

# THE PHILLIPPIAN.

VOL. I.

PHILLIPS ACADEMY, ANDOVER, MASS., FEB. 22, 1879.

No. 9.

## ABBOTT ACADEMY.

Feb. 15, 1879.

Hardly had the talk over the art lecture died away when the question began to pass from lip to lip, "Have you heard about the concert?"—"Jolly, isn't it!"—"Why, don't you know about the Phillips Glee Club?"—That's what I call a rather handsome thing!" The confusion finally resolved itself into a coherent statement that the Glee Club, kindly mindful of coming events and their attendant expenses, had offered to give a concert for the benefit of the Abbott Academy semi-centennial fund. Great was the rejoicing in Abbott, and reminiscences of last year's concert were quite the order of conversation.

When the eventful evening arrived we were in high spirits, and after the concert was over we could only say that our best anticipations were realized. The Glee Club acquitted itself unusually well, the foreign talent was a great addition, and we think we may say, without conceit, that our own representatives did us credit.

Our young Sphinx is developing into quite a buxom miss and we begin to think of our evenings with her as pleasant landmarks along the term.

Rather a favorite way of spending the evening is in studying the life and works of some author. A sketch of the life is given, the work discussed and choice selections read or recited. Often we find some poem set to music and that is added to the evening's entertainment. Our last meeting was devoted to our distinguished towns-woman, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. The selections read were passages from *Avis*, the well-known description of the fall of the Pemberton Mill, and a short poem. Miss Phelps' thoughtful face is so familiar to most of us that reading her works is like the study of a personal friend.

Yesterday morning we noticed that some members of the lower classes appeared in an expectant frame of mind, and enquiring into the cause, we were reminded that it was the 14th. of February. Of course the Seniors and Middlers have outgrown such follies, still we could not but notice a slight flutter of curiosity among even these when the evening mail went around. A few were summoned to the principal's room to open certain mysterious-drop letters, but to most of us the day made no revelation.

Much regret has been felt that the coasting has been brought to an end. Many of us had the pleasure of trying the sport for ourselves and found it exceedingly fascinating. To many of us it was a new experience, and the rapid motion, the cries for "Road" and the dash of hazard made it exciting as it was novel.

Since the coasting is over and our brothers have returned to the even tenor of their ways, we too seem to have subsided

into comparative quiet, and in the lack of present excitement we resort to anticipation, for "there's the semi centennial, you know." A. A. '81.

## PHILO.

Feb. 14, 1879

The meeting was called to order by President Gardner. After prayer, roll-call, &c., the literary exercises were commenced by a well-written critique of the previous meeting, by G. B. Noble. The extempore was delivered by M. W. King on the subject, "Charles I." The selected reader "cut." The *Mirror* by the third editor, S. H. Kendall, then followed. Many good and practical thoughts were presented, but some of the articles were too long to hold the attention of all. The writer of the poem, replying to "Secession" of the *PHILLIPPIAN*, Jan. 25, mentioned the vain regrets that are not felt as they climb the hill. Another poem, from the *Inquiry Observatory*, on the theme of our chapel organ and choir, was included in the paper. The subject of debate was, "Resolved, That the rules of order for the observance of students in private houses, adopted Jan. 17, are not for the best interest of student or school." The affirmative was opened by A. G. Scholes. Boys must learn to take care of themselves, and this measure would not teach them to do it, and being harmful to the boys it was not for the best interests of the school. J. M. Faber, who supported the negative, claimed that it was injurious to the students to break the study hours. All should be honorable, but it had been proved to place a restraint. No one responding from the house, the debate was closed. The president and the house decided for the affirmative. While there was much in the exercises worthy of the society, yet the disorder of certain persons deserves severe criticism.

## SOCIETY OF INQUIRY.

Feb. 11, 1879.

The meeting was called to order at the regular time. After the usual preliminaries the literary parts were in order. Of these, the first was the *Observatory* by the second editor, W. E. Simonds. Though parts of it were somewhat long the whole was well made up. "Algebra, its history and bearings on other branches of mathematics" was the subject of an interesting address by J. T. Nichols. G. E. Danforth was the select reader of the evening. The debate on the question, "Resolved, That a president of the United States should be ineligible to re-election," was opened on the affirmative by J. J. Robinson. He asserted that it had become dangerous to allow re-election. By his power to deprive of office and through politicians, a president could control the votes of many.

This leads to many evils. It might be well to extend the presidential term, but not to permit a re-election. C. M. Sheldon then opened the negative. He argued that re-election should be allowed, because a proper discharge of presidential duties recommends it, because a holder of that office has but fairly learned his duty at the end of one term, and because he can then undertake and carry out plans for the public good. The debate received a large support from the house. The majority decision was in favor of the negative, but the president decided for the affirmative. The criticisms, by A. L. Holmes, were well made.

THE following was handed to us by a frivolous and light-minded friend of ours, as an approximate guess at what the learned hair-splitting that we see in some of our classes is going to lead to.

It is supposed to be selected from an elementary text-book of the immediate future.

"There was a little girl,  
And she had little curls;  
And it hung straight down over her forehead;  
And when she was good  
She was very good indeed,  
And when she was bad — she was horrid!"

"NOTES.— *Little*; disting. between *little* and *small*. Girl, see Gr. 1001, b, rem; on probable derivation from Lat. 'garrio,' 'to chatter,' cf. Jahn, Kühner, Jelf, and others. *Doron*, Greek *karu*; the word seems to emphasize the direction of the curl: it was not a friz, though Forb, Kritz., and even Zumpt have supposed so. *And when she was good*, i.e., 'upon the altogether-to be possibly-supposed (occasion of her being) good;' but on mood see Forb. and Wagn.

"REMARKS.—First line. *Girl*: the reading is disputed; Schnach and Heins suggest 'Fem Sem,' but this is not possible, first, because it would destroy the metre, and secondly, because it would render the last line meaningless, the persons in question being always 'very good indeed.' Line three. *And it hung*, &c.: many grammarians reject this and the preceding line, as unnecessary to the action of the poem and unworthy of the author; but they seem to us merely to prove the great antiquity of this charming lyric, curls of the kind here described dating, as the tablets discovered by Dr. Schleimann on the site of Nephelococcygia abundantly prove, from very early times. Line six. *And when she was bad*, &c.: many critics reject this line as an interpolation of a later and a degenerate age, arguing that the word 'horrid,' as applied to a girl, whether having a curl or otherwise, would have never occurred to a mind of so refined and delicate a sensibility as that of the writer. But see Tadervig, Grossran, Heyne, Jahn, on this passage; also cf. Prof. Mullock's 'Neo-Platonism' and Mrs. Grundy,' p. 6, foot-note."

# THE PHILLIPIAN.

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THE PHILLIPS, 1876-1877

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M. E. BROWN, J. C. L. RAY, JR.

PROF. CHURCHILL has told the Senior committee that he wishes to read the first of the spring term instead of the last of the present term. The committee intend, if possible, to get the Harvard Glee Club at the end of the term if matters can be satisfactorily arranged.

We regret that we failed to notice the sudden death of the Andover Whist Club from Landladyism, which departed this life Jan. 25th, 1879, at 3 mos. 23 days. The deceased was fortunately spared a long illness, its constitution having suffered much from severe attacks of Vingtism. Its harsh fate is greatly to be deplored, for although comparatively young it had developed much that tends to win the game of life. To the surviving relations we present our sympathy. We were ourselves acquainted with the dear departed, and can vouch for its purity and sanctity. Peace to its ashes, and may its memory be ever entwined about our hearts.

FORTUNATELY for all parties concerned the change of weather which came upon us two weeks ago swept away the last remnant of the coasting, so that the holy body of the constabulary were compelled to search elsewhere for culprits than among cads. We must say that it seemed to us a very small thing for the good people who complained to act as they did. We do not blame any policeman for obeying his directions—the fault is back of that; we blame the law which makes it possible for a half dozen dissatisfied people to hinder three or four hundred from enjoying a sport which, to say the least, does not probably inconvenience more than two or three. Now, Phillips Academy does not intend to forget how much she owed to the people of Andover during her centennial, but she expects them to remember that were the three institutions situated in this town removed, it would be no small detriment to it. To the trades people in particular, *even to the professions*, it is a great advantage, which few perhaps appreciate, to have during three fourths of the year a population of four hundred young people in addition to its own, who will spend money to a considerable extent, which finds its way into their pockets. In view of these facts, is it fair, we ask, that the town should pass a law which prevents the use

of a single street for the purposes of coasting? What if a horse does pick up his ears a little if he sees a sled! Can one not be obliging enough to keep his own slight inconvenience out of sight, when he sees that a great many are enjoying a very innocent sport? It is a little peculiar, perhaps, that all are young once in their lives. Some people forget this fact, and appear to desire only to shut themselves up in their own moroseness and bitterness, happy only when they can do an ill turn to their neighbor or make themselves generally offensive. Now, in regard to all such, we can only devoutly hope and pray that they may live to see the error of their ways and learn that it pays to submit even to serious inconvenience for the sake of others. So far as the sliding is concerned, if it has been enjoyed not only by the students of the three respective institutions, but also by many of the inhabitants themselves. If Boston, with its small amount of territory, can give its youth one of the principal portions of its common for coasting, furnish a man whose duty it shall be to keep the slide in good icy condition, and detail some dozen policemen to attend to the proper observance of the laws of decorum, and build bridges for the benefit of the pedestrian,—it does seem as if Andover, with its large amount of space, might allow School Street for the purposes of sliding. If a city gives a place for such amusement, ought the country to be behind? We hope that another year will see this law repealed.

THERE is a growing tendency in these days to look upon a long sermon, a long lecture, a long entertainment, or a long editorial, as a blemish. People in taking up a newspaper cull out the shortest paragraphs and those most thickly marked with quotation marks. A sermon which has no other excellence is praised for its brevity. A concert is tedious if prolonged beyond two hours. A debate in our own society loses its interest when the debaters are long-winded. Every one, in short, seems to prefer and to seek out short, spicy remarks or writings in preference to long ones.

How many grave men would have to confess that when their weekly paper came they turned to the joke column first of all? This is another phase of the same kind. We prefer in a public reader short, funny selections to classic works, such as Shakespeare or Milton. It is the same with a lecturer, and it is surprising how much nonsense we will overlook and even forget if it is only flavored with an abundance of jokes. To make this article practical and enforce its meaning, there is not a person who reads the PHILLIPIAN who does not in all probability read the short local news

first, and the wise, grave, thoughtful editorials last, or perhaps not at all. To account for this desire for brevity and conciseness would take too much time and space and is altogether out of keeping with the aim of the PHILLIPIAN, which is to furnish short, breezy articles of general interest. But it would be a curious study to compare these times of haste and even thoughtlessness with the patient decorum and gravity of a hundred years ago.

AFTER a fortnight's profound intellectual meditation, the critic—possibly the "fighting editaire, who boxing gloves doth always waite"—of the *Exonian* gets into print with a repartee about as lucid as pitch and funny as the dying joke of a decayed punster, in reply to our notice of his criticism on a translation recently published in the PHILLIPIAN. Hear this featherless biped of the sanctum in his learned stricture: "We would beg leave to suggest that he [PHILLIPIAN's critic] had better study the meaning of words a little more, before he writes further criticisms; then he will not commit the blunder of thinking that *paraphrasing* a poem from one language to another consists of giving a *literal* translation of it." And so this impertinent scribbler really considers the translation in question a literal one! This is not, however, quite so inane as the unequivocal implication in a previous number of his paper that he considered it, as we have said before, an attempt at an elegant translation, and which now, abjuring the heathen gods, he vigorously denies; but still, coming from a student of "the first preparatory school of the land," it does not speak much better for his scholarship than the "Horse Caire Conductaire" rhymes do for the development of his cerebral facilities. For the fact is that the translation is neither literal nor elegant, but precisely what we termed it, and that is, a paraphrase. Indeed the translator styles it, "A Free Translation of a Part of Virgil's First Eclogue." And the proper authorities define a paraphrase,— "a free or loose translation." This critic reminds us of a certain clown, known in literature as Touchstone, who "never perceived his wit till he broke his shins against it." And when he complains, in true school-boy fashion, because we termed the *Exonian* "young and innocent," while in point of time the PHILLIPIAN is its junior, he evidently forgets that there is a youthfulness which is the peculiarity of age and an innocence that is the attribute of imbecility.

Any statements made about the weather in this number must be taken with moderation.

Skating at the rink has been good this week.

MASSACHUSETTS is said to be the most thickly populated of the United States. He who is not possessed of a roving temperament does not realize, however, that there are such tracts of open and wooded country uninhabited as exist in the neighborhood of Andover. Not far distant from these classic abodes there are the Middleton and North Reading woods, in the depths of which one can travel for ten or more miles in some directions without his romantic disposition being disturbed by the apparition of a stone wall, farm, or human being. A walk of four miles takes you to the outskirts of these miniature forests; and by traversing them, the labor is amply rewarded in the varied beauty and ever-changing aspect of the woodland. An extensive chain of ponds adds to the attractions which during the fall resound with the cries of wild duck and geese, while spring makes them a fruitful resort for the fisherman. Pike of good dimensions abound in these waters, and the streams which supply them are not lacking in fair-sized trout.

It was but three years ago that a friend of ours killed a deer in this very region; pheasants are by no means scarce, and a fox frequently enlivens the spirits of the sportsmen. When a clearing opens to view, the sight of a woodchuck, rabbit or partridge often brings the gun to the shoulder; and as the report reverberates through the hills one experiences the delight of an escape from study for a season. Winter as well as spring is suited to this species of enjoyment; a pair of snow shoes will facilitate tramping and make the pheasant an easier prey. Though most of the woods are of the "second growth," there are some high trees; these, and massive rocks, contrasted with the even level of snow, lend a true enchantment to the eye. If there is no fascination for rifle or gun, fox or pheasant, the deep, dark silence of the pines and evergreens beautified by rivulets and grottos, and mystified by the appearance of large caves, which now and then afford a pleasant resort—warm in winter and cool in summer—certainly one gains much pleasure and exercise merely in tearing through the brush and plodding over hill and dale; we have participated in this and would recommend the same species of fun to others. Returning from such an afternoon's sport, one's appetite is quickened and the brain sharpened for study.

MOSES BROWN, Jr.

St. Valentine's day is past and gone and we (editorial we) have no valentines. We do not mourn very much when we reflect that if we had received any they would in all likelihood have been one cent ones. Who says a member of P. A. '99 received seventy-six.

#### PHILLIPIANA.

The zeal and enthusiasm with which certain coasters watered the street in front of Latin Commons last week was only equaled by the rain which poured upon it for a whole day twenty-four hours later.

Coasting is gone and the once timid pedestrian rejoices as he walks boldly down town.

The two Senior classes held a business meeting after chapel services last week. The following persons were elected to fill the different parts upon graduation day: Historian, F. J. Phelps; Orator, E. S. Beach; Prophet, G. B. Noble; Poet, C. M. Sheldon. For the Tug of War, from the Senior Scientific were elected, Parsons, Kendall, Barker, Chickering, and Packwood; from the Senior Classical, Rogers, Parrott, Gardner, Cornish and Sheldon. Astonishing feats of strength are expected from these teams, especially from the last two members of the classical department.

The concert given by the Glee Club on Wednesday evening was a success. Everything went off smoothly, and we have yet to hear any real complaint either of the singing or of any part of the program. The club did the school honor and was encored several times, and the instrumental music did not fail to receive the favor it merited. It is so seldom that the two Academies join in a mutual entertainment of this kind that we feel like recording with more than usual satisfaction its success. The Glee Club authorizes us to return thanks to the donors, whoever they may be, for the two magnificent baskets of bouquets presented to them.

It was *almost* a flunk, if we may use so vulgar a word, which the chapel choir made last Tuesday morning. And on Federal Street too. The organist put in his oar just in time to save the tune from utter demoralization, and that was all. But it is a little too bad that the rest of the school stop singing just when their voices are needed the most.

Ed. Greene has been confined to his room for the past week with a hurt upon the knee, the result of coasting.

The Rev. Alexander McKenzie, of Cambridge, was in the school Thursday. He was present during the Senior Rhetorical exercises in No. 9. Probably it was owing to his presence and that of the other visitors that the speakers did so well.

Reinforcements from the class in Herodotus for the *advanced* class in Homer are constantly pouring in. And yet there is room.

It is rumored that the Means prize speaking is to come off the 28th. of this month.

Prof. Pierce of pop-corn notoriety seems to have handed over his stock in trade to Prof. Piorcé, Jr.

The concert of last Wednesday netted over sixty-three dollars for the Abbott Semi-Centennial Fund.

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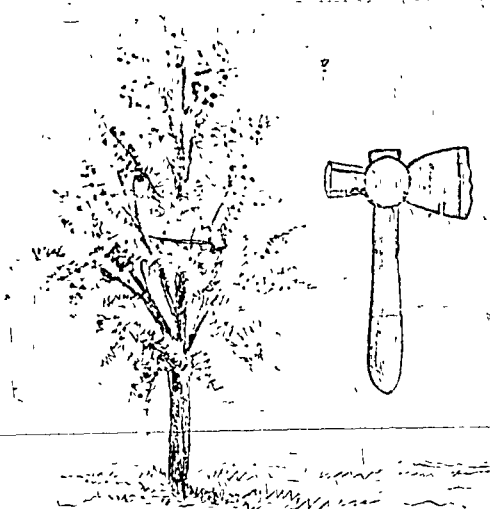
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One day he to the orchard went,  
He saw his father's cherry tree,  
And with a hatchet which he had  
He hacked and hewed it very free.

Now when his father found it out  
He called his son and said to him,  
"My son, who did this awful deed?"  
His look was very dread and grim.

Then little Georgie up and said,  
"Although I know I'll surely catch it,  
I really cannot tell a lie,  
I did it with my little hatchet."

A short tale, *a la* Wilkie Collins.—  
Time, midnight. Place, student's room.  
Student's head lies on table. He dreams.  
He sees approaching an aged form. The  
form comes nearer. The student recog-  
nizes Homer. A sudden thought strikes  
student. He will accost the blind poet.  
He does so. "I say, Homer, why are  
there so many 'u's and 'd's in the Iliad,  
and how did you translate 'em?"

Homer turns with a profound sigh.  
"Oh! misguided youth, of course, as you  
see, really now, it was absolutely neces-  
sary, from the natural fitness of things,  
because as most natural, I say, that a logi-  
cal sequence, each line should be devel-  
oped, as has been heretofore explained, as  
you know, of course, and as the natural  
state of circumstances"—but how  
long he would have gone on is uncertain,  
for the student aimed a Liddell and Scott's  
Lexicon at the shade, and awoke.

We overheard a Commons man talking  
to a private house man about the Landla-  
dies' Bill, the other day. "I tell you, it's  
perfectly outrageous. Don't you think  
so?" said the private house man, forgetting  
in his excitement who his companion was.  
"Yes," said the Commons man, "but you  
ought to bear it with fortitude; just see  
how calm I am, for instance."

Since the coasting ceased exciting news  
has been scarce. No one fractures a  
limb walking quietly down the street or  
skating on the rink. What is more to be  
deplored, no one seems willing to sacrifice  
himself for the public good. The days of  
the martyrs are, we fear, gone by.

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