

was troubled by his status; he was a "Sizar" - a student of limited means in a definitely un-democratic society. Goldsmith was in no way ostracized (most of the students were "Pensioner") but he seemed very sensitive to his "lowly" position. His career can easily be termed "not altogether satisfactory" in academic phraseology, but perhaps it was Trinity, in a small way, that contributed to his "strangeness", his "sense of 'being apart'". It was a feeling that continued even in the famous Johnson literary circle, after Goldsmith had become famous in London with The Vicar of Wakefield, The Deserted Village and his famous essays. Surely, it is the sociable undergraduate's humor that peeps through She Stoops to Conquer and The Good-Natured Man.

Two other famous playwrights were Trinity-educated: William Congreve and George Farquhar (Beaux' Stratagem). Both wrote comedy of manners and Congreve brought the genre to perfection in his most noted piece, The Way of the World. His "Mirabell" and "Millamant" have become classic figures in comedy-of-manners characterization, and their rapid-fire exchange of quips most likely had a foundation in merry student exchanges at Trinity.

Several minor literary figures were also educated here: Thomas Sheridan, friend and correspondent of Swift's; Thomas Parnell, a member of Pope's "inner circle" and author of Night Piece on Death; and Edmund Malone, editor of Shakespeare and Boswell's mainstay in the publication of the Life of Johnson.

Probably Trinity's most illustrious graduate in the latter half of the century was Edmund Burke. This world-renowned orator and statesman wrote his most important literary work while still an undergraduate: Philosophic Inquiry into the Origin of Our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful, a standard text for dealing with eighteenth century attitudes on esthetic theory. His Reflections on the French Revolution has been regarded as his greatest work, but Trinity most particularly remembers him for his foundation of the Debating Society, as his History Club, in 1747. The club formed the background for early practice at debating and rhetoric. Gradually,

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