

passed. The proportions are nearer in regard to the matriculation examination, when out of 92 boys and 31 girls, 46 boys and only 14 girls were successful.

This last comparison, which may or may not be held suggestive of the limits to which female competition in learning reaches, brings us directly to a consideration of the real work of the University, so far as it affects culture rather than knowledge, during the past year. The preliminary examinations as conducted by the University are an admirable test of the ability of preliminary and secondary schools to teach according to the prescribed method, and in arranging them after a better fashion the Council has certainly done good work. But it would never do if the other faculty of the University—the teaching faculty—were allowed to become less powerful, and in examining the record of its year's work the enquirer will naturally ask what progress has been made in this respect. It would be interesting to know whether the regulation which allows Professors to admit fit students without public examination has been acted upon. Failing this information we must assume that the twenty-one candidates who matriculated in March of last year are the only people who are proceeding for the first year's course in Arts during the session which begins next week. At least it is to be supposed that the new regulations which deprive this examination of its commercial value as a test of scholarship will have prevented the entry of candidates other than those who desired to prosecute higher studies. If the University has this number to begin with it will be very satisfactory. A fair proportion will join the Arts School and give the lecturers something more to do. Last year only three students commenced the course, three completed the first year, eleven completed the second year, and four the third. Empty benches cannot be appreciated by the Professor, who has as much work to do for five or six students as he would have for sixty, and who is besides deprived of that great stimulus which a good attendance gives. The same remark applies to the Science School, where Professor Rennie last year lectured one student in the first year, one in the second, and one in the third. The Medical School is growing apace, and the degrees gained here should, with such professors and lecturers as we are fortunate enough to possess, be highly esteemed. Five students have finished the first year of the course, three the second, and five the third, whilst new material is provided in eight persons, who are beginning their medical studies. The market for lawyers is still brisk, and last year twenty-nine undergraduates studied for a degree and nineteen non-graduating students for certificates to enable them to practice in the Supreme Court. Altogether the number of undergraduates in the various courses was 110, besides which sixty-nine non-graduating students attended different classes. The Board of Musical Studies is progressing favourably. Three ladies and two gentlemen are entitled now, so far as the Board is concerned, to write the letters Mus. Bac. after their names; whilst eleven students have commenced the course, eight completed the first year of it and four the second. Amongst other matters of interest, the alteration in the regulations bearing on the Angas

Engineering Scholarship may again be noticed. In consequence of the non-appearance of candidates in 1886 and 1887, the Council suggested to the donor of the Scholarship to pay the capital sum appropriated by him to its foundation, so as to allow of the establishment, in addition to the Scholarship, of three Exhibitions, each tenable for three years and each of the annual value of £60. To this suggestion Mr. Angas agreed, and it may reasonably be hoped that the new arrangement will result in the furnishing of wholly suitable candidates for the more important benefaction. Evening lectures are still being given at the University with great success, as may be judged from the fact that last year 389 lectures in different subjects were delivered, and that the attendances in the three terms reached the aggregate of 332. It only remains to be noted that on the requisition of Professor Bragg an assistant lecturer in mathematics has been appointed—the Council feeling that this extra expense was really unavoidable.

The Advertiser

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1888.

THE first term of the current year of the University began on Tuesday last, and on Wednesday, the 28th, the Senate holds its first meeting. On that day elections to the offices of warden and clerk will take place, and to-day the time for sending in notices of motions to be brought forward at the meeting of the Senate, and for making nominations of candidates for the offices mentioned, expires. The Senate will also be called upon to elect members to fill the vacancies created in the Council. Five members of the Council retire annually, and on the present occasion the number of vacancies has been increased to seven by two resignations. In the Council is vested the entire management of the University, and the Act of Incorporation sets out in detail what is implied in the term management. The Council has full power to appoint and dismiss all professors, lecturers, examiners, officers, and servants, and has entire management and superintendence over the affairs, concerns, and property of the University, subject to its statutes and regulations. The latter may be made and altered; but we see, by the way, no reference to repeal, though the power of making fresh statutes and altering existing ones may be taken to be equivalent, so far as they relate to discipline, to the professors, students, rewards attached to a University career, and all other matters; in short, *de omnibus rebus et quibusdam aliis*. But no new statute or regulation, or alteration or repeal of any existing statute, shall be of force until approved by the Senate. The proviso is another of the hundred and one instances of the carelessness and inaccuracy of the language of Acts. The former part of the section gives no expressed power of repeal. The proviso contemplates the possibility of such a power being exercised. It will be seen