

also fails to attract, for although there was a slight increase in the aggregate of passes last year only produced four freshmen as against five in 1890. An improvement is noticeable in the attendance of non-graduating students upon lectures in special subjects, and from this fact we would fain deduce favourable auguries for the future. That the total number of undergraduates in Arts should be only twelve in the seventeenth year of the University's existence is, however, by no means an inspiring reflection. The graduating students in music have decreased from thirty-four to twenty-one, and the other figures given as to the operations of the Board of musical studies are not so encouraging as could be wished. In its capacity as an examining body the University has done excellent service, the returns abundantly indicating the growing popularity of the examinations conducted under its auspices.

Turning to the balance-sheets of the institution we are pleased to see that the reforms initiated a year ago in the mode of presenting the accounts are continued. We should have been still more gratified to be able to record that the governing

body of the University had seen its way to revise its methods of procedure respecting various matters to which we have before had to call attention, but unfortunately this satisfaction is denied us. We notice that of the amount of £390 received from fees and other sources to meet the cost of evening classes no less than £241 is absorbed into the ordinary funds of the institution, or, as the Finance Committee prefer to put it, is "credited to general charges." In like manner the amount accruing under various scholarships and not devoted to prizes is "transferred to general account." Surely this cool process of appropriation was never contemplated by the donors of the scholarships, and surely any surplus from the evening classes should be used to further the specific purpose for which the money is provided. If the Council cannot see the force of this contention steps should be taken to stimulate their enfeebled sense of fairness and propriety. Upon one entry in the balance-sheet we can heartily congratulate them. It shows that they have at length realized the necessity of paying back to the Endowment Fund placed in their hands for the general purposes of the University—in other words, for meeting the various charges necessary for promoting the cause of higher education—the amount applied by them to building account. The sum set apart by them last year for this purpose was £500, and presumably it is their intention to make a similar refund annually. Even if they do the process of liquidating their liability, apart from any question of interest, will not be completed much under forty years, but it is satisfactory to know that they have made a beginning. It may be, indeed, that on the principle of helping those who help themselves the Government and private contributors will now step in and lighten their burden for them. It is at first sight rather depressing to note that the credit balance, which during 1890 decreased from some £1,200 to £704, had further diminished by the end of 1891 to £249, but we are assured that this last total is exclusive of an amount accruing due for

We have received a copy of the Adelaide University Calendar for the academical year 1892, and, as usual, it contains valuable information with regard to the future, a very complete record of the work done during the last twelve months, and much of the history of the institution since the Act of incorporation was passed in 1874. The list of graduates and undergraduates is now very formidable. Of the former 105 are members of the senate, while 46 of the rank of bachelors do not belong to that body. There are 21 professors and lecturers, while in every department the University is excellently equipped for the purpose of imparting knowledge to students seeking the degrees set out in its letters patent. In the first part of the yearbook all necessary information is given with regard to the requirements of the current year in the various classes, while in the appendix are given the examination papers set in March and April, 1891, the annual report, classlists, and balance-sheets. The financial statement shows a deficiency in the bank balance, which is rather apparent than real; six months' accrued interest on Treasury bills amounting to £375 is omitted; while rent and interest, totalling £413, are in arrear, and mortgages, which fell in during the twelve months, have also reduced the income.

# The Advertiser

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1892.

CARDINAL NEWMAN has left us in his "Idea of a University Defined and Illustrated" his ideal of what a University should be and should do. It is from the the Calendar of the Adelaide University that the general public must draw their idea, if not an ideal, of the local seat of learning. The Calendar of 1892 contains 191 pages and an appendix of some 285. The former are in the main a repetition of what appears in each succeeding calendar. The latter includes the examination papers set in March, April, and November, the annual report, the undergraduate and pass class lists in the various faculties and in the public examinations, and concludes with the usual balance-sheet. Dealing with the last mentioned first, it is to be presumed that it is drawn up in exact accordance with the theory and practice of bookkeeping. But we think that without much addition or expansion it might be made a far clearer exposition of the finances of the University and their management than it is in its present form. For instance, lumping in one sum under one head "salaries" is not sufficient for those who are only proselytes of the outer court. We confess we should like to see set out in greater detail the cost of the teaching staff of the University in each separate school or faculty, instead of a total as in the balance-sheet before us; and so of other items. In saying this we have no desire to present statistics of the number of graduates and undergraduates and their cost to the State. Obviously the professorial and tutorial staff which is indispensable for a limited number would be equal to a much larger attendance in the lecture halls; and it would be as unfair as it would be misleading to conclude that the finished article—the graduate—is turned out at a cost which makes the game not worth the