grandeur of the Mariposa grove of big trees. Luckily for him, the season was a comparatively early one, but the snow was still on the ground, and travelling was rather too difficult to be pleasant. A trip up the coast to Vancouver followed, and this again was succeeded by a ride on the Canadian Pacific Railway through the majestic scenery of the Rocky Mountains. Stopping short of Manitoba—locally pronounced with a long "o" and short final "a," the Professor took the branch line to Chicago, and from that phenomenal city went on to New York via Rochester and Niagara. After an excursion to Washington and Princeton University, he went on to New Haven, where he had the satisfaction of making a pretty thorough inspection of Yale University, to Boston and Cambridge, the latter famed as the site of the Harvard University, which was also visited; and afterwards to the three great Canadian cities of Montreal, Quebec, and Ottawa. Altogether the distance traversed by rail was about 9,000 miles, but the carriages were so comfortable and the tracks so smooth, the scenery was so varied and attractive, and the hospitality and kindness experienced at every calling place were so unlimited that the journey throughout proved most delightful. At the different centres visited Professor Stirling made it a point to inspect the libraries, laboratories, museums, and institutions of a kindred character, and speaking generally found them to be admirably equipped, thanks partly to the extraordinary liberality of both the Federal and the State Governments, and partly to the unbounded munificence of private benefactors. Wherever he went he was confronted with evidences of the praiseworthy efforts made to preserve specimens of natural history, and above all relics of the vanishing modern races. Neither trouble nor expense is spared to accomplish these objects. The professor regretfully decided that the time at his disposal would not admit of visits to Philadelphia and Baltimore, but he revelled in the examination of the splendid collections in the museums at Washington and New York. When at last he succeeded in tearing himself away from the fascinations of the United States and Canada, he embarked on board the Oceanic, with the exception of the Celtic, the largest vessel afloat, and made his way to England. Here, as already explained, he has been busy seeing friends and relatives, and formulating his plans for a systematic review of libraries and museums and so forth, both in the mother country and on the continent. On Saturday last he called on the Agent-General, who has been made the medium for handing over to him funds to be spent in enriching public institutions in Adelaide in which he takes a peculiar interest.

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.**

To the Editor.

Sir—The answer of the University respecting the Mus. Bac. examination is, in my opinion, incorrect. Rule xi. says, "The names of successful candidates at each examination shall be arranged in three classes in alphabetical order in each." You will find this rule on page 40 of the calendar for 1901, and it is in the previous calendar. Apparently, to suit some powerful interest, the word "examination" of the rule has been tortured so that it shall not include the final examination, but it is a curious fact that rule xi. is printed after the final examination of the candidates' work is described, and it is a further curious fact that in the year 1897 the only student who passed his final examination was classified. If you are allowed to examine the 1898 report you will find, I believe, that a candidate with powerful and wealthy connections was classed third-class in accordance with the regulations, and another candidate was classed second, but, strange to say, the second-class candidate was not admitted till next year, and the third-class candidate was admitted and the grade was not mentioned. Curious, is it not? As the public of South Australia subsidise the University they have the right to insist that everything in connection with the institution is straightforward. If wealth and power are to have influence inside as well as outside of the University it is about time that the public were made acquainted with the facts.—I am, &c.,  
A. T. SAUNDERS.

Register 30th July 1901.

**AMUSEMENTS.**

**ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.**

There was a smaller audience than usual at the Elder Conservatorium on Monday evening, when the second chamber music concert of the season was given by members of the teaching staff. The programme was important and interesting, for it contained Mendelssohn's fine trio in D minor, Op. 49, for pianoforte, violin, and cello; the same composer's pianoforte and cello sonata in D major, Op. 58; and Beethoven's sonata for pianoforte and violin, Op. 24. Miss Elsie Hall, Mr. Reiman's talented locum tenens, made her first appearance in Adelaide in chamber music, and, with Messrs. H. Heinicke and H. Kugelberg, gave an enjoyable interpretation of the Mendelssohn trio. Throughout the four movements the three performers manifested unity of purpose, sympathy, and artistic refinement that deserve warm commendation, and their playing of the sprightly little scherzo calls for specially favourable comment. Both the opening and closing movements were rendered with great brilliancy and spirit, and Miss Hall's performance of the difficult pianoforte part was particularly fine, and at the same time devoid of any gymnastic exploits. Mr. Heinicke and Miss Hall were associated in Beethoven's magnificent sonata for pianoforte and violin, Op. 24, which was one of the best numbers of the evening. The violinist's command over his instrument was admirably displayed in the merry, piquant scherzo; and in the adagio his full, rich tone told out to great advantage. The pianiste proved equally satisfactory, and the efforts of the two instrumentalists were rewarded with rounds of applause. The programme was concluded by Mr. Kugelberg and Miss Hall, who played Mendelssohn's pianoforte and cello sonata in a careful and finished manner, that must have met with the warm approval of the musical connoisseurs present. Vocal relief was afforded by Miss Minna Gebhardt, who sang a couple of original and effective songs by Dvorak, entitled "Silent and lone" and "Tune thy strings, oh gipsy," with intelligence and finish; and Miss Alice Sayers, who was heard in Sterndale-Bennett's "May dew" and "Dawn, gentle flower." Both of these were admirably given, the sotto voce effects in the last named being specially worthy of praise; a recall followed, and was complied with by a partial repetition of the song. The accompaniments were shared by Miss Gull Hack, A.R.C.M., and Mr. Frederick Bevan.

**MISS ELSIE HALL'S RECITALS.**

Considerable interest is being manifested in local musical circles in Miss Elsie Hall's forthcoming series of pianoforte recitals, the first of which will be given at the Victoria Hall next Thursday evening. For her opening performance the gifted young Australian pianiste has prepared a representative and interesting programme, containing compositions by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt, Sinding, and Raff, the great Leipzig cantor being represented by his celebrated "Chromatic fantasia and fugue." His Excellency the Governor and Lady Tennyson will be present at the first recital.

Reg. 30th July.

**PROFESSOR IVES AND THE UNIVERSITY.**

Professor Ives wrote to us last night:—"The Council of the university have made public through your columns the fact that they do not propose renewing my appointment as Elder Professor of Music after the end of this year. Many years of earnest service—service that has resulted in placing the school of music on a self-supporting basis—justify me in expecting to be informed of the reasons that have led to this surprising decision. I have twice written to the chancelor of the university asking this favour. My requests have not been complied with. I therefore think it due to myself, to my public position, and to the numerous workers in musical education whose petitions have been presented to the Council to ask this publicly for the reasons."

Advertiser 30th July 1901.

**THE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR OF MUSIC.**

We have received the following letter, dated July 29, from Professor Ives:—"In your issue of to-day appears a paragraph having reference to myself, which, besides its grammatical strangeness, contains some inaccuracies as to fact. You say I asked the Council for a 'statement,' but do not say of what kind. It should read, a statement of the reasons that have led to their decision. You also say that the Council received a communication from some members of the Conservatorium staff. It would have been more accurate to say 'a petition from all the members of the Conservatorium staff save one—Mr. Bevan—an omission that will be readily understood by all musicians.' The paragraph on which Professor Ives comments was extracted from the report of the meeting of the Council supplied to us by the University authorities."

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**PROFESSOR IVES.**

To the Editor.

Sir—I have read the short notice from Professor Ives regarding his somewhat (to the public, any way) mysterious resignation (so-called) of the position of Professor of the Chair of Music. I contend that Professor Ives is quite within his rights when he asks for the reason of his forced resignation. Without this the public is left to imagine every evil under the sun as the cause of his not being wanted at the end of the year. If Professor Ives is not ashamed or afraid that this reason, whatever it may be, shall be made public in the press, surely the Council of the university need have no fear, if their cause is just. It is an open secret that for some considerable time the sweet harmony that is given on the platform of the conservatorium does not exist amongst the teachers of that institution; and is it to be wondered at, when the mad desire of the day is for so much of the foreign element as teachers amongst the powers that be? If another is eventually to take the place of Professor Ives let us hope at least that he may be English; and if the Council think that degrees are of any value at all let them show it by engaging men who possess them. Because an individual can write a song with a tune in it, it doesn't follow that his musical knowledge is such as to fit him to be head of an important musical establishment; and is it right to overlook the fact that there are many competent and good musicians, local men and Australians, who deserve some consideration at the hands of those in power, even though they cannot write here before their respective names?  
I am, Sir, &c.,  
A LOVER OF JUSTICE.

Register 31st July 1901.

**PROFESSOR IVES AND THE UNIVERSITY.**

Mr. PRICE called attention to a letter by Professor Ives in the press that morning, in which the writer said he had twice written to the Chancelor of the University for the reasons why the Council did not propose to re-appoint them. Seeing that the Government subsidized and endowed the university had no power to interfere in a removal like that?  
The CHIEF SECRETARY said the Government had no power over the management of the university at all. Any information obtained from the university was furnished to the Government by courtesy.

Advertiser 31st July 1901.

Mr. Frederick Bevan has received the following letter, dated "July 22, H.M.S. Opair":—"Lady Mary Lygon presents her compliments to Mr. Bevan, and is desired by H.R.H. the Duchess of Cornwall and York to thank him very much for the MS. copy of the two songs sung at the Adelaide University on July 11. Her Royal Highness much enjoyed the singing of the songs, and is particularly glad to have the music of them, especially in such a charming form."