

THE *'Varsity* in its last number for the past College year, published an article upon the University of Trinity College, which was, to say the least of it, scurrilous. The temptation to reply at length, and in a similar strain to such an attack might at first have been great, but a small amount of consideration shewed only too plainly that if the *'Varsity* chose to violate all laws of College journalism, it was no reason why ROUGE ET NOIR should follow its example. The refrain of this unique production of good taste and gentlemanly feeling was, "What need is there of Trinity? Her usefulness is gone, etc." To a fair reader, that the very article in question should have been published in a paper supported and edited by members of the University, is a strong proof at least, of the *usefulness* and *need* of such a social training as it would appear can only be obtained at such a University as Trinity.

AS the majority of candidates for this year's matriculation examination received their training at various High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, throughout the Province, there can be no doubt, that the knowledge of our advantages as a University is being more widely diffused. The council did well in their mode of advertising, but they did better in arranging their curriculum to harmonize with the work done in High Schools. Until the present year, head masters in these Institutes were not able to give sufficient attention to men preparing to matriculate at Trinity, because the work required was not what they were authorized to engage in, consequently, many churchmen who would have given Trinity the preference, chose to enter other Universities where the matriculation work was the same as that done in the upper schools. Now, however, with our optional groups, we are all on the same footing, and head masters will no longer find any inconvenience in preparing their pupils for our Arts or Divinity course. The prejudice and ill feeling of past years against Trinity is fast dying out, and even during the last year, her advantages, her curriculum, and her manifold improvements have gone far in raising her in the estimation of the general public. To have a preparatory school is a good thing, but to place too much dependence on it is ruinous. For years Trinity school has sent up its traditional average of a dozen men, while the High Schools collectively, seldom send more than four or five representatives. We can always count on the school for support, but Trinity's success as a university does not depend on that, and we are therefore pleased to see that the authorities have taken the necessary steps to insure the advertising of our College a wider circulation among the High Schools.

At this, the commencement of a new academical year, it affords us, as it must all friends of Trinity, the liveliest satisfaction to be able to congratulate the University on the stride made during the past year. And in doing so we feel that it is only a matter of the strictest justice that due recognition should be given to the share in this improvement which is due to the energy of the Provost.

There are in the present day two grand considerations, upon a due attention to which must depend the measure of success attained by any educational institution. One of these is keeping abreast in their curriculum with the latest advances of thought in educational matters; the other, more prosaic, but none the less important, making the institution thoroughly well known.

At the time when Trinity was established, the curriculum, based upon the model of the older universities of the mother country, was thoroughly in accordance with the time; but as year after year went by those older universities, wisely resolving to lead a movement of thought they could not restrain, established chairs in various modern subjects such as Science, History, Modern Languages and the like. Trinity, on the contrary, to whom such a course was not a matter of convenience as with them, but an absolute necessity, went plodding on in the same old groove from which it seemed impossible to ever remove her. Let it be thoroughly understood that in making these remarks we are not actuated by any spirit of mere carping criticism. We are behind none in lauding the education imparted within these walls; as far as it went it was excellent, but the great fault was there was not enough of it.

It was much the same with regard to the second necessity, that of making the college known. The council in those old days seems to have laboured under the impression that because Trinity was modelled upon the older universities, therefore it would have their popularity and be as independent as they of any kind of advertising. They quite forgot, apparently, the radical differences existing, in more ways than one, between the countries and the institutions. This supineness, for we do not think of any term more appropriate, has been one of the main causes, if not the chief one, of the little advancement made by Trinity in the past. Year after year the same limited number of freshmen presented themselves; year after year there was no increase in the number of graduates, and yet the college authorities made no move. Fortunately, before it was too late, a new spirit has been infused into the University. The new Provost has thoroughly grasped the absolute necessity of the two points we have mentioned, and from the time of his installation, has set himself heartily and earnestly to work in order that Trinity may take her rightful place among the universities of this land.