

taste for the higher education is shown in the large increase of students who attend such courses of lectures as they may select, but have not entered for any degree. There have been nearly 100 such students during the past year, which is double the number in any previous year. This number does not include the still larger attendance which was given to the evening lectures of Professors Tate and Lamb. It is to be hoped that the next report will indicate a still more marked advancement all along the line. With a building admirably adapted for its purpose, with a complete staff of professors and lecturers, with the co-operation of the judges of the Supreme Court, who have handed over to the University the training of all students for the legal profession, and with the aid of the numerous private and public schools in the colony, it will naturally and rightly be expected that the year 1883 will surpass all previous years in efficiency and success.

*From the Register
Feb 17th 1883*

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

[By Telegraph.]

Melbourne, February 16.

A long and important interview took place to-day between the Hon. J. G. Ramsay, Minister of Public Works for South Australia, and the Hon. T. Bent, the Victorian Commissioner of Railways, the object being to consider the question of intercolonial railway communication between South Australia and Victoria. It was pointed out that the most popular and desirable route would be via Dimboola and Border Town, but the difficulty arose as to the construction of the railway through the disputed territory known as "No Man's Land," lying between the disputed Border lines. The South Australian Government proposed to construct their line through Border Town and University Block on the South Australian margin of the disputed strip of land, provided the Victorian Government would agree to carry their line in that direction, and form a junction. The Victorian line now goes to Dimboola, but the Railway Bill which had passed the Assembly and was under consideration in the Council when the former House was dissolved, provided for its extension to Nhill, forty miles from Tatiara, the nearest town to the disputed territory. After the matter had been discussed an understanding was arrived at between Messrs. Ramsay and Bent that the Victorian line should be carried through the disputed territory, so as to form a junction with the South Australian line at University Block, and in the event of the Privy Council fixing the Border line in favor of South Australia that colony should purchase the line at a price to be agreed upon. This arrangement, it is understood, is subject to the approval of Parliament.

The Advertiser

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1883.

At the last meeting of the University Council, held on the 23rd ult., no appointments were made to the law lectureships—for which applications have been invited by advertisement—and hence the completion of the practical details for working our last instituted faculty has been further postponed. All things considered it certainly seems that the authorities are proceeding in the matter with inexplicable if not positively exasperating deliberation. It is now about six months since the official announcement was made that a school of law had been founded at the University, and the required table of regulations then appeared together with the curriculum decided upon for the LL.B. degree, and also provisions under which admissions to the bar might be obtained without passing all the examinations necessary for graduating in laws. At this stage the business in hand was apparently suffered to rest until just a month ago, when the Judges of the Supreme Court issued their amended scheme of rules in reference to practitioners, whereby the duty of conducting the law examinations passes from the previously existing board of barristers to the University. An advertisement next appeared inviting qualified lecturers in the various subjects of the law course to undertake a great amount of advanced technical scholastic work for an absurdly low remuneration, and now we learn that when the applications were looked into the council determined at their last meeting not to make any appointments. This is all the information at present obtainable, and it will hardly astonish any one who has noticed the utterly inadequate value which the University by its advertisement attached to these law lectureships. But it needs to be pointed out that the first term of

the current academical year is fixed by the calendar to begin on the 13th inst., and at the matriculation examinations then to be held there may be candidates who have been counting upon being able to at once enter on the LL.B. course, as the council notified to applicants for the lectureships that they would be expected to commence their duties on April 3. If it be the intention still to carry out this plan, the council will have to sacrifice, for once, their placid dignity to the exigency for prompt activity, and even under that unusual state of things the new faculty must be inaugurated with its final arrangements settled in a muddled haste, for which, considering the council has had at least six months to decide upon