

S. A. Register
22nd June 1889.

SENIOR PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—I notice in this morning's paper a letter signed by "S." in reference to this subject. I can corroborate his statements with regard to those who have to pass this examination after they have left school, and the hardship and loss it entails upon such. I have in my mind a young man, who has risen by his own ability to a position of trust, and has merely to pass this examination to enter upon a course of legal study. This, however, he has not yet been able to do owing to the insufficient time he can spare in any one year to prepare the set books for that year. This year he has been unable to begin study until just lately on account of having a growth upon his eye, caused by studying in the evenings, which he has had to have cut off. If he is unable to present himself in November he will have to pay a fee of £77s. for March or take up a new set of textbooks prescribed for the following year. Having left school at an early age he, no doubt, lacks the groundwork that is now so well supplied by our Colleges and schools. The time is not the only thing which such a one lacks, for fees are required for coaching and books in addition to the examination fees. It has been suggested by some members of the legal profession that an exception should be made in such a case as this, and allow articles to be entered into on showing a competent knowledge of English subjects and the rudiments of other necessary subjects, the candidate's knowledge of the practice of law to be considered as equivalent for any lack on other subjects. I would not allow any clerk obtaining such a certificate to enter as a matriculated student for the LL.B. degree, but would confine him to the subject required by the Court for a pass certificate. Should he require a degree, which of course is not necessary for admission as a practitioner and is merely honorary, it is only fair that he should pass the full examination. If such a course were opened up it would confer a boon on many who would in time be a credit to the profession, but are now doomed to a life of clerkship merely because they have not the time and money to spend in studying for the Senior Public Examination.

I am, Sir, &c.,

GRADUATE.

S. A. "Register"

26th June 1889.

A CONTRAST.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Two years ago I was apricating myself at the Exhibition Grounds one pleasant afternoon, listening to the band, when two young ladies seated themselves on the bench beside me, and, ignoring my insignificance, talked. They seemed to know most of the visitors, and as these descended the steps from the main building they became the subjects of a running commentary, not ill-natured, but exhaustive. The fashion of their dress, its material, its cost, its effectiveness, its harmony (or otherwise) of colour, how long it had done duty, where made, and numerous other details, were discussed in a manner that was as amusing as it was thorough.

Two weeks ago I was travelling by rail, and was again conscious of a conversation by my side. In this case the young lady talked enthusiastically of her musical studies, of the classes at the University, of harmony and counterpoint, of Professor Bragg's siren, and Professor Ives's lectures, of Day and Macfarren, and of her hopes of becoming a Bachelette of Music. The first conversation was amusing, but cloying; the second was interesting, and I wished for more. But there was a cloud on the horizon. Professor Ives's time was nearly up, and it was feared he would leave. Is there no way to prevent this? Is there no one connected with the University who will make up the triumvirate with Sir. W. Hughes and Sir T. Elder and found a — Professorship of Music? Or, failing this, will not the musical people of South Australia and the relatives and friends of the pupils by concerts and donations supplement the liberal offers already made, and put the Chair of Music out of jeopardy? Better, perhaps, that the movement should be a general one, so that South Australia may prove that her asserted love of music is more than an empty boast.—I am, Sir, &c., SEMITONE.

S. A. Register

29th June 1889.

MUSIC AND ART.—The opportunities afforded in this city for the education of citizens in the higher artistic accomplishments are such as will compare favourably with those in any city of twice the size. The State has munificently endowed a School of Painting and a School of Design, supplying each with a competent teacher. Private persons, inspired thereto by the example of our late Governor, have given our University the benefit of being the only institution of the kind south of the Line which has a Chair of Music. Upon this latter point an opinion is given by a correspondent in to-day's issue. This speaks for itself. But we would invite earnest attention to the fact that if things are left as they are we shall by this time twelve-month have no Chair of Music in our University. Professor Ives arrived in March, 1885, and began his work in the following month. He knew, of course, that his appointment was only for five years, but he may be excused if he supposed that his engagement would be renewed. Without posing for a moment as champion of the Professor—who is well able to speak for himself—we say unhesitatingly that it would be a great blunder to stop the lectures and examinations in music. It is all very well for people to say that the great musicians—the Mendelssohns and the Handels and the Wagners—had no degrees. That