THE 'VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. 2. No. 21.

March 10, 1882.

Price 5 cts.

UNIVERSITY LEGISLATION,

Or rather, the want of University legislation. Once more have the reasonable reforms asked for by Convocation been refused. We are informed that the chairman of the Legislation Committee was calmly informed the other day : "There will be no legislation this Session in regard to University matters." No reason given, no apology or excuse attempted or offered-a simple refusal. How long are our graduates going to stand this nonsense ? This is the second time they have been so treated. The first time they did get their ideas put into the shape of a First Reading. Poor ideas, they dwindled very much on the Second Reading, and vanished on the third. This year they scarcely take shape before they are ruthlessly trampled on. What are the University men who are members of the House doing? They know well enough what their fellowgraduates want. They believe the demands reasonable. Why do they not come out of their shells? If the Minister or the Ministry are too timid or too self-satisfied to move, public opinion will back up the independent man who has the courage to formulate the measures proposed by Convocation in a Bill, and ask the House to Pass it. We suppose the old answer will be given : "It will embarrass the Party." Nothing can be done this Session. The world will go on as usual, we suppose; but these slights, these rebuffs, these contemptuous rejections, will have their effect. There is a spirit abroad in University matters which is growing stronger and stronger. It is gradually getting voice, and a few earnest leaders have been striving to give it volume. That voice will yet thunder in the legislative halls of Ontario, and we shall see if the graduates of the University cannot get what they ask. Is it the deliberate intention of the University Act that the graduates shall not have any voice in the management of her affairs? They should have the most potent voice. Is it intended that Convocation should be a farce ? It may yet be found to be a stern reality. Is it intended that t_1 The day that the light should be kept any longer under a bushel? The day for that has gone. The sooner those in authority recognize that such is the case the better. We hope that it will not be said of a Wise No. wise Minister—a prudent Minister—a Reform Minister, mene, mene, tekel, upharsin.

A third time, Graduates, ask again. The fight has only begun We almost expected that it was a delusive hope to dream that this Session Session would see your wishes realized. It takes a good deal to move even a Reform machine apparently. The outside public know little or nothing of what you want. The work will have to be done by von by yourselves. If you want University matters set right you are the persons who should do it. The responsibility rests with you, and with and with you will remain the satisfaction when the fight is won.

THE GREEK PLAY.

Now that the time is drawing near when the reputation and ability of our Undergraduates is to be put to so crucial a test, it Would some undergraduates is to be put to so crucial a test, it

sider, on the one hand, what credit will be ours if we give a successful rendering of the Antigone-a success which will be reflected not only on the actors and Chorus, but also on our Alma Mater-and on the other, what shame and degradation will befall us if, through want of proper support in those quarters whence support can most reasonably, and as a matter of right be expected, the production of the Play should prove a failure, or, what is not such a remote alternative as one would at first suppose, should have to be abandoned altogether, surely it is worth while striving to gain the one which would enhance our position as the University of the Dominion, and to avoid that other which would lower us in the eyes of the world and make us a laughingstock for all ages. The project we have in hand is no unambitious one, and, perhaps, on that account it will be said that failure will be less of a disgrace, but we shall be criticized the more severely since, having presumed to fly so high, our fall will be greater; so let us only concentrate our energies and put forth efforts in every way worthy of the object in view, and we venture to predict that "failure" is a word which will not be found in our vocabulary, or at all events should not. After all so large a component in human nature is vanity, that unless some credit or glory is to be reflected on each individual co-partner in an undertaking, there will be found that lack of ambition which at present characterizes the conduct of some who should be most active in seconding efforts, which successfully carried to a conclusion will redound to the credit of the individual and of the University. Let us then bear this in mind-if we must draw this conclusion, degrading though it be, that our prestige as a College is not worth striving for, but that each man's own vanity must be flattered-that every effort now put forth for the success of the Play, and success it needs must be if this be done, will surely be an additional feather in the cap of the individual.

Want of time is a common excuse alleged to cover what one can see with a glance is only want of a little self-denial, and it does seem to be a blot on human character in general and on the character of Undergraduates of Toronto University in particular, that, the moment you attempt to induce a man to sacrifice his individual pleasure for a moment, then are you met by an adamantine wall of selfishness masked by a small show of reasonableness. Now suppose a man works eight hours a day, and no man working steadily can do more, surely out of the number of hours left, an hour and a half, or two hours could be given up twice or three times a week for so worthy an object. Moreover, experience teaches that it is the really regular workers who are conscientious and do their best to attend the meetings of the Glee Club, for it is to some members of that organization that these remarks apply, while those who really have time and to spare, are the very ones who will pander to their own paltry pleasures, and when these are in any danger of being interferred surgical operation be implanted in their breasts. When we con- whose example might well be followed by all in respect to painswith, are the first to cry "no time." The indifference of these