

Register August 23 (1887).

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

LOCAL EXAMINATIONS IN MUSIC.

The first examinations in the theory and practice of music have been fixed to take place early in November next. As these examinations are likely to have some effect upon musical education in these colonies a brief explanation of their mode of working may be both interesting and useful to students.

Local centres will be formed in the populous districts of Australia, and in each of such districts an Hon. Local Secretary will be appointed, whose duties will consist in answering enquiries from intending candidates and superintending the theoretical examination on the day fixed. We learn that numerous offers to act in this capacity have been received from gentlemen in the principal towns in every part of South Australia, and a list of the various centres with the names of the Secretaries will shortly be made public.

The examination in theory of music will be held early in November next. Names of intending candidates must be sent to the Registrar of the University by the first day in October. This examination will be held simultaneously in every town where an Hon. Secretary has been appointed. Sealed packets containing the examination papers will be sent to the various local Secretaries and opened by them in the presence of the candidates. After the papers have been worked they will be sealed in the presence of the candidates and sent back to the University for examination. All the papers from each centre will be inspected by the same examiner, and thus tested by the one standard. The examination will be held in two divisions—junior and senior—and certificates of first and second class will be awarded to successful candidates in each division. In the junior division the questions will test the candidates' knowledge of the elements of music, with some easy exercises on the formation of common chords. In the senior division the papers will include questions on harmony in four parts, counterpoint in two parts, and the outlines of the history of music.

The examination in practical subjects will also be held early in November. The first examination will be held only in Adelaide and such other centres as may have sufficient candidates to meet the expenses of an examination. Candidates may offer themselves in any or more of the following subjects:—(a), pianoforte playing; (b), singing; (c), organ playing; (d), playing upon any orchestral instruments (as the violin, flute, clarionet, &c.).

Certificates of first and second class will be given for each of these subjects. Candidates will be asked to (a) perform a solo selected by themselves from lists of pieces published in the University Calendar; (b) play or sing a short piece of music at sight; (c) perform such scales as may be called for by the examiner; (d) answer questions on the elements of music.

Although the practical examinations will probably be held only in Adelaide this year, it is possible that in the future they may be extended to the adjacent colonies, should there be a demand for them. Such are the general details of these examinations, and it is evident that the University authorities are quite in earnest in their desire to encourage the department over which Professor Ives presides. We trust that music students will freely avail themselves of the opportunities of proving their merits, which the granting of these certificates afford, and that the local examinations in music will serve to develop a pure taste for the best music.

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THE INTERCOLONIAL MEDICAL CONGRESS.

—The sittings of the Intercolonial Medical Congress, which will begin to-morrow, will be attended by representatives from nearly all the colonies. At present there are over 150 members, and the list is being increased daily, but unfortunately many will be precluded from attending on account of their professional duties. The movement has everywhere been most enthusiastically taken up, and the Governors of South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania, and Fiji have become patrons. At 1 o'clock the members will be received by His Worship the Mayor, after which they will lunch with Mr. Smith, and at 3 o'clock the inaugural meeting is to take place in the Council Chamber. His Excellency the Governor will open the proceedings, after which the President (Dr. Verco) will deliver an address. Ladies and gentlemen will be admitted to the opening on presentation of their cards, and the committee specially desire that visitors may be seated ten minutes before the Governor arrives. Members of various scientific bodies have accepted invitations to be present at this gathering. All the subsequent meetings will be held at the University. On Tuesday evening the Chancellor will give a conversazione in honour of the members of the Congress, while the South Australian members have invited their intercolonial friends to dine with them in the Town Hall on Friday evening. Various other entertainments will be provided, and excursions are to be arranged by the Reception Committee. The special features of the Congress will be the opening address by the President, the address at the general meeting in the library of the University on Wednesday by Dr. J. Williams, Lecturer in Medicine at the Melbourne University, and those on succeeding days by Mr. T. N. Fitzgerald, of Melbourne, on "Surgery," by Mr. J. Foreman, of Sydney, as Chairman of the Section in Gynecology, and on "State Medicine" by Dr. Whittell.