

nounced caution his academic position is more favorable to the formation of a correct judgment than that occupied by some who are more ready to commit themselves. As to private schools he is less satisfied. He thinks they ought to take up secondary education at the point where the primary schools leave off, and give a more liberal education than is provided by the State without any reference to the University examinations. His complaint against them is that they instruct but do not educate the mind, and his remarks on the means for carrying on higher education are well worthy of careful attention. The subject of the education of girls occupied a considerable portion of his recent address, and while he is probably justified in urging that greater attention should be paid to physical training we cannot see why he should have singled out the Advanced School for Girls for special attack. That institution needs no justification from us. Its success proves that it was really required and is its best vindication. While admiring the modesty with which Professor Boulger spoke of his limited knowledge on some of the topics he touched upon, we venture to think that on this one he really does need further and fuller information.

✓ advertiser September 14/1889

#### THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION AT THE UNIVERSITY.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Somehow the University authorities fail to make effective arrangements for the examination of the preliminary candidates. I wish through your columns to point out how absurdly stupid and unfair the course adopted in the dictation on Wednesday was. The male candidates were examined in two batches. The first sat from 9.30 to 10 a.m. They were then released, and freely mixed with the second batch, as yet unexamined, and the words which had presented difficulties were criticised and canvassed. The chances, therefore, of success in the case of the latter were greatly enhanced. I would further point out to the board of examiners that should candidates be rejected under these, to say the least, peculiar circumstances, grave dissatisfaction will exist. Would it not be a fairer test of the orthographical capabilities of the candidates to discard the dictation and judge solely on the spelling in their English and composition papers? The girls, too, I am credibly informed, had their dictation given out to them by an estimable old Scotch lady; but evidently the attempt was so unsatisfactory that the Registrar was forced to come to the rescue.—I am, &c., B.M.

P.S.—Since writing the above I find that some of the female candidates were allowed to rewrite their dictation. I hold in my possession the rough copy of one of their papers. This great advantage was denied any of the male candidates. How, then, can the marking of work performed under such diverse conditions be equitably arranged?

#### THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Great praise is due to the University authorities for the improved manner of conducting this examination. For instance, they have placed the arithmetic in the morning, the dictation and reading at a special hour, and chosen an interesting book as a test for the reading. They have also appointed the examination before the extreme heat of summer. There are, however, two points a slight change would be of great advantage to candidates, viz., to allow a special hour for composition, and to have the dictation given out by a gentleman or lady accustomed to teach the subject. Many complaints are made as to the manner in which the set piece is dictated. Now that shorthand is being so largely taught, and most modern languages are phonetic, it is somewhat strange that we Australians should set so much store on a method of spelling which defies all phonetic rules. The spelling of the day is purely arbitrary. We do not copy our ancestors, our descendants will probably supersede us. Some of our cleverest men would find a difficulty in getting a pass in dictation at the Adelaide University. Still, if spelling counts as a failing subject at the threshold of a University career, by all means let candidates have no scope for complaining that they cannot hear what the examiner says.

I am, Sir, &c.,

SHORTHAND.

Registrar  
16/9/89

Advertiser, Sept<sup>r</sup> 17 1889.

## DICTATION AT THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—On reading "B.M.'s" letter on this subject I also ascertained from some of the candidates how the dictation was really conducted, and all that I heard fully corroborated his statements, and something more. The opportunity which the less fortunate batch A to G had had of priming their friends and classmates in H to Z for the coming test was not only presented, but actually and systematically adapted, lists of the difficult and unusual words being obligingly transferred by some of the former to their lucky successors. In consequence, I respectfully submit that the two batches were not placed in that exact equality of conditions which is imperative.—I am, &c.,  
September 16, 1889, M.

Advertiser Sept<sup>r</sup> 17 1889.

## APPLICATION BY A SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FOR ADMISSION TO THE MELBOURNE BAR.

[By Telegraph.]

Melbourne, September 16.

An application for the admission of Mr. Albert Edward Jones, LL.B., of the Adelaide University, to practice at the bar in Victoria, was made to the Supreme Court to-day. It appears that Mr. Jones applied to the council of the Melbourne University in the first instance for an *ad eundem* degree, which was refused, the council not regarding the standard of the sister University as sufficiently high. Five years' course is necessary to qualify for the degrees of bachelors of laws in this colony and only three in South Australia. Mr. Jones next applied to the Board of Examiners for Barristers for a certificate entitling him to admission, but this was refused, and he appealed to the three judges of the Supreme Court. Their honors intimated that they considered the applicant qualified, and made order accordingly. This is regarded as having the force of a certificate, and on the strength of the judges' order Mr. Jones applied for admission to the bar to-day. Mr. Fink appeared in support, and Mr. Goldsmith, as provided by the rules, appeared as member of the bar to oppose.

Mr. Justice Holroyd thought he should hold himself bound by the decision of the judge who heard the appeal. He did not see how the court could sit and hear an appeal from the finding of the three judges who sat as a court of appeal. Mr. Goldsmith said the whole point was that the degree of the University of Adelaide was not recognised by the University of Melbourne.

Mr. Justice Holroyd—That was the point argued before the three judges, and on that they gave their order.

Mr. Justice A'Beckett—Is there any evidence to show that they are admitted to other degrees?

Mr. Goldsmith—I have the affidavit of the registrar of the Melbourne University to show that no statute has been passed recognising the University of Adelaide, and the board of examiners has therefore no power to recognise these degrees.

The Chief Justice considered the dismissal or allowance of the judges was not expressly intended to be final, and the right was reserved to any person to show cause.

Mr. Goldsmith said that if the order of the three judges were final it practically took away the power given under rule 17.

Mr. Justice A'Beckett—The matter could be again argued if the certificate had been fraudulently signed.

The Chief Justice—The fact that the judges made the rule seems to place us in the same position as if they had given a certificate.

Dr. Madden asked to be allowed to say a few words as representing the bar committee. The former court of three judges was asked to decide the question on an *ex parte* statement. The Board of Examiners was not a party to the action, and in a question of this kind was the tribunal, and could not be made a party. The board could not make an order until the applicant had obtained their certificate, and the University of Melbourne had never recognised any degree but those of the United Kingdom.