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VOLCANOES.

At the University on Monday evening Professor Woolnough, B.Sc., F.G.S., began a course of four extension lectures on the subject of volcanoes. He addressed a large and interested audience. The professor dealt with the sequence of events in a volcanic eruption and their immediate causes: active, dormant, and extinct volcanoes, geysers, and the products of volcanic action, with various types of lava, and tuff. In opening the lecturer said the science of vulcanology was little more than a century old. In spite of all investigations and study the ultimate origin of a volcanic eruption was still shrouded in mystery. "A burning mountain vomiting forth fire and smoke" was an incorrect definition of a volcano, as it was not necessarily a mountain and there was little or no actual burning in a volcanic eruption. No smoke was produced. The so-called "smoke" was really comminuted rock, material, or dust produced by the explosion, and by the collision of ejected blocks of rock. A volcano was really a rent or fissure in the outer cool crust of the earth communicating with the intensely hot interior. Through that rent various materials were ejected mainly through the expansive force of steam. The lecturer described the events as they might be expected to happen in an ideal volcano, promising the modifications in more detail in the lecture on historic eruptions. He dealt with the importance of steam, explosions, dust, and the darkness resulting therefrom, fireballs, mud and molten lava, the escape of gases, and thunderstorms. "All these appalling phenomena," he said, "make it appear as though all the powers of the evil one were let loose on the earth together." Floods and tidal and air waves were referred to, and in closing that portion Mr. Woolnough remarked that hot springs and springs containing carbonic acid gas were among the last symptoms of former volcanic activity. The question—When can a volcano be regarded as being extinct?—was discussed, and the answer was—it is impossible to say with certainty. Instances were quoted of volcanoes which, after lying dormant for long periods of time, had burst and caused destruction. Cases of subsidence of land in the neighbourhood of an eruption were noted, and the lecturer said it was quite possible that such an event might happen in the West Indies as a result of the Martinique disaster. Consideration was then given to the products of a volcanic eruption which could be classed as volatile and non-volatile. Among the former were water (by far the most important and abundant), hydrochloric acid, sulphuretted hydrogen, sulphur dioxide, boracic acid, carbonic acid gas, nitrogen, hydrogen, ammonia, and occasionally free chlorine. Non-volatile ejections might be divided into fragmental and massive. The last part of the lecture dealt with the component parts of the non-volatile ejections and lavas. Throughout the address Mr. Woolnough held the full attention of his hearers, who at the close expressed their admiration of the excellent way the subject had been treated.

GENERAL CABLE NEWS.

London, July 21.
The Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1881 have awarded scholarships for scientific research to Richard Hosking, of Melbourne, and Mathew Albert Hunter, of New Zealand. The scholarships are of the value of £150, and extend over one year. Mr. G. Harker, of Sydney, who has already received one year's tuition, has had his term extended for a second year.
The Manufacturers' Association of Toronto, Canada, has decided to tender a banquet in honour of Sir Edmund Barton, Mr. Seddon, and Sir John Forrest, on the occasion of the visit of those gentlemen to that city.

CONSERVATORIUM CONCERT.

The Elder Hall was crowded on Monday evening, when the twenty-fourth concert of the students of the Conservatorium of Music took place. The programme opened with the string quartet in C minor (Haydn), 3rd movement, Minuetto (allegretto), and 4th movement, Allegro con brio, which was played by Misses Clarice Gmeiner and Winnifred Cowperthwaite and Messrs. Eugene Alderman and Harold Parsons. The execution of the number was excellent, and the young and clever players were greeted with loud applause. Mr. Carl Weger sang the favorite tenor song, "I'll sing thee songs of Araby," and but for nervousness he would have done more justice to the number. Miss May Manning's technique was seen to advantage in Beethoven's pianoforte solo, Sonata in F, op. 54, and Miss Geraldine Stewart's violin solo, "Sonata in A" showed such a pleasing appreciation of the great master's writing that an imperative encore was demanded. Miss Ethel Hantke's beautifully fresh mezzo-soprano rang out in the aria, "Have mercy, Lord, on me," from Bach's "Passion," to which Mr. Alderman contributed a charming violin obbligato. Miss Hantke's rendering of the fine number was pregnant with feeling, pathos, and musical instinct. Miss Muriel Gmeiner played the pianoforte solo, "Fantasia in F sharp minor," 1st movement (Mendelssohn), and Miss Violet Parkinson obtained a recall for her interpretation of Chopin's "Ballade in A flat." Mr. Mortimer White, a new basso, who can pride himself on having plenty of vigor and robustness, even if his voice lacks tone quality, gave "Blow, blow, thou winter wind," Miss Vera Jurs played Gade's "Capriccio," for violin, and her execution was so clever for one so young that the audience cheered her enthusiastically. Miss Elsa Rudeman's contribution was Grieg's "Solweig's song," Miss Florence Schache played the pianoforte solo, "Menuetto capriccioso" (Weber); and the concert ended with the Hungarian trio (Haydn), 2nd and 3rd movements, by Miss Ethel Ridings and Masters Brewster Jones and Fritz Homburg.

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ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL.
Mr. PEAKE asked—Referring to question asked on July 8, is it the intention of the Government to introduce legislation to provide for two or more members of the council of the Adelaide University to be nominated by the Government?
The CHIEF SECRETARY replied—Not at present.

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Specimens of Pymont and Murray Bridge stone are being prepared for a test as to relative crushing strength, which is shortly to be made at the Adelaide University.

Advertiser 5th Aug. 1902.

According to our London cable message of August 3, Mr. William T. Cooke, B.Sc., of the Adelaide University, has been awarded a science research scholarship by the Commissioners of the International Exhibition of 1881. At the close of the great exhibition a number of scholarships were founded, the object being to promote original research, and they are only awarded to students who indicate high promise of capacity for advancing science or its application by means of original research. The scholarships, which are worth £150 per year, are open to post graduates only, and are ordinarily tenable for two years; their continuation for the second year is, however, made dependent on the work of the first year being satisfactory to the scientific committee appointed by the Royal Commissioners. As it was found that students having taken degrees could not in the majority of cases find time for original research, the Commissioners last year decided to offer bursaries of the value of £70 each, in order to obviate the necessity too often felt of finding immediate and remunerative employment, and to enable candidates for the scholarship to fulfil the conditions of the scholarship by doing original work. One of these bursaries was offered to the Adelaide University, and, on the recommendation of the council, it was awarded Mr. Cooke. As the result of this year's work, he has been recommended for the scholarship. Mr. Cooke graduated B.Sc., with first-class honors, in metallurgy in 1900. During the years 1896-7-8 he studied mathematics, physics, inorganic chemistry, practical chemistry, and assaying and organic chemistry at the University; and in 1895 he passed the senior public examination in English, Latin, French, German, pure mathematics, chemistry, and physics. He is a son of the Rev. W. Cooke, of Moonata, and received his earlier education at St. Peter's College. In the year 1890 the council of the University received a letter from the Royal Commissioners announcing their intention to found science scholarships, and to place one of these at the disposal of the Adelaide University in 1892. In 1892 the council nominated James Bernard Allen, B.Sc., who was appointed by the Commissioners, and studied in Sydney.

Mr. James White who some time ago won a commission open to all the Australian States, to execute a war monument, to be erected in Perth Park, West Australia, has completed his group, "In defence of the flag," and he is at present in Adelaide en route to the Golden West, where he will superintend the staging of his work. The "Sydney Morning Herald" says "the spirited group shows a cavalrman in khaki, who has dismounted, and with his bayonet at 'the ready,' bestrides the prostrate form of a wounded comrade. His fierce, undaunted expression contrasts finely with the suffering look of the wounded soldier, who is in the act of drinking from a little flask swinging from the other's belt. The figures, which are of heroic size (7 ft. 6 in.), are now successfully cast in bronze." Mr. White cast the figures himself in his studio, Sydney, in addition to moulding the clay models. It will be remembered that Mr. White won the competition for the Elder bust, to be erected in front of the Conservatorium of Music, North-terrace, but the council afterwards decided to send home to England for the figure. He was also the artist for the excellent bronze bust of Sir E. T. Smith, which is a well-known feature of the Adelaide Art Gallery. He has in hand a large marble statue of Queen Victoria, under commission from the people of Ben-

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OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM.

To the Editor.
Sir—The Hon. J. H. Gordon's letter, published in "The Advertiser" on Saturday last, in reply to "Justice," must have afforded great satisfaction to the hon. gentleman's Conservative friends. They would be quite justified in concluding from the tone of his letter that, though Mr. Gordon occupies the position of Minister of Education, he possesses no unreasoning regard for the people's schools. In all progressive countries it is recognised that the teachers must be specially trained for their work, and the more advanced the country the more is this insisted on. Owing largely to the munificence of the late Sir Thomas Elder, we have a system of training teachers which is the envy of all the Australian States, and which will serve as a pattern for that which is shortly to be introduced in Victoria. But this system does not appear to meet with Mr. Gordon's unqualified approval. He says, in speaking of the teachers, "No other people in the community receive anything like so much public assistance towards their education." Everybody knows that this is true, and it would be a bad thing for South Australia if it were not so. The country provides a portion of this assistance so that it may reap an advantage in the future. It regards the training of teachers as a necessary investment, and in order that it may be sure of some return, exacts from the people whose education has been "assisted," a pledge to serve the State for four years after they leave the University. Under the most favorable conditions, a youth joining the education service is compelled to serve a period of eleven years under a bond, for which he receives a total remuneration of £570. At the end of this term, if he joined the service at the earliest possible date, that is, when he is 14 years of age, he will, in his 26th year, be in receipt of a salary of £120. The above is a statement of what must occur under the most favorable circumstances, but as a boy has frequently to serve as a monitor on £10 for two and sometimes three years before receiving an appointment, the whole period under bond is frequently extended to a term of 12 or 13 years. The Minister might have told the public that no other people receive so much assistance towards clothing themselves for their duty as the police. Should we reduce the pay of these public servants on that account? Who receive so much ammunition from the Government as the volunteers? Because they receive assistance in learning to shoot should the remuneration for their services be lessened? These people are given these considerations for special reasons, because the community considers it will reap a commensurate benefit. Just so with the training of teachers. Is it just that because the teachers have undergone a long and severe course of training they should be paid extremely low rates in the early years of their service? The South Australian education service has been reduced to absolutely the lowest paid education service in Australia. Will the enthusiasm for their work, which has characterised the teachers in the past, be maintained in the future?—I am, &c.,
Q.

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UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES.

PIANOFORTE PLAYING.
Professor Ennis, Mus. Doc., gave the first of his three lectures on pianoforte playing in the small concert room of the Elder Conservatorium on Thursday evening, before a large and deeply interested audience, in which the fair sex, naturally, predominated. In opening his subject the Professor affirmed that in his opinion more had playing was to be heard on the pianoforte than any other instrument, and that there were very few really artistic performances to be heard on the most popular of our domestic instruments. He then briefly described the mechanism of the pianoforte, laying special stress upon the fact that its tone is peculiarly evanescent, and made an interesting experiment on an ordinary grand pianoforte with respect to the exact weight required to depress a key in various portions of its compass to produce a tone. In studying the pianoforte there were two distinct divisions; the first the mechanical, and secondly the musical or artistic. The technical must be taught first, since it was all important in relation to the second, for it was utterly useless to attempt, for instance, to teach expression until the fingers had acquired sufficient power to play with expression. Coming to the question of touch, the professor affirmed that a musical touch was the most teachable thing of the art, but the difficulty was that most students wanted to play at once, and were prone to neglect their technique. The lecturer then proceeded to explain with great exactness, and also demonstrated, the correct position of the hands and arms in playing the pianoforte. He said that the first thing to be considered was position, then secondly condition, and thirdly action. Great importance was laid upon the necessity of suppleness in the muscles used in pianoforte playing, and the audience were shown a number of exercises for readily acquiring this in the hands, wrists, and arms, after which they were treated to a demonstration of touch. With a happy reference to the usefulness of the Virgil practice clavier and the perfect legato Professor Ennis concluded a highly useful and instructive lecture.

Advertiser 4th Aug. 1902.

COLONIAL SCHOLARS.

AN ADELAIDE STUDENT.
London, August 3, 2 p.m.
The Commissioners of the International Exhibition of 1881 have awarded Science Research Scholarships to Mr. Kenneth Inglis, a New Zealand student, now at Edinburgh University, and to Mr. William Terrent Cooke, B.Sc., of Adelaide University, who obtained a similar award last year. Each is of the annual value of £150.