

I seriously doubt if our University may legally conduct any examinations which are not in some way related to the teaching within its walls. "Matriculation, or any 'such' examination," is the phrase in the Act. In this I may be quite in error, but my contention is that the high and potent influence of the University should be employed in promoting education upon those lines which will connect the work done in the schools more and more continually with the University, and why the Council declines to use its influence for good in the gentlest manner by simply making a difference in the passes of candidates at examinations is a profound mystery to me. But no; I think I understand the mystery.

I am, Sir, &c.,

WILLIAM HOPKINS.

September 30,

The Lantern October 2/86

THE UNIVERSITY has been showing its imbecility again. The potent, grave, and reverend signors who compose the Council have evolved from their inner consciousness a scheme for the conduct of public examinations.

We haven't yet met a man who could truthfully say that he understood this scheme when it first appeared.

It made no provision for matriculation, and did not in the least show how a body could take advantage of the higher education provided by the State.

The Vice-Chancellor knew nothing about it, so he proceeded to write about it in the *Tiser*.

There is nothing about matriculation in the scheme, so he explained at great length the meaning of the word "matriculation." Flabbiest of flabby writers is the Reverend Roby.

Next day the opposition paper had an article written by the Sanskrit scholar Boulger, or Professor Phillips, or somebody else.

By the way, how is it that everybody knows who writes articles in the dailies?

Will the *Register* point out some of the defects in the scheme, such as the dead set made on classics and mathematics, and the absence of all provision for matriculation.

The Council, saying that there was no need for including such a provision, straightway included it. But

they left the other things as they were, and have thus done their best to prove that they are utterly incapable of managing the affairs of an educational institution.

The University here is a fraud. It was born long before its due time, and has been trying to get into long trousers before it ought to have been out of its Nurse's arms.

There was no necessity for it in the first place, and it has cost more money than it was worth, or ever will be worth. Now the authorities want to establish a third-rate Medical School.

Surely there are enough doctors in the colony without our trying to grow some ourselves. The movement is popularly attributed to Dr. Stirling, who thinks he would look well as a surgical professor.

South Australia is a bundle of opposites. She does not show any enterprise when enterprise would be useful to her people. But once start her on an idiotic fad and there's no stopping her.

Such a fad was the foundation of the University—an institution which has been chiefly useful in that it has given certain moneyed people here a charm of figuring as Chancellors and Members of the Council, and so forth.

Not content with having the smallest and most useless and most expensive University in the colonies, the Council, which hardly contains three members who know anything about education, is determined now to lower still more the standard of its degrees.

Register October 4th 1886

THE NEW UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR,

Sir—Now that the new regulations concerning the Junior and Senior Public Examinations have been passed by the Senate, I can see that a good time is coming for us schoolboys. What bliss to have done with decimals, the binomial theorem, the pons asinorum, to have said good-by to the three concords, ablative absolutes, and “*ut* with the subjunctive;” to be freed from the dread of verbs in $\mu\iota$, tertiary predicates, and bold had prepositions that govern three cases! For can we not now gain the much-coveted first-class in the Senior Examination on Botany or Chemistry with French and German? Who would care to muddle his brains over Cicero and Horace and Demosthenes when he can amuse himself with Ollendorf’s “*Conversational Method*?” The new scheme has certainly much to recommend it; but in order that we may not be handicapped by the girls I hope the Council in its wisdom will leave well alone, and not think fit to add a fresh Section Z with subdivisions—1, sewing; 2, tatting, 3, embroidery; 4, crochet. I don’t see anything about the use of the globes—that is a distinct omission. I’m rather good at the globes, and I do think they might have made a separate subsection for them. Is it true that in the first draft of the new regulations it was seriously proposed to offer Hebrew as an alternative subject for dancing and deportment? What’s the use of languages at all, whether living or dead? Why can’t every ignorant foreigner learn English? My father made his money and he knew nothing but English, and not too much of that. What was good enough for him is surely good enough for me.

I am, Sir, &c.,

SCHOOLBOY.

Register October 8th 1886

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.

In the course of this month the Senate of the University is to be asked either to approve or to reject certain new regulations concerning the Medical School. Up to the present time instruction has been only provided here for the first two years of the medical course, but it is proposed now to take advantage of the power entrusted to the University of conferring degrees in medicine. The wisdom of this new departure of the University may well be questioned. The multiplication of Medical Schools in the colonies is of more than doubtful advantage. For the present it seems to us that it would be better even to send our students to Sydney or Melbourne for their medical degrees than to start a fully equipped Medical School here. Our University has surely enough to do in providing an education in Arts and Laws without encumbering itself with the machinery for a complete course in Medicine. With the excellent staff of Professors and lecturers which the State has been able to gather together, the Adelaide degrees in Arts and Laws are to be reckoned at a high rate, but even here we are not doing all that might be done. The University could easily be made more popular without in the least lowering the value of her degrees. In the colonies professors should go out and meet the people, and not sit in their lecture - rooms — or, worse still, in their examination halls — waiting for their pupils to come. There is much less excuse for the establishment of a Medical School than there is for the support of the present schools. The thing most essential to the value of a new degree —