

The above words, "Government bonds, debentures, or securities," are taken from the clauses in the two trust deeds in which provision is made as to how the money is to be invested, and to or for no other purpose. To that letter the Registrar replied as follows on August 31:—

"In reply to yours of the 4th inst., I have the honour by the direction of the Council to state that no part of the £40,000 mentioned in your letter is at present invested upon any of the securities mentioned in your letter now under reply, and to add what you may have forgotten, that each of the donors has executed a deed permitting other modes of investment." (These deeds are of course valueless.)

It was simply to ascertain by whose authority the original trust deeds had been altered, and what were the nature of the alterations, that I mooted the question at the Senate meeting yesterday; and I still say that the trust moneys have been spent without authority, inasmuch as the trust deed by which Sir W. W. Hughes contributed his £20,000 to the University forms part of, as I have repeatedly told the Registrar, and is incorporated with the University Act, and could not in anywise be altered without the sanction of Parliament; and, moreover, that any alterations in the deeds must have the sanction of both Senate and Council. If I am wrong in my contention surely it would have been easy for the Warden to set me right by answering a simple question, and not take advantage of his position as Warden to stifle a legitimate discussion of a matter involving important issues.

I am, Sir, &c.,
GEORGE AUGUSTUS LABATT,
 Member of the Senate.

The Advertiser

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1881.

BOTH the senate and the council of the University of Adelaide have some important work in hand in conceiving and carrying out the changes in the course of education which circumstances require. The completion of the new building and the reception of an extended charter from England have necessitated both change and enlargement in the arrangements of the University. At a meeting of the senate held on Wednesday last the details of the new arts and science curriculum were brought down from the council and finally passed. Perfect unanimity in regard to these details cannot be expected, but the public may rest assured that Mr. Chapple, who has scrutinised these regulations with a keen practical eye, was right when he said that the new code of rules was an immense improvement on that hitherto existing. These new rules will come into force during the year 1882, and the public will have an opportunity of studying them in the calendar which will shortly be published. The council of the University has taken the initiative in another movement which promises to be of great interest to the entire colony. It has signified its willingness to undertake the legal training of the rising generation of lawyers. Whatever may be said of the peril that attaches to such a policy—for to meddle with the rights and privileges of lawyers is an awkward game

to play at—the council may be congratulated on having overcome its first danger. At a recent meeting of the Legal Association, it will be seen by a reference to our report that a resolution was passed approving of the course proposed to be pursued by the University, and promising its co-operation. This may be thought at first to be an event with which the general public has little or nothing to do. If it pleases the existing awyers to hand over to the University the education and the examination of their successors, by all means let them do it. But this impending change will extend its effects far beyond those immediately concerned. Anything which tends to depress, or to elevate the standard of attainment for any of the learned professions touches the entire community. The better educated the parsons, the doctors and the lawyers are, the more valuable will be the services which they render to the public. We cannot do without them without injury to ourselves, and it is a matter of common interest that our lawyers should understand their business when we consult them, and that our doctors should have an adequate degree of knowledge and skill when we entrust precious lives to their care. There are many gentlemen moreover who desire to bring up their sons to one or other of those learned professions, and any arrangements which affect the mode of procedure in carrying out this intention are of moment to them.

Hitherto the process by which lawyers have been manufactured has been simple enough. Till within the last two or three years there was really no examination prior to a youth being permitted to be articled; but this is not the case now, for the matriculation examination must first be passed. Then the embryo barrister signs articles binding him to some legal practitioner for five years pays the required premium, has to pass several examinations during this period, and when the end of his term of clerkship arrives has to go through a searching and comprehensive examination, conducted by a number of members of the bar, including leaders of the profession. This ordeal is not so easy as it was years ago, and plucking is by no means infrequent. A successful candidate, however, at once becomes barrister, solicitor, and proctor of the Supreme Court, as in this colony the branches of the profession are amalgamated, greatly to the advantage of men having to make their mark in that line of life and of the public. Whether there would not be advantage, however, in a system requiring a higher degree of culture is a question upon which possibly there may be some difference of opinion, owing to the fact that the British barristers here have not been able to hold their own against those of colonial production. But this is hardly a fair way of looking at the subject, because University training alone has no chance when handicapped against superior