

THE PHILLIPPIAN.

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CAMBRIDGE, OCT. 17, 1881.

Editors of the Phillipian.—It is with many misgivings that the writer, having little experience in college life and still less as a correspondent, undertakes to fulfill his promise of a letter from Harvard. But a Freshman has one advantage over an upper-class man in writing such a letter, for the former is constantly reminded of his preparatory school, not only in the recitation room, but also at the elections and on the campus. Indeed, until one makes a record for himself here (which takes some time) he seems to rank among the fellows about as his preparatory school ranks among the other preparatory schools.

One of the pleasant things about entering Harvard is to find among the students such uniform evidence of a careful preparation. This year, as usual, all the prominent fitting-schools are represented.

Andover sends five,—four to the college proper, and one (Atherton) to the Lawrence Scientific School.

At present the Phillips men here are rejoicing over the success of one of their number in the Lee Prize Reading for Freshmen. The competition was held last Thursday evening in Boyleston 5, and Thayer, P.A. '81, received the first prize of forty dollars over sixteen other contestants.

Mitchell, P.A. '81, who left the Academy at the end of the Middle year, and spent last year in study at his home, enters this fall, doing maximum work in every study.

Although Phillips has no boating, there seems to be a good prospect of her being represented on the Freshman crew by Smith, P.A., '81.

Speaking of athletics, it is hoped that the Freshman eleven and nine will be more successful than those of last year. The obstacles, however, in the way of organizing Freshman teams are much greater than might at first be supposed. Andover can judge of the Freshman eleven a week from next Saturday, when they are to play against the Academy. No doubt it will be a strange experience for any former Phillips man who may chance to visit the campus on the Hill, that day with a crowd of new friends, hoping with them to see the home team defeated in that game, yet wishing it the most complete success in every other that it plays.

While the Gymnasium and Jarvis Field afford excellent advantages for exercise and sport, the other departments of the college offer even greater advantages for study. The Freshman class, of 217 members, was divided into eight sections for recitation in the classics, and six for mathematics and German. When they came, everything was ready to receive them. No student is crowded, no teacher overworked. All the departments are running as smoothly to-day as if it were the middle instead of the beginning of the year.

To the Editors of the Phillipian.

Dear Sirs,—We noticed in your last issue an article on the new system of Amherst College; which we think worthy of the consideration of your readers; for it involves principles of school government as they affect us, as well as all other schools and colleges.

When we first view the regulations of a school under the old system, we feel that the requirements are rather heavy. Our times for study and recreation are largely settled for us, and our social life is restricted to a degree almost unbearable. But when we consider more deeply the various sides of the question, we have more respect for the wisdom which keeps us under such admirable regulations.

The new system at Amherst seems to be based on a plan involving three special disadvantages.

The attendance at the school exercises is not the same as every man in the busy world recognizes to be binding upon him. There is a laxity about the system which recognizes that there are demands upon a student, other than what your correspondent calls "mental cultivation merely," but which we look upon as the prime end of college life. A man's health is very important, but that a man may be healthy and study under the old school *regime* is patent to everybody. That a student's friends need his time, is poor ground on which to base such a laxity; for time set apart for college duties cannot, with profit, be spent in amusing himself with friends.

One-tenth of the recitations missed means one-tenth of the instruction lost; one-tenth of the time set apart for one duty taken up by another, and probably a profitless education.

The rank by daily recitations alone may prevent the "wholesale cramming" if a man has not missed one-tenth of his class exercises; but if he has, he must cram to an extent never needed by one, who is accustomed to meet his daily appointments and strengthen his work by an examination without conditions.

No merits or demerits is equivalent to no reward for faithful, and no censure for poor work. If we take merits and demerits in this light, and associate them with our school record as its reward or censure, the greater honors and dishonors, the greater achievements or failures, which are to be the lot of every one in the duties of life, we shall see that we are getting a discipline from the old system valuable in itself.

No valedictorian is, in the case of those who study to gain a showy end, a good thing because, it removes temptations, but, to faithful workers and those who give honor to whom honor is due, it is unpleasant, because worth goes without reward, and men who would pay respect to superior attainments are prevented. Looking at the matter from the standpoint of your correspondent it is best to have no

distinction. But we have an impression that distinction is associated with great achievements, and is creditable to any student and that it is esteemed such by all who understand human nature best. Rank is a poor object to work for, if it means to stand at the head of your class; as a figure-head, and if the person care not how he got there; but let a scholar associate all that is highest with all that is most gentlemanly, and he is worthy to be a leader both in school and out of it. H.

Editors of the Phillipian.—In one of your last year's issues a remark was made to the effect that Phillips ought to have a reading-room. If you will allow us a little space, we would like to briefly discuss the subject.

It is important—nay, we cannot enforce too strongly the importance of diligently reading the newspapers. No man can be educated without a knowledge of the news of the day: these current events are history. Now, the advantages of a well-supplied reading-room over private subscription for a paper are manifold. For instance, one is led to read all sides of a debated question, and thereby to form intelligent opinions, and by contact with papers coming from different parts of the land, to broaden his understanding and increase his knowledge of the world. Furthermore, he will be kept from a bigoted adherence to the sentiments entertained by a single paper. Grant the importance of these results, then surely every Phillipian ought to have access to a well-supplied reading-room.

But if one were now to be founded by a bequest, or we were to start one by subscription, it would probably prove very unsatisfactory, at the best, for some time. We want a large one now; and since there is a very nice reading-room in Phillips Hall at the Seminary, sustained by the theologues, to which in times past the members of the Academy have been cordially invited, and as some have been in the habit of availing themselves of this privilege, we would suggest that a committee be sent by the school to wait upon the proper persons at the Seminary, with the request that their reading-room become also that of Phillips Academy, on condition that a specified subscription be raised among us each year towards its support and increase (and with such other conditions as shall be mutually agreed upon).

From expressions we have heard, we believe the theologues would be willing to do this, as it would result in benefit not only to us but also to them. READER.

A college journal gives the following:
Prof.—"I see a gentleman in the back part of the room with something in his mouth. *Quid est hoc?*"
Student (unwarily) — "*Hoc est quid.*"

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Of all the prominent questions of school life, perhaps none is more closely joined to the course of each and every one of us than that concerning school politics. Let us first consider the objections with which we may be met. The common arguments advanced against the politics of the outside world fail to apply here. We are so few, comparatively, that we cannot, even when tempted so to do, make use of dishonest and improper methods. Hence this class of opposition needs no mention.

We often hear a prominent man give as his reason for not entering upon a political career, that he dislikes the treatment which he is sure to meet at the hands of the press. This is becoming truer every day. The early life and record of a candidate for office is picked to pieces and ransacked and overhauled to such a degree that defects are found where none exist worthy of public notice or comment. Yet boys are not of the same stamp as their elders. We look forward a great deal more than backward. There is little or nothing to bring the past to us, and it dies a natural death. Why not?

Further, our elders often ask us whether it does not cause ill-feeling between one boy and another, if, when the former succeeds, the latter fails. This strikes us as a most pertinent query. There are undoubtedly cases where failure does real injury to a student. Just rising into prominence, if he is defeated, although the defeat may be of small account, he does not have the heart to try again. For such an one, school politics are an ill-timed prescription, but in the aggregate, and it is with the mass that we must deal, we claim that this rivalry has a healthy tendency. Do away with it, and in place of lively, brisk interest, and a quick, ready tone to your school life, you have a listless lethargy. Nobody cares.

Why is it too that, when our literary societies lag behind, a brisk and close election gives such an added zest? Because attention is drawn to and fixed upon them. Boys realize that they amount to something. We are a great deal more likely to get the best man for the place, if we choose him knowing that he will meet with opposition. As a weak man cannot be placed in the field if resistance be shown, we are compelled to take the strongest we can find.

Finally, it is impossible that we should all think alike, and as a result we must accept the alternative, and make the best of it. And while we urge the need in our school to-day of a genuine and helpful excitement, let us not be interpreted as saying that boys must depend upon such influence for support. Steady work is the thing that tells, and if a boy deserve a place he will get it in the end, if he meet with help or opposition. Let no one of us here at Phillips fall asleep and fear to try

for anything he thinks he deserves. Above all, let us, while keeping wide awake, prevent our campus, our literary work, or our class offices from suffering for want of ready interest.

We are happy to announce the rising of a new and brilliant star in our literary circles. A youthful genius, hitherto unknown to fame, has made his *début* in a thrilling and romantic novelette entitled, "Swift-arrow, a Tail of the Plains." We will give a short sketch from one of the characteristic chapters. Notice the rare maturity of style. Whisper not, O Melpomene, Muse of Tragedy, that thy bard was a prep! We should count time by heart-beats, not by the petty distinctions which divide this much abused class from the rest. Now, even now, let the haughty junior be discomfited, for a prophet has arisen from that ignored and slighted tribe.

The heroes and heroines of the tale have just escaped from the jaws of a prairie fire. We quote "verbatim et literatim," only giving a few comments.

"The women were just going to rush out and deliver thanks to providence when they were stopped by the men, and there not two hundred yards distance was a band of ingens (*P. Virgilius Maro*) in full war array. One young ingen evidently a chief from his dress was gesticulating wildly, and ever and anon pointed to the dead wood around the spring. Very soon Jim came running in with all the warriors at his heels on horseback.

(N.B. Form the habit of following the order of the author's words, as the order of his words best shows the sequence of his thoughts.)

One old ingen caught up Mr. Carter and dissipated leaving only the young chief, who spurred after Mrs. Carter who had caught little Johnny in her arms and was running over the black and charred ground. (How much this reminds us of the style of Herodotus, "father of history and the babe in speech"! Verie soon the young chief overtook her snatching the little fellow from her arms was riding away when he overheard the mother crying out in dispare 'Willie taken away and now Jhonny gone.' (The reader is advised to consult Hadley 886, *et passim*.) At the name of Willie the young chief suddenly rained is his panting steed which stood pawing the air and snorting fire, shot one quick piercing glance at her, dug his heels into his horses side and was gone."

The other day a Senior was telling us of his adventure with a wasp, in a class room. "The thing was a crawling along the window-sill right by the back of my neck, and so I picked it up, you know, so it couldn't sting me. I did not touch its tail at all. I took it right up in the middle and was going to take it off, when if the blamed thing didn't up and sting me."

That's one way. But the same day we saw one of the teachers pause before a sentence most elaborately and laboriously finished, hold his chalk hesitatingly, and pass by with the single comment. "It's all right, but you have avoided the idiom."

We have no desire to preach. We wish to avoid both Scylla and Charybdis, but let us say just this: with the masterpieces of fiction and of history even more entrancing than fiction, within easy access,

how can our boys steep themselves in the flood of worse than worthless literature, which is deluging the country!

WHEREAS, it has seemed best to Almighty God to take from us our classmate and friend, Frank Willson Allen, we, the Senior Classical Class of Phillips Academy, hereby adopt the following resolutions:—

Resolved: That we make known our sorrow and regret at the early death of one who for so long shared with us the pleasures and labors of school life.

Resolved: That we give utterance to our admiration of his faithful scholarship and our respect for his noble Christian character.

Resolved: That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his bereaved family, and sorrowing relatives as an indication of our united condolence and sympathy.

Exchanges.

We acknowledge the *Argo*, *Literary Notes*, *Academy Student*, *Willistonian*, *Princetonian*, *Yale Record*, *Dartmouth*, *Hanoverian*, *Harvard Advocate*, *Athenaeum*, *Exonian*, *Crimson*, *Philomathean Review*, *Res Academica*, *Brunonian*, and *Amherst Student*.

And as we gaze on the well-thumbed pile of literary talent, and think how much time has been expended on each and every page, we feel bound to say that of all hard duties that of exchange editor is the hardest. For by what shall he be guided? What shall he take, and what leave? Everything has its interest, and very few things a place; so we doubt whether to fill a column or merely mention the favors received. Let us strike a happy medium.

We were glad to see that the *Exonian* did not feel so much hurt or grieved as we thought she would, in view of the advice of a certain paper to "take in her sign" as regards the boast that she was the only weekly paper issued outside of colleges. She now shares that honor with the *Willistonian*.

A very pleasant article on Thoreau, in the *Athenaeum*, lends to that issue of the paper a peculiar value. We are glad to see such articles, for we think they stimulate research into the works of some authors who are, apparently, for the time being forgotten, and so lead to a greater knowledge of our literature.

College Notes.

The Amherst Freshmen played their first game of football at Easthampton last week. Williston was badly beaten.

Orinstead, '82, has been elected captain of the Harvard nine; Camp, '80, of the Yale nine; Rafferty, '82, of the Princeton nine, Dilts, '82, of the Brown nine.

Twelve thousand degrees have been conferred by Yale since its foundation, and six thousand of those receiving them are still living.

Our readers will be glad to learn that the Yale Record has appointed P. I. Welles, P. A. '81, as Freshman editor.

Verily, Mr. Welles' experience as an editor here hath shown its good results.

Harvard has done away with class races this fall, and means business with her eleven.

Exeter seems to have almost buried her bicycle club. We can sympathize.

The Yale *News* gives us the following: "A Boston young lady of culture does not call it the Irish Land Bill; she designates it as the Celtic Real Estate William."

FOOT-BALL.

Our first foot-ball game was played on Saturday, the ninth of October. Since it was the first of our match games, some fear of a disastrous result was entertained by a few. Our opponents were selected from the Lawrence High School, and appeared on the ground some little time before our eleven, a heavier if not a better team. The game began at three o'clock, a stiff breeze blew dead from the northwest, completely sweeping the field, so that, from the first, it was evident that which ever side had the wind in its favor would possess a marked advantage.

Lawrence won the toss, and hence the wind. During the first half of the game, it was useless for any kicking to be done against the wind, and hence very little was accomplished by Andover.

The first point scored was in our favor. Parkhurst made a touch down, and after the ball was brought out and placed, Wilcox succeeded in kicking a goal. Harris made our next point, but, as the ball was muffed when kicked out, the goal was lost. Nothing else occurred until just before the end of the first half. Reid made one of the best runs of the day, taking the ball over nearly half the field and ending with a touch-down, from which, however, no goal was obtained. The ball was brought out, and after a short scrimmage a goal was kicked by Lawrence's half-back.

Shortly after, time was called and the first half of the game ended.

Score: Andover, one goal, and one touch-down. Lawrence, one goal, and one touch-down.

At the end of fifteen minutes, play was called and the second half began. For twenty minutes nothing happened worthy of note, and then the boys seemed to realize the necessity of a brace.

Parkhurst soon made his second touch-down for Andover, from which Wilcox kicked the goal. This was followed by a touch-down from Sheasly, which aroused much admiration, as he was tackled by one of the Lawrence men before he crossed the goal line. A hard struggle ensued. Mr. Sheasly, let it be said, although small of stature, is gifted with mighty strength, and finally succeeded in getting the ball down. Here again a goal was kicked by Wilcox, and soon after the game was ended.

Score: Andover, three goals and a touch-down. Lawrence, one goal and a touch-down.

The features of the game were the rushing of Harris, Parkhurst and Cochrane. Wilcox's kicking was exceptionally fine. Reid and Reily did the best playing for Lawrence.

We may well congratulate ourselves on our success, yet it may not be out of place to say just here one word about foot-ball. The team cannot learn the fine points of the game without a good number to play against. It is not good policy on our

part to allow other athletic interests to interfere with the workings of the eleven. Foot-ball must take precedence, if we hope to accomplish anything.

FOOT BALL NOTES.

Thinking it may be of interest to our subscribers to know something of the course of the eleven this fall, we give as many dates for games as have been definitely determined on.

On Saturday, the 29th inst., Phillips vs. Harvard Freshmen, at Andover.

On Saturday, the 5th of November, Phillips vs. Adams Academy, at Andover.

On Saturday, November 12th, Phillips Academy Andover vs. Phillips Academy Exeter, at Exeter. Beside the above, we may reasonably expect to meet the Lawrence High School again, the Newton High School, an eleven from the Institute of Technology, and possibly Easthampton.

One of the rules, made by the Convention at Harvard last week, was to the effect that, if more than four safety touch-downs be made, they count against the side-making them. Would that such a rule had been in vogue last year! Where would Exeter have been?

The new suits are universally admired, but we feel a profound contempt for a firm, professedly business-like in its management, which fails to keep to the letter of its contracts.

If the ball in going over the goal strikes the cross bar and falls over, it is a goal provided it strikes on the other side.

Let all foot-ball men buy a copy of the new rules as soon as published. There are many important changes and we ought to be well posted.

It is sincerely to be hoped that it will prove advisable to the head of Abbot Academy to allow the young ladies to attend some one or two of our games. We might mention inspiration, but there is no telling where our pen would stop.

Phillipiana.

Pleasant fall weather.

Are we to have no more pleasant correspondence from the fair denizens of Abbot Academy?

It's an old story, but necessity knows no law. Will delinquent subscribers please pay up?

No more excuses about being ignorant of the fact that it was after eight o'clock on Sunday evening. The last bell now rings every Sabbath, as on week days.

On account of the press of other matter, the article on the "Old Phillips House," now regularly known as the "Shawshine Club House," which was promised in our last issue, will have to be postponed till a later date.

A new student, shocked at the general depravity of the Academy boys, is circulating a temperance pledge.

The gross proceeds of Mr. Gough's lecture amounted to \$240 (two hundred and forty dollars). After the expenses of the evening were deducted, the remainder was donated to Abbot Academy to be appropriated for the increase of its library and works of art.

Class-pins seem to be the rage. The M.'s. think they have as good a right to one as any of the higher classes, and at a recent class meeting voted to have one. Won't they enjoy them in their Junior year?

Bremper is captain of the School eleven.

Whoever put up the new bulletin board deserves the thanks of the school. It has plenty of room for all notices, while on the old one very often we were cramped for want of room.

Five more invitations were issued by Philo last Friday night. If this continues (as we hope it will) Philo will soon be as large as she ever was in her palmiest days.

At last the new foot-ball suits, so long awaited, have arrived, and alas! the jerseys had evidently been cut in an unheard of manner, if we may judge from the way they fitted. The suit is on the whole very pretty and neat, low foot-ball shoes, blue stockings, white trousers and jerseys, and blue caps.

Why does not some enterprising person inaugurate a game of "Hare and Hounds" some bright Wednesday or Saturday afternoon?

Mr. Chas. McGregor of Canada, who is considered a very fine player in that province, has been giving the La Crosse team instruction in the game. He says that we have excellent material and give promise of future success. There is a new interest in this game through the country, so that dealers have difficulty in obtaining a sufficient number of Crosses,—a fact which accounts for the delay in receiving ours.

P.S. '83 claims a man who seriously and scrupulously in his morning walk to prayers chooses the side that the "Fem. Sems" don't walk on. He says, "I don't like to look at um." Remember the old prophecy: "In eighteen hundred and eighty-one, the world unto an end shall come."

Effort is being made to have George Riddle read in Andover. Mr. Riddle is instructor in elocution at Harvard, and his success in the Greek Play last winter will be remembered by all.

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