

THE PHILLIPPIAN.

VOL. III.

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No. II.

ABBOT ACADEMY.

Dear *Phillippian*.—Judging from its present quietness, we conclude that Andover must have spent its winter's energy upon the two months of November and December. Perhaps the unusual amount of snow—whose depth remained uniform and unchanged, the streets, fields, sidewalks and all preserving a delightful harmony,—or perhaps the extreme cold, has congealed what enterprise or enthusiasm ever burnt in the moderate breasts of her citizens. However, Andover is proverbial for developing its moral and intellectual faculties at the expense of all others, and while we derive so much advantage from this tendency, we certainly do not care to quarrel with it.

Within itself, our little world progresses much as usual, except that a few of our callers have fallen off. We are enjoying now Mrs. Downs' long-promised lectures, which unite in a particularly pleasant way the instructive with the entertaining. We have already had two of them, and look forward to three more, coming at fortnightly intervals.

Although for the first few weeks of the year the Sphinx bid fair to follow in the steps of its great predecessor, and preserve unbroken silence for the rest of time, it has now started into life once more, and with a new corps of officers, gives us not unfounded hopes of some very pleasant meetings this term.

Would that we could say we were enjoying the fine skating, and thank the students of Phillips for their promptness and energy in clearing the snow from the ice! But not so! We would beg, however, to inquire, with all due respect, for the members of the rink committee, as since the last snow they seem to have entirely disappeared from public view.

At last we rejoice in what, as a school, we have long needed and desired—a reading-room. No. 3 was made ready during the holidays, and since our return the Senior class has been fitting it up with chairs, table, curtains, lamp, etc. Mr. Edward Taylor, and the class of '80 both remembered us at Christmas, the former presenting us Chambers' Encyclopædia, and the latter several other valuable books. These, with a good portion of our library, consisting mostly of those books which do not pertain to any particular studies, have been moved in, and our many different magazines and papers are also in their places, instead of being in all parts of the school as they were before—an extremely pleasant change.

Among the exchanges there we notice the "*Philo Mirror*," which was issued at the end of the fall term. We would like to criticize the very local tone which pervades its pages, but aside from that enjoyed reading it. We think the article on the "*Free Press*" is especially true; some

parts of "*School Popularity*," also, would apply very well to Abbot Academy.

We will close by thanking the "*Phillippian*" for its kind notice of our "*Courant*." We were much encouraged to learn that it was "no worse than usual." '83.

OUR RECENT RIDE AND VISIT.

It is so seldom that the monotony of school life is broken by anything that borders upon a real social, unrestrained gathering, that, when it does occur, we pull from our pocket the long-neglected diary, and devote an entire line to it. Such an occasion presented itself to us last Wednesday. Negotiations had been under way for a class sleigh-ride, and it culminated in the greatest event of the season. At 2.30 P.M. twenty-five of the class of P. A. '81 entered the large barge, drawn by six horses, and amid a shower of snow-balls fired by envious underclassmen and our less fortunate English brethren, and a blast from the simple but musical instrument erstwhile known as the fish-horn, we were soon gliding over the rapidly-melting snow. A halt was made at the village of the Samaritans, and each one was provided with one of the above-mentioned wind instruments. A blast *a tuba*, and we were away. By way of variety we were favored with a tip-over when about two miles from town. We crawled out of the promiscuous heap without further injury than a slight ruffling of toilet. By careful balancing and considerable activity we proceeded upon the rest of our journey without further accident, awakening the echoes with the band *tubarum* as we went.

Upon arriving at Haverhill we found supper provided at the Eagle hotel. We will not attempt to give the bill of fare, for fear it would occupy one side of our paper; but we will simply state that it was something immense, including things in season, out of season, and without seasoning, and it was damaged irreparably by the sharp appetites of ye stalwart representatives of Phillips.

Virgilius was represented by our esteemed Principal, and Homer found a worthy representative in our Greek instructor. After the supper toasts were responded to over the brimming glasses of ambrosial—white lemonade (the coloring was forgotten), "*Phillips Academy*" was responded to by Dr. Bancroft, in a short but pleasing story. Mr. Coy did the honors of the "*Faculty*" by provoking an irrepressible "ha, ha," and then gracefully excusing the members of the Faculty present. "The class of P. A. '81" was next proposed by President Tuttle, and responded to by Symons. "The Committee of Arrangements" was next toasted by Mr. Welles. He said the committee richly deserve toasting, and called to mind the incident of the three men who had been toasted in ancient times in a fiery furnace.

Mr. Flanders responded in behalf of the committee. The President then proposed "Mr. Coy." Mr. Smith answered. He had known him as "a man severe, and stern to view," but we had learned to have the warmest regard for him, by reason of his untiring interest in us. Mr. Howard gave us a characteristic reply on the "*Fem. Sems.*" He related his experience of a hasty departure from those classic halls, with an exchange of wearing apparel, in his too great eagerness to leave. He had not "played foot-ball two years for nothing." Mr. Halbert was beginning to grow eloquent over his endearing theme of "Mr. Howarth," when the hour came for our departure. He was beginning to give an analysis of this worthy's character, but time came to his rescue. The "*Bradford Fem. Sem.*" next met with a hearty response, shown by the eagerness to reach the halls of Bradford Seminary.

Then followed the little-talked-of, but much-thought-of, reception. Our quill in the hand of a more redoubted knight would utterly fail to do justice to the occasion. The chivalry of Phillips and the grace and beauty of Bradford mingled in the most delightful concord, and time was as little thought of as though we were immortals. Greek roots and cube roots vanished to their primeval nothingness, and the tripping dactyls of Virgil found a fitting arsis and thesis in the nervous beat and flutter of delighted hearts and active fans. Scintillations of wit and words of wisdom flowed forth in unconscious harmony, while Cupid kept up a most destructive warfare as a sort of accompaniment. Refreshments of the choicest variety were served at nine, and despite the ravages we had previously made at the supper, we were tempted still further by the choice dainties and the polite solicitations of our fair hosts. Everything was done to make the guests at ease, and the success was phenomenal. Few heeded the flying moments, and were unconscious of the departure of a few of their companions, until a cheerful voice called out that our "team was waiting!"

Three rousing Phillips cheers, as we left, were given, for our hosts, with musical interludes. We extend to the teachers of both institutions our warmest thanks for seconding the efforts of the committee. And to the young ladies we will say that however short may be our recollection of their names, their faces will retain the bloom of youth as we in future years recall the scenes of our school-days and the few events which mark them with lasting remembrance.

French—Prof.: "*Voulez-vous me dire?*" Soph., a little warm on grinds: "Ah, Professor, do not speak so affectionately. Why, even she whom I—" Prof., disgusted: "*Asses! Alles!*" Soph., still hilarious: "Who's an ass?"—*Ex.*

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IN order to have a good ball nine next spring, it is necessary that the players use the gymnasium this term. The Academy hardly cares to be represented by nine invalids. With this idea, the base ball committee selected its eighteen men for training, relying in the choice upon the record of last season. Consequently, few new fellows are on the list. But the committee is very anxious that any such who have played at other schools or at home should exercise daily with view to a place on one of the teams. They will certainly have a chance to show their skill, and may be sure that good playing will be appreciated. The intention is to organize two nines, either of which shall play as good a game as last year's First Nine. This can only be done with the hearty co-operation of the school. The Foot Ball Eleven had that support last fall, and we would bespeak it for the Nines. Phillips has no cricket or boating interest. Base ball is the school sport of the last half of our year. It is an American game, and is not as expensive in time or money as boating. Our predecessors have been uniformly successful in keeping up the base ball interest, and a creditable nine has been the result. Shall we do less? Every one can have a hand in the work. If you never play yourself, help the committee by urging your neighbor to train while the cold weather lasts, and play when spring comes.

ONE of the greatest faults which people of little experience in writing or speaking have to guard against, or should guard against, is the tendency to profuseness. They are not satisfied with a simple statement of the matter under consideration, but waste time and patience in dealing with non-essentials. Were they asked to tell the way to New York, they would probably take you around the north pole, by way of circumlocution; and, were you to ask such a person his name, he would be inclined to tell you the genealogy of his ancestors from Adam down, with all the euphonic changes of names, and the occupations of each male descendant. They have so far forgotten the Scriptural injunction, that "yes" and "no" have become obsolete words in their vocabulary. We are constantly reminded of this tendency in the class room. It is impossible to get a direct answer of yes or no from some. They have fallen into the habit of so covering up and overwhelming a simple monosyllable that it sometimes requires half a dozen additional questions to ascertain what they do mean. We would like to impress it upon the minds of all such, that there may be other people to be heard from beside themselves, and when they are asked a ques-

tion they would save a great deal of patience and time by simply answering it without half a dozen or more comments.

SOCIETIES.

The PHILOMATHEAN Society held its fourth regular meeting of the term on Friday evening last. The Society hall was but fairly filled. Its capacity, we believe, has not been fully tested in some time. However there is the satisfaction of feeling that those present have all come for work.

After the usual preliminaries, the regular parts assigned for the evening were in order. First came a written criticism of the preceding meeting. The purposes of this part were well carried out. Written in a spirit of fairness and pleasantry, a critique tends to correct any natural faults in others, which beginners are apt to possess; as well as to give the writer opportunity to test his own wit and judgment.

Following the critique was the customary extempore. Perhaps this part more than any other helps one to feel at home on his feet. The extempore of the evening consisted in an interesting description of the processes in manufacturing patent leather.

Next on the programme came the reading of various selections. It seems to be the province of the Select Reading to create a deal of laughter. This the reader seemed to realize.

The declamation, which, with the select reading, alternates with other parts, was delivered in a very impressive style.

Then came the event of the evening, the debate. The subject—"Resolved: that the electoral college should be abolished and that the President should be elected by the direct vote of the people."

After a little society business, the meeting adjourned. And every member present undoubtedly felt that he had received one more push up the road of a liberal and practical education.

Although the writing of the critique was not the part assigned us, yet, as one greatly interested in the Society of INQUIRY, we take the liberty of writing a brief sketch of its third annual meeting.

The Society of INQUIRY this term numbers forty-four, and of this number about twenty-five assembled in Society hall at the usual summons of the Academy bell. The absence of the president called the vice-president to the chair.

As is customary, one of the chosen few offered the opening prayer. This time it was the democratic gentleman from New Jersey. Notwithstanding his political views, the gentleman in question makes an earnest prayer.

Then followed the programme of the evening: 1. The *Observatory*, the society paper, by the third editor. The editors when we were boys used to present to us articles of sound common sense. The contents of the present number were,—Smoking, a few jokes, school news, jokes, the intended Senior class sleigh-ride—see elsewhere—more jokes. Indeed the unsuccessful attempts at wit were very clear. If the editor had only presented an article on "Watts on the Mind," "Protoplasm the Source of Life," etc., the tone of the society would be raised and the intellectual element satisfied.

2. A real live Englishman, P.S. '81, de-claimed—or thought he did—a serio-comic selection. Had the gentleman not had the privilege of attending Prof. Churchill's instructions in gesticulation, his gestures would have been excusable.

3. In the good old solemn style was delivered the extempore on the profound subject of the Missouri Compromise. A little more life, classical gentleman.

4. The question in debate was, "Resolved. That all persons employed by the U. S. Government should receive their appointment through competitive examination." Although the debaters wandered slightly from the question, the debate was so well sustained by both sides, that the chair without censure might have said, as did Palaemton of old, "Et vitula tu dignus, et hic," but the negative won.

To sustain good order in the house, the gentleman from New Haven, Conn., who, by the way, was a visitor, was requested to make himself scarce. He did so with a parting salute to the debater, who would testify upon oath that Fisher had on copper-toed boots that night.

Inquiry still lives, and order must and will be sustained. Success in literary work demands it.

The Senior Classical Reading Club is progressing nicely and clearly proving itself to be a success. Mr. Halbert presided at the last meeting. The address of the evening, by Jones, was on the Tower of London. Some new and interesting facts were presented. Mr. Symons read a paper concerning the source, habits and life of the North American Indian. Many points were amusing and all instructive. The reading, selections from *Hiawatha*, was by Mr. Weymouth. After a short time of mutual conversation and discussion, Mr. Stearns closed with a short extract describing Christopher Columbus' triumphal march upon his return from the discovery of America.

AMHERST COLLEGE, Feb. 6, 1881.

Dear *Phillipian*,—The dullest term of the year is fast passing away. I will not bore you with a description of an Amherst winter, for your readers can imagine it from their own surroundings. Now is the time to form chess clubs or whist clubs. The Sophomores have a flourishing chess club of about twenty-five members, and the Freshmen have a sickly imitation under the patronage of Ward.

We have listened to a lecture by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, which was prefaced by some interesting reminiscences of the Amherst of fifty years ago.

The Yale Glee Club also has visited us, and was warmly greeted by the students, —perhaps the more warmly because they felt their own Glee Club would not suffer by comparison.

Judge Tourgee has helped to relieve the monotony of the term by a very able and instructive lecture.

The three lower classes are most busily occupied in preparing for the Gymnasium Exhibition, which occurs February 12. The three classes drill and go through their dumb-bell exercises in College Hall in the afternoon. A prize of \$100 is to be awarded to the class making the best appearance. After this comes the exhibition of heavy gymnastics at the gymnasium, and the day is closed by the Amherst

Glee Club concert in the evening. The Juniors are generally considered to have the best chance of taking the gymnasium prize, as they took it last year.

The chance for the Freshmen this year has been diminished by ceasing to take into account in awarding the prize the attendance of the classes at the regular gymnasium exercises. Still they are working hard in the hope that they may at least surpass the Sophomores.

Exchanges.

Nothing that we have ever read has afforded us keener delight than the reading of some of the speeches made in the parliamentary tilts indulged in by the illustrious statesmen of the time of Burke and Fox and the Pitts. There is a snap and vim about them that is felt even at this remote day. We can almost see the expectant eyes and hear the applause of the vast assembly as it is swayed and moved by the powerful eloquence of those intellectual giants. Grattan has the floor, and pours forth his flood of sarcasm and biting retort upon the offending head of Corry. We can almost see the offender writhe beneath the stinging rejoinder of the Irish member, and see the hot blood mount to his cheeks at the words, "I will not call him a villain, because it would be unparliamentary, and he is a privy councillor. I will not call him fool, because he happens to be Chancellor of the Exchequer." O fortunate Grattan, that you lived before the days of the exchange editor of the *Crimson*, or thy sarcastic words would have met the fate of our innocent imitation. We little thought, in modelling the cracker of our little whip after Grattan's reply, that, when we ran "plump" into the *Exonian*, we were at the same time stepping upon the toes of the *Crimson* man. But, verily, the *Crimson* pulse beats strong for its ward, and is felt even on the far-away threshold of Exeter. Why, Mr. Grattan, "villain" and "fool" is nearly as bad as "fool" and "ass," and the vulgarity of such language is something not to be tolerated by the esthetic taste of the *Crimson* exchange man, no matter how much you may coat and gloss it over in order to make it more effective when the sugar is removed. But we must beg pardon of our readers for permitting ourselves to be carried into this vulgarity by Mr. Grattan's unworthy example, and we trust we shall have no further occasion to resort to it.

For benefit of those reading the Georgics, we clip the following from the *Record* on

"SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC."

Aries in the zodiac
Is the first that comes before us.
And the one that follows Aries
Is bovinely surnamed Taurus.
And, if you're asked about the third,
Why—Gemini, you'll answer,
And at the fourth don't be disturbed:
You're right when you say, Cancer.
Then Leo, Virgo, Libra come,
Whose forms are very various,
And after them there's always room
For Scorpio and Sagittarius.
Capricornus and Aquarius next,
With their curious devices,—
Which people oftentimes get mixed,—
Are followed last by Pisces.

The *Athenæum* complains of the vacan-

cies of two or three professorships. The matter of procuring a campus is discussed. "History of Williamstown" is quite entertaining.

One by one the college papers beg to be excused from the proposed press-association. The *Brunonian* is the last one.

The *Courant* asks for more instruction in elocution.

Fears for the safety of the Academy at Exeter begin to be entertained. Has any one heard from it since the very cold weather set in? To be sure, the *Exonian* comes regularly, but some sewing-circle may have continued its publication as a sort of monument to the school.

Phillipianna.

Sands better.

Park up and about.

Measles on the wane.

Thayer is broken out in a new spot—measles.

Middle English Geometry Class has been divided into two divisions.

The Middlers have begun their elocutionary drill with Prof. Churchill. It occurs on Monday at 10.30.

The attendance and progress at the Gym is slowly increasing under the direction of Mr. Dole.

Mr. Howard, at a special school meeting, read the petition to be presented by the citizens of Andover to the town selectmen.

We notice by the papers, that the father of Camden, P.A. '84, has the honor of representing West Virginia in the Senate.

Dr. Bancroft, on the 26th of January, was one of the speakers at the Alumni meeting of Dartmouth College held at the Revere House.

Instructor:—"Fisher, are you ready to pay attention, or shall I send you out of the room?" F.:—"Yes, sir!"

The "General" has presented his petition and we are awaiting its fate with breathless anxiety.

Errata—In our report of the meeting last week put "from" her walls, instead of on, *et* for *est*.

Prof. Franklin Carter, P. A. '55. Williams '62, German Professor at Yale, has been elected President of Williams College by the trustees.

Since the last issue the coldest snaps of the season have come upon us, the thermometer being as low as ten and twelve degrees below zero.

Rev. Thomas Adams, D.D., of Windsor, Me., who was in the Academy in 1804-5 and regarded as the oldest alumnus living, died Feb. 5th in the 90th year of his age.

We made a sudden descent upon the Gym the other evening and three of the twenty men, selected last term to practice for the Spring bass-ball team, engaged in their gymnastic work. Next Spring the cry will be, "Where are the nine?"

Recently a committee was appointed in Philo to consider the expediency of having some kind of an entertainment this term, and what would be best to have. No plans, as yet, have been presented to the Society, though a report has been expected every week since the committee was appointed.

The Senior Class Committee made its report last Tuesday and the class has taken favorable action upon it. Prof. Stoddard, who delivered the very interesting lecture on "Russia and St. Petersburg" last winter, will probably be secured to give a lecture at no distant day.

The following men have been chosen to speak before the Faculty preparatory to the selection of Draper prize men: P. A. '8r, Greene, Symons, Tuttle, Halbert, Pollard, Jones. P. S. '81, Willets, Porter, Hannah, Durant. P. A. '82, Quimby, Koe, Phelps, Smith. P. S. '82, Foster, Baltz, Cashman, Shore. P. A. '83, Codding, Johnson.

Here and There.

Williams has the measles.

Prof. Diman, of Brown, died last week.

Smith College girls went over to East-hampton last Wednesday.

Blodgett is vice-president of the new Freshman debating society at Yale.

The choral dance has been abandoned in the proposed Greek play at Harvard. We always thought they were better on an Irish "break-down"—those Harvard fellows.

College libraries—Harvard leads with 200,000; Yale, 100,000; Dartmouth, 50,000; Cornell, 40,000.

The publication of the revised version of the New Testament by the English universities has been postponed until May.

In the fellowships at John Hopkins's, there are graduates from thirty different colleges. Yale has the greatest number, seven.

Lady student, reciting back Latin: "*Ego et frater ambulamus*, I and brother walk." "Prof.: "Whose brother?" Lady student, absently: "Oh, most anybody's." Curtain.—*Ex*.

W.: "What does your chum do for exercise?" T.: "Oh, he talks!"—*Courant*.

Oh, what can be done with Fisher?
He raises a fuss, and kicks up a muss—
Oh, what can be done with Fisher?
Oh, what can be done with Fisher?
"The societies fail, and the presidents rail—
Oh, what can be done with Fisher?
Oh, what can be done with Fisher?
"The class-room's a hoax, for the teacher he jokes,
Oh, what can be done with Fisher?
Oh, what can be done with Fisher?
"In every school there must be a fool:
So bear, gentle friend, with Fisher. P.

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