

"The Register," 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1897.

due to your position." In making this public Mr. F. W. Kennedy's object is to show the true position of his son in connection with the scholarship, and he does not wish to cast a slur on the memory of the late Sir Thomas Elder. Mr. Kennedy has received a programme of a concert which was given in the Corn Exchange, Bedford, by Mr. W. H. Clinton-Baddeley's company. This indicates that Mr. Wallage Kennedy took three solos, and also sang in two trios, being associated with Madame Belle Cole and Miss Louise Bourdin in one, and with Miss Bourdin and Mr. Ivor Foster in the other.

"The Register," 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 1897.

THE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL EXAMINATIONS.—Mr. Hermann T. Schrader, the Examiner appointed for the new primary examinations in music of the Adelaide University, arrived on Wednesday by the Melbourne express, and at once proceeded to the University and commenced his duties. The examinations will be continued until Saturday afternoon, when Mr. Schrader returns to Melbourne. The new Examiner brings with him admirable practical qualifications for his office. He is a pupil of the Leipzig Conservatorium of Music, where he had as instructors S. Jadassohn, H. Schradieck, F. Hermann, A. Richter, and Drs. Oscar Paul, Wund, and Reiman. Under these celebrated preceptors he studied the piano—his principal instrument—the violin, theory in all its branches, and history of music. Mr. Schrader also attended the piano classes of the celebrated Dr. Hans von Bulow, one of the greatest teachers which the century has produced. The new Examiner also had the benefit of a large and varied orchestral experience while in Germany, which, added to his other qualifications, should render him a most suitable person for the office to which he is now appointed.

# "The I. A. Register."

ADELAIDE: MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1897.

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## THE ELDER SCHOLARSHIP OF MUSIC.

A few days ago we published a quotation from the letter of Mr. Kennedy, holder of the Elder Music Scholarship, in which he states the difficulties with which he is troubled, and adds—"Unless a fellow has money the Elder Scholarship is not worth having." It would be interesting to know the reason for this. The Royal College of Music originally promised that if any patriotic Australian would present £3,000 to its funds the money would always ensure and provide for the maintenance and education of one scholar. It was intimated also that under certain conditions respecting merit a local candidate might be selected by the donor. The late Sir Thomas Elder and the late Sir William Clarke responded to the invitation, and the

latter gentleman wisely stipulated that his scholarship should always be held by a Victorian. Mr. Otto Fischer was the first holder of the Elder Scholarship. His passage-money was paid in Adelaide, and a sum was given to him for outfit and personal expenses in London. Shortly after Mr. Fischer's arrival there Sir George Grove intimated to Sir Thomas Elder that provision must be made for, amongst other things, the maintenance of the scholar during recess, as at that time the College could not undertake outlay on this account. No such limitation of the responsibility of the Royal College was specified when the donation was requested and accepted, but all money applied for was provided on behalf of the student, though Mr. Fischer protested that some of the demands were unreasonable, and so ought to be refused.

Other requisitions, however, have been since made and conditions imposed, which clearly are inconsistent with the original promise of the Royal College and at variance with the meaning and intention of the foundation. Take as an example the case of another holder of the scholarship who suffered a sad accident to her hand. When this mishap occurred Sir George Grove pronounced that it was useless in her disabled state to go on with her education, and called upon Sir Thomas Elder to provide a return passage. Of course it is preposterous to assume that any such obligation as that implied in such demands can even remotely attach to any one who founds a scholarship; but, apart from the non-responsibility of the founder, the natural reply to this claim was plainly that, as the income of the fund was no longer required for the maintenance or education of the holder of the scholarship, the money could and should be used in the interest of the actual holder in the direction in which the unfortunate accident had made it necessary to employ it. As a matter of fact this is the answer which was given:— "Pay the return passage out of the unused income, and retain the income until the Royal College is recouped in full." Sir George Grove replied that the rules of the

Royal College did not permit of such an application of the funds; but what else was to be done with this unused income we do not know, and shall not attempt to guess. We may, however, enquire what rule of the Royal College of Music could honestly prevent the application of this money for the uses of the holder of the scholarship? Yet the authorities of the Royal College were obdurate and obstinate, and the return passage of the disabled scholar was paid by a friend, the accruing income remaining with the Royal College. And now it is significant that Mr. Kennedy is complaining. His figures are not very clear, but they seem to imply that he gets

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in all from the scholarship £89 16s., valuing tuition at £37 0s. 6d. Whether that interpretation be exact or otherwise, his letter clearly enough indicates that the demands for extras have multiplied and that the allowances have been diminished.

Mr. Kennedy is, however, altogether wrong when he speaks of "the income of £300 which people imagine." Nobody had a right to imagine an income of £300 on an investment of only £3,000. Probably what Mr. Kennedy alludes to is the liberal supplement which Sir Thomas gave, and which made his musical scholarship rather an expensive patronage for him. This additional outlay, however, was not enjoyed by Mr. Kennedy, who entered himself for and accepted the scholarship with the knowledge that the special grant would not be continued. Perhaps the income which the Royal College derives from the £3,000 has lately decreased, and to some extent this may excuse reduction and economy; but the promise made by the Royal College when the money was asked for and obtained remains upon record, and should continue as an honourable obligation upon a wealthy institution. At all events the bargain is not to be repudiated by the unsanctioned practice of small economies to the discomfort and embarrassment of the hapless student who may chance to hold the scholarship. Such apparently abortive results of colonial generosity under London management as we have indicated are not encouraging to Australian philanthropists. The whole history of the Elder scholarship, which down to the time of Mr. Kennedy's holding it was no inconsiderable additional annual charge upon the founder, suggests that it would have been better in this case to have retained the control and invested the money in the colony. The whole income would then have been devoted to the purpose for which it was intended that it should be used. Every candidate would in such circumstances have known exactly how much support could be counted on, and if no

suitable claimant came forward the income would have accumulated for the benefit of the future holder. As the Royal College retained to itself the right, in the absence of a suitable colonial candidate, to put in the position a nominee of its own, it is easy to see how, with any want of promptitude on the part of the musical authorities here, the foundation, whatever it is worth, may be lost to South Australia, and the funds given for a specific local purpose merged in the general revenue of a wealthy institution in the old country.