

the Lectures, and I know that some of them, at least, although not caring to register their names formally, yet procured text-books and read them zealously. Indeed, there was a general eagerness for study exhibited which must have been highly gratifying to the ladies who formed the Association.

Two facts in the Examination seem to demand comment:—

1. The comparative smallness of the number of candidates.

2. The large proportion ranked in the First Class.

The first fact may, perhaps, be partly accounted for by the impossibility of obtaining a sufficient number of text-books in the city at the beginning of the session. The lectures were based on the assumption that there would be a simultaneous study of the text-book and of the lecture notes. The want therefore of books during the first fortnight (an interval including six of the fifteen Astronomical Lectures) would throw many students irretrievably into the background.

To prevent this in future, it would be well to name the text-books in the Programme, and to recommend that they be ordered from the booksellers two or three months in advance.

But, I fear, this may not have been the only cause for the absence of students from the Examination. The proportion of the First Class to the other Classes is so unusual that I cannot help thinking that many have abstained from presenting themselves because they did not sufficiently value a certificate of having passed the Examination, apart from that of First Class. This would be much to be regretted.

A separate Report contains in detail the results of the Examination.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER JOHNSON.