

COMPARISONS are proverbially odious, and when made not broadly but in connection with insignificant points they are contemptible. But if we wish to find out whether it is more difficult to get a degree in Queen's or Toronto, here is a comparison that is general and broad enough to enable us to draw a fair conclusion. The average number of undergraduates in Toronto for some years past has been nearly 300. The average number of B.A.'s annually about 70, or one to four. That is, almost every man is sure of getting his degree if he only attends four sessions. In Queen's, with an average of 130 undergraduates, we graduate about 20, or less than one in six. Or take the whole number attending classes in Arts. In Toronto 407; in Queen's 201. About one-sixth of the Toronto students succeed annually in getting their degree; in Queen's about one-tenth. It does not need a witch to find out where the exams. are easy. Notwithstanding, we know where the talk is loudest about the high standard and 'severity of our examinations.'

AS yet no announcement has been made as to the prize for the College poem. Is it too early to ask for an intimation? The competition this year promises something remarkably fine.

THE crop of honor men which in Toronto never fails, in Queen's is sometimes short. But those who stand aghast at this will, by turning to the B.A. course in Queen's find their wonder wonderfully less. The pass B.A. must pass eleven classes, and most men find this, with a minimum standard of forty per cent., work enough for them. Those in Queen's who set their hearts on honors pay with many a sleepless night for their ambition. They have honor work which will compare in amount with that of any honor department in Toronto, and nine

pass classes besides. In Toronto there is little or no pass work for honor men beyond the second year, and the minimum standard is thirty-three and one-third per cent. Honor men, such as they are, abound; but the interest of the pass-men are sacrificed to the interest of the honor men. Here again the principle of the two Colleges is different. In Toronto it is specialisation and the good of the few; in Queen's, education and the good of the many. Whether this is for better or for worse, we leave to those who think they know, to say.

POETRY.

TWO PICTURES.

(Written for the Journal.)

ON SHORE.

SAD in yon vine-clad cottage white
A woman sits with tearful eye,
And hears the wind with rising might
A dirge swell from the willows nigh.
Down on her knees she sinks and prays
To him who lights our darksome days.

"O Father! save my absent child.
Let not the fierce sea o'er him sweep.
But ever mid the tempest wild
Do thou his life in safety keep;
Bring to my anxious waiting ear
The voice I long have yearned to hear!"

AT SEA.

Yon ship, before the driving blast,
Bursts her frail timbers on the rock,
With fearful crash her mighty mast
Falls in the deep beneath the shock.
Upon a spar with heaven-turned gaze,
A youth thus speaks through gathering maze.

"Mother weep not for me your son,
Now sinking on the stormy seas,
My glass I feel will soon have run,
Life's barque has weathered its last breeze!"
Feeble his hand, his eyes grow dim,
The wintry waves fast swallow him.

T. G. MARQUIS.

THE annual Convocation of Trinity College, held on the 15th Nov., was more than usually exciting to the students. This was owing to the fact that the authorities forbade the boys occupying the gallery, as they had been accustomed to do, and ordered them to take the front seats on the floor of the house. The reason for this step was that the students had on previous occasions disturbed the assembly by the noises which they made. The students objected to sitting under the noses of the *magi* and remained at the back of the hall. We have different ideas here in Kingston. The Senate of Queen's looks to the occupants of the gallery for the greater part of the fun, Without their assistance most of the proceedings would be dry-as-dust.