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No doubt the Council of the University when they agreed to admit female students to degrees in medicine anticipated the difficulties that would arise about teaching them. Those difficulties would not have to be met if there were no objections to the male and female students attending lectures together in the same room. Such objections have been raised, however, on the score of decency and delicacy, and the way out of the dilemma is not so easy as it seems. At the meeting of the council on Tuesday evening Mr. Ellery spoke very strongly against the proposal, and so did Dr. Girdlestone; while Mr. Justice A'Beckett thought that they had gone quite far enough when they consented to qualify women for the profession, and should leave them to obtain the qualification in the ordinary way as best they could. His expectation clearly is that they would shrink from the ordeal altogether, and thus the question would settle itself without any further trouble. Dr. Madden, on the other hand, is ready with a compromise. He would leave the lectures as they are, and let the female students have the *entrée* to them along with the males; but he would separate the two by a screen, so that they might be spared the embarrassment of looking each other in the face. One alternative between these plans is to lecture them separately, but this would involve two sets of lecturers, and that means additional expense. A modification of this plan was finally proposed by Mr. Justice Webb, who moved that the Faculty of Medicine should be requested to state what lectures in the course might, in their opinion, be given to the male and female classes in conjunction, without overtaxing their modesty, and what should be reserved for separate delivery. The responsibility for the present is thus thrown upon the Medical Faculty, and perhaps they are the proper persons to decide. They had previously decided in favor of mixing the students indiscriminately, but their decision was dictated by motives of economy; and if there is no practical



objection to the separate system, and the council will find the money, they may fall in with the proposed compromise. Whether they do or not, however, it will never do to deprive the women of the degree which has just been granted to them by making it impossible to get the necessary training to qualify themselves for it. We do not believe that they are quite so prudish as it pleases the men to think them. A girl who has made up her mind to earn her living by healing the diseases of her fellow creatures, and amputating their limbs when necessary, must be pretty well prepared to face any preliminary ordeal that may be presented to her; and it is open to question whether she really sympathises very heartily with the arguments and objections that the men with the very best intentions advance in her behalf. There is a good deal of genuine coarseness in even the finest fibred women. When Pauline Borghese, Napoleon's beautiful sister, was twitted with sitting to Canova as naked as Eve before the Fall, she replied with perfect *naïveté* that there was a fire in the room; and we dare say there are plenty of girls in Melbourne, to whom the prospect of a professional life is a source of happiness and an object of legitimate ambition, who would listen to an anatomical lecture in the same business spirit, and with just as little suspicion of impropriety. Still, all girls are not *ingenuës*, and the general feeling undoubtedly will be that if it is possible to teach them what they ought to be taught without offending their feelings, it ought to be done even at a little temporary sacrifice.

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