

## WALTER P. EATON, '96 WRITES PHILLIPIAN A LETTER ON AUTHORSHIP

Alumnus Well-known in that Field Offers Sound Advice on that as a Life-work

### LEAVES NO ILLUSIONS AS TO HARDSHIPS OF THIS VOCATION

The editor has explained in his columns today *The Phillipian's* purpose in printing this communication as part of a program, hazy as yet, of articles of literary interest. Walter Prichard Eaton has very kindly sent us a letter on authorship as a vocation which makes no bones of the matter. Mr. Eaton, a member of the Class of 1896, has probably had as much experience in that line as any man we can boast among our alumni. This article, humorous and addressed to every fellow in school, literary or not, contains the pith of any advice about writing as a life-work.

The editor of *The Phillipian* has asked me to discuss what are the attractions of authorship as a vocation, and how best a school boy, inclined toward that precarious method of self-support, can best prepare himself for it. Neither task is easy, because the attractions of authorship are subtle, and depend very largely on the possession of a certain kind of temperament, and because the preparation for authorship is not definite, like the preparation for engineering or law, but may vary with each individual.

One attraction of authorship is, of course, easy to understand. It is more or less of a vagabond business, and your office is your hat—if any. You go for material where your fancy takes you, if you are what is called a "creative writer"; or at any rate, even if you are a journalist or article writer for magazines, you have much freedom of movement, your hours of labor are at your own choice, you can take a vacation when you feel like it, and you are your own boss. However, this freedom has its drawback for men who lack a certain doggedness of will, because it is always easier for all of us to put off beginning a job than to begin it, and most authors who are unable to drive themselves to do a certain amount of work every day never realize their full capacities.

Presumably one of the attractions of any profession, or the lack of attraction, is the financial reward. By and large, the financial rewards of authorship are much smaller than those of the law, medicine, and so on. They are comparable, rather, to the rewards of teaching. Many authors, indeed, make less than teachers do, and support themselves by other work, with writing as an avocation. Some of the best work in English literature has been produced in this way, and there is much to be said for it. But it is true that a certain minority of authors, those who can create best sellers, or popular short stories for

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## FIFTY MEN TURN OUT FOR VARSITY SOCCER

Six Letter-men to Form Nucleus of this Year's Team

A week ago last Friday about fifty men turned out for the varsity soccer team. Six of these earned their letters last year and are back again this year to form the nucleus of this year's team, and there are seven men back who won their numerals by staying on the squad all season. The field on which the men practice and play has been greatly improved. The path which used to run diagonally across the center of the field has been taken out, and the squad has no longer to share the Old Campus with one of the club football teams. The weather conditions so far have been exceedingly favorable for practice and the men have used them to the greatest advantage.

Captain Fawcett is back to hold down the center of the line and to do a good deal of the scoring. He has always been very reliable, and he has the gift of being able to hold up the morale of his team. Wolcott, Greenway, Gordon, and Neff are all very even in the race for the two end positions. Murray and Butler will probably be the insides. Murray is especially to be noted for his brainy foot work in the close-in-playing. Curtis and Lang will, according to present showings be two of the three half-backs. Upton and Fuess stayed on the squad all last season, while Upton played for the clubs last fall. Rickard, with his very long fast kicks, is sure to play one of the full-backs. This man is without a doubt one of the outstanding players of the entire squad. Wheeler and Ogden are good material to help Rickard in his vital position. Wheeler last year played varsity football until he suffered an injury to his shoulder which put him out of the game for the remainder of the season. Ogden played on the All-Club team against the varsity soccer men last year and so he has the advantage of longer experience. Neill and Allis are the two aspirants for the position between the goal-posts. Allis has an exceptionally long punt which will no doubt prove very effective in pulling the Blue out of many a hole. Neill is very sure of his stops and has better than an average kick.

Since the number of candidates for the soccer team was so outstandingly large and the quality of the men so very good, it seems that the school this year owes more appreciation to the soccer team than they have shown in former years, and for this reason it is hoped that the turn-out for each game will be better than those of previous seasons.

### MUSICAL CLUBS

The Andover Musical Clubs are once more under way. Recently, Dr. Pfatteicher held tryouts for both new and old students who wished to join the choir. Now, with a choir composed of both new and old men, and, incidentally, one of the largest in the history of the school, he has begun work. His immediate success was shown in the anthem sung last Sunday at Vesper services.

The orchestra too, has begun practice. All men, both new and old, who play orchestral instruments, are urged to try out. Practice is held each Wednesday evening at six forty-five.

## REVEREND ALLYN FOSTER DELIVERS FINE SERMON

Outlines Difficult Text of "God is a Spirit"

SPEAKS VERY CONVINCINGLY

Last Sunday, the Reverend Allyn Foster made his annual visit to the Academy Chapel. After his advent last year, it may be remembered, a group from the student body, composed mostly of seniors petitioned that he return, but unfortunately he was unable to do so save for an informal visit under the auspices of the Society of Inquiry.

His text this year was, "God is a Spirit," taken from the Gospel according to St. John. The people of the present day are passing through a difficult stage—that of changing the old conception of God to a new one. They are now ceasing to believe that God is lightning and thunder, but know that he is nearest them in the simplest and most wonderful forms—love, marriage, birth and death, which are without doubt the most beautiful of the blessings, so lavishly bestowed on us. They now stop to think before pointing to the sky as God's habitat, as they realize that in another twelve hours they will be pointing in exactly the opposite direction. God is now being thought of as a spirit, all prevailing, all enveloping, who however, is impossible to be detected in the flesh.

Mr. Foster went on to show the total inadequacy of Science to take the place of Religion, pointing out that it is merely a shell over which religion reigns. Every man has to fight for his faith. Those, that do not, never get it but to those that do it will eventually come and bring with it absolute peace and contentment.

## CLUB FOOTBALL TEAMS UNDER ORGANIZATION

Saxons Seem Outstanding with Heavy Line and Strong Backfield

RIVELRY SHOULD BE KEEN

According to statistics, the Saxons are the best bet for club champions, but the underdogs have always shown that no winner can be picked. The Romans, last year's champions, have lost almost all their last year's first team, but there are possibilities among last year's second and third team men and among the "preps." The Gauls and Greeks have smaller squads than the other two, but that does not mean that they are out of the running by any means.

Mr. Paradise has eight veterans around whom he has formed one of the heaviest teams in club history. The line averages 6 feet in height and about 160 pounds in weight. Three of the best players on last year's team, Captain Russell, Byington and Babcock, the latter an end last year, are in the backfield. The other position is between Sumner, Smith, and a new man. Drick, Howard, Gordon, and Jones played in the line last year. Cuddeback has a good chance at center and Fennell, a new man, and Angell, who was not here for last year's football season are also candidates for the line. Jones will be out temporarily as he has water on the knee.

Mr. Stephens, Mr. Minard, and Case are coaching the Romans this year. Last year's captain, Morgan, is the only returning member of the

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## BLUE FOOTBALL OUTLOOK SEEMS VERY PROMISING

Light but Experienced Material Should Make Excellent Team

TWELVE LETTER-MEN BACK

Contrary to some of the rumors that have been in circulation lately, the football prospects for the coming season are quite good. With the unusually large number of twelve returning letter men, it seems that there is nothing to fear from a lack of experienced material. Practically the whole team as it now stands is made up of men who played in the Exeter game last year, although there are several new men who have shown themselves to be first-class football players.

Captain Crane, who was one of the shining lights of last year's Exeter contest, is back again at his old position in the center of the line. He has so far outclassed any of his prospective rivals, and his position as center will leave no cause for worry on anyone's part.

Broaca and Kimball, Andover's stellar ends, are back with the blue again this year. Broaca is a very fine all-round player and has the distinct advantage, which Kimball lacks, of a good hundred and seventy pounds in weight. All Kimball's actions on the field are suggestive of brilliant headwork. Although rather small, he is wiry and full of pluck and spirit.

The Academy has in Davis, Steketee, and Gardner three guards of which any school might be proud, and their style of playing is just the sort which will support Crane in all instances.

Batchelder, Jackson, and O'Neil are all fine prospects for tackles. This early in the season nothing definite has been decided about their respective statuses.

The back-field is very well taken care of by several veterans. Wilson, Keesling, Williamson, Brown, King, and Pierce are names that are familiar to all those who know anything of Andover athletics. Berrian is probably the best new man that has shown up yet, and he is sure to be a great asset to the team as a whole. Wilson and Berrian have shown themselves to be very fine kickers, and Keesling is a first rate passer. Brown and Williamson will fight it out for the quarterback position.

All in all, Andover should be well represented on the football field this season, for the team, although light, will be experienced and full of fight. A good line and a fast backfield usually produce results, and should prove no exception in the Blue's case.

### CROSS COUNTRY

There are thirty-five men out for cross country, many of whom are varsity distance runners, who get their fall practice in this manner. They have been out only a few times and it is really too early to say anything definite. Mr. Shields says there will probably be some meets later on. Old men of note are O'Kane, Duchesne, Johnson, Weaver, and Simonds.

Sometimes the cross country men run to different places but their usual course is what is called the outside track. They start at the track field cut over to Salem street, run up that a little way, then go back around Bother's Field and back to the starting point, a total distance of about two miles.

## FALL MUSICAL EVENTS TO BE OF EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY AND BRILLIANCE

Fritz Kreisler, Paderewski Among those Scheduled to Appear

UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT BODY

Andover is to have another season which will delight the art and music lover. Two of the greatest artists in the world are to follow each other in quick succession. On Friday, October 4th, Fritz Kreisler, recognized as the greatest living violinist, will play in George Washington Auditorium. Such a treat as this is not often offered to a student. But this is not all. He will be followed on Monday, Oct. 28th by Jan Paderewski, the world's premier pianist. As Dr. Stearns said, there is no preparatory school in the country which offers so much in the line of art. All students are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to hear these great masters play. On the 6th of December, the school will be privileged to hear the Russian Symphonic Choir. This is an organization which is very popular both in America and in Europe. The Choir sings both in Russian and in English. Then, of course, there is the annual concert with Rogers Hall in which the combined musical clubs take part. This concert will also be held some time in December. Besides, Dr. Pfatteicher regularly gives concerts at the Martha Cochran Memorial organ on Sundays after morning services, from 11.30 to 12.30. These concerts are both educational and enjoyable. Each Sunday evening at 7.00, he gives a concert on the Carillon in the Memorial Tower.

### ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY

Webb: Armour Wherein He Trusted.  
Wodehouse: Fish Preferred.  
Leonard & Fuess: Practical Précis Writing.  
Lewisohn: Mid-channel: an American Chronicle.  
Sabatini: The Romantic Prince.  
Davis, W. S.: A Day in Old Athens.  
Davis, W. S.: A Day in Old Rome.  
Bowers: The Tragic Era.  
Lawrence, William: The New American.  
Manly & Rickett: Contemporary American Literature.  
Wells, Carolyn: Sleeping Dogs.  
Green: The Romance of Modern Exploration.  
Hosmer: Navigation Then and Now.  
Biggers: The Black Camel.  
Wodehouse: Divots.  
Horton: Viewpoints in Essays  
Reeves: This Man Hoover.  
Hoover: As a Man Thinks.  
Drury: Viewpoints in Modern Drama.  
Korte: Hellenistic Poetry.  
Fletcher, J. G.: The Black Rock  
Fletcher, J. G.: Breakers and Granite.  
Fletcher, J. G.: The Tree of Life  
Fletcher, J. G.: John Smith—also Pocahontas.  
Fletcher, J. G.: The Crisis of the Film.

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# The Phillipian

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Editor of this issue: R. D. Case.

Editor of next issue: J. C. Fuess, Bishop 28.

### Editors Note

We have received the following communication concerning the Sunday Vesper services. It seems a little strong and very decided on the question, without advancing equally decisive arguments. But the conclusion needs little debating among many of the students, for it already represents their opinion.

Andover is not a religious school in the sense that it depends on Religion for its very existence as do many schools in this country. Individually, we are neither more or less religious than students of other schools but we are a free-thinking body. Compulsory chapel on week days and a compulsory service of an hour or more on Sunday mornings is by no means too little Religion to inflict on a hard-working boy. But when there is added to this, an afternoon service which breaks up the students Sunday afternoon activities it is too much.

One cannot expect a boy who has been through an hour of Chapel in the morning, to stop whatever he is doing on the only day of rest he has, or to return early from a week-end to attend another service and derive any benefit from it. It is more than can be expected of a normal growing boy.

One of the chief arguments of those favoring the vesper service is that it is a means of checking up on the students' whereabouts. This is of course absurd, for there is little chance that this school would use Religion as an excuse for taking a roll call.

When a thing fails to fulfil its purpose and becomes more of a bother than an aid, the logical course is to abolish it. Disregarding the theory of a roll call, the vesper service in this school is doing more harm than good at present and for this reason should be done away with.

### MR. EATON'S LETTER

The lack of a literary publication or magazine of some sort in Andover student life has been ap-



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parent ever since the failure of the Vagabond to hold its own. THE PHILLIPIAN thinks that at least a small dose of items once a week or so, of a literary nature for the most part, will get the attention of the student body and become a recognized part of the paper. Therefore THE PHILLIPIAN is setting aside one or two columns in every two or three issues for such material as may be available.

Today we are featuring a letter from Walter Prichard Eaton which expresses better than any other article we have ever seen, the advantages and disadvantages of authorship as a vocation. We hope we may persuade other famous alumni to contribute similarly. And any offerings from the faculty or the students which do not seem suitable or argumentative enough for editorial communications will be welcomed as material for the literary columns.

With the opening of the fall term the question of movie expenses comes up again. We still hold to our stand of last spring—that a fee should be charged to every fellow who wants to patronize the Saturday night entertainments, a fee sufficient to defray all expenses including the costs of the best movies available.

For the three years we have been in school the entertainments have been paid for by collections at the door; and after the first few weeks of each year the collections have fallen off sadly; the fellows have been begged by the faculty and the school leaders and THE PHILLIPIAN to increase their generosity. So it seems to us now that urging and argument will avail little; a com-

plete change of system is needed, even if it is undertaken confessedly as an experiment.

The fee would not be exorbitant, and the mechanical details would be simplicity itself. Last year, when several unusually good films were shown, the average expense was about seventy dollars for each picture. If ten such movies were obtained during each term, a fee of two dollars a term for every student (and probably about four hundred would subscribe) would pay the costs. The cards which are now used as excuses obtainable by all who are eligible could instead be sold at that price for one term, taken up and issued again every week, and collected at the end of the term for resale at the beginning of the next.

The objection is raised that those who are accustomed to float on and off non-ex, or to take numerous week-ends, would be loath to pay two dollars for two or three movies. For their benefit the plan might be modified, and the tickets sold, instead of every term, just after every rating, or twice a term. Or possibly single tickets of a different make-up could be provided at twenty-five cents apiece for transients.

Our point is that the school will be merely wasting its breath if it tries every year to break in another set of preps to the idea of generosity in that respect. The feat will never be accomplished once for all. Drilled into one class, it will lose its effect gradually until four years later it will die a vain death at their graduation. Something, then, must be done in a new line of attack, and we have submitted the best suggestions we have to offer.

### POLO TEAM

If the interest taken in polo this year is sustained, it will not be long before the Athletic Association will recognize polo as a school sport. A field, parallel with Phillips Street and at right angles to the old field has been set aside for this sport and is now nearing completion. Before the game with the Harvard Freshman takes place, the field will undoubtedly be ready for use.

Mr. Phillips has an unusually large squad of fifteen out this fall. Two members from last year's team, N. T. Clark and Schoellkopf, are back and around these the team will probably be formed. Buckingham, who has had a great deal of experience in polo, has shown up very well in practice.

Games are being arranged this year with Harvard Freshman, M. I. T., Turkey Hill of Worcester, and the Danvers Riding and Driving Club.

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## NEW BOOK BY NORTH ANDOVER EXPLORER

Relates all Experiences at Explorations

Robert Carver North, young Andover adventurer and explorer, has recently put out a new book, "Bob North with Dog Team and Indians." North lives at Walton, New York, when he is not at Andover or in the Arctic regions. He was absent from school for a large part of last year, spending the winter in Canada on the expedition about which this book is written.

Accompanied by his father, Arthur W. North, and an Indian guide, the young explorer set out from Northern Ontario and traveled through hundreds of miles of hitherto unexplored Indian territory to the place where the Lena River runs into the Hudson Bay. Indians, trappers, and Hudson Bay Company officials all advised them not to attempt such a trip in the winter but they accomplished it in spite of many obstacles, one of which was the burning of their tent and part of their equipment, on New Year's Eve.

This is North's third book. The other two being, "Bob North Starts Exploring" and "Bob North by Canoe and Portage." He keeps a diary while on these expeditions and writes his books from this data.

### MANAGERSHIP CANDIDATES

The following men have entered their names for the managership elections. Everyone is asked to consider these and be ready to vote on them in chapel next Saturday morning.

For Assistant Managerships (twelve men elected).

- "Johnny" Chadwick
- "Mark" Donnahoe
- "Cushy" Cushman
- "Nutsy" Brown
- "Jim" Elliott
- "Dick" Erstein
- "Jack" Fuess
- "Goldy" Goldberger
- "Bob" Gordon
- "Johnny" Hegeman
- King Howard
- Lee Howard
- "Skip" Lardner
- "Art" Laundon
- "Tom" Lawrence
- "Whitey" Lewis
- "Sandy" McGregor
- Dexter Newton
- Frank Platt
- Murray Preston
- "Hort" Sekoelkopf
- "Bob" Wheeler
- "Bill" Willis
- "Toodie" Wolf

Senior Managerships (four men elected).

- "Burge" Book
- "Gay" Burke
- "Bill" Butler
- "Puly" Clary
- George Cowee
- "Sam" Cuddeback
- "Jack" Drick
- "Don" Ellis
- "Zany" Evans
- "Harry" Mayer
- Frank Miller
- "Jack" Moragn
- "Stan" Neill
- "Bud" Russell
- "Dick" Stern
- "Dick" Walsh
- "Ham" Page

The cheer leaders for the fall term will be:

- Mitchell
- F. Stebbins
- Shea

The student police force for the fall term will be:

- Pickett (chief)
- Drick
- Fry
- Bradford
- Babcock

### FALL TENNIS

Fall tennis this year is under the direction of Mr. Wilkinson. A large number signed up, but after several practice rounds, the squad has been cut to twenty-eight, seven from each club. Matches will be held daily. On paper, the Saxons appear strong and with an evenly balanced team, they seem to stand a good chance of winning. Letter men on the squad are B. D. Smith and Evans.

### PHILLIPIANA

R. T. Greenough, P. A. '28, has reported for football at Amherst. W. A. Gould, P. A. '28, is a promising backfield candidate at Yale this fall.

Aarne Frigard, P. A. '27, won much praise for his backfield work at Dartmouth last week.

Aarne Frigard, P. A. '27, played in the backfield on the second team at Dartmouth in the first scrimmage of the season last Saturday.

Mayland Wheeler, P. A. '27, reported for fall practice at Princeton last Monday.

### WITH COLLEGE FOOTBALL SQUADS

#### HARVARD

It was a rather quiet Soldiers Field that greeted the witnesses of the Harvard varsity practice yesterday afternoon. As a sort of calm after the storm, the session, though long, was very light, and included no scrimmage whatever.

Madison Sayles, varsity back two years ago, who was famous for his consistency in cracking opposing lines, paid the field a visit and was put to work. He assisted the coaches in tackling practice. The greater part of the practice was devoted to individual instruction, chiefly tackling.

Monday's scrimmage showed that the Crimson will not want for runners, kickers or passers. It remains for the Harvard mentor to present a formidable defense in the very hard schedule which faces the red-bersevered warriors.

The tackling dummies came in for attention from almost every member of the squad. Blocking and tackling was the order of the day. Head Coach Horween, backfield coach Eddie Casev and the visiting Sayles followed the work on the dummies with a course in "live" tackling, with everyone getting his chance. The method used was that of having a man tackle a runner and then in turn present himself as a target for a teammate. This lasted about 20 minutes.

### HARVARD FRESHMEN

The campaign of the Harvard freshmen in football was well under way yesterday afternoon when the entire squad of 150 reported at the freshman field. There was an extremely arduous grass drill, which left the yearlings well warmed up for the rest of the work. The day's practice was chiefly conditioning work. The dummies were swinging and passes were flying.

Henry Chauncey, a dean of the dormitory football, was on the field in uniform to assist Art French with the backs. He had the candidates for the backfield form two long lines and they tossed short passes for 15 minutes.

Meanwhile the linesmen were with Coach Cleary practicing taking out in pairs. The ends were kept busy by Coaches Coombs and Pickard.

#### YALE

The hot weather, combined with the fact that the regular Yale varsity has had plenty of scrimmaging during the past 10 days, caused Head Coach Stevens to give the first string men a light day yesterday, Capt. Greene and the others simply going through a long signal drill.

Charlie Snead ran through the signals for a part of the time, relieving Booth. The drill lasted about half an hour. Work in the fundamentals took up the major part of the time of the regulars before and after the signal drill.

A second team went through a short scrimmage with the scrubs, most of the play being a test of plays on the offense by the substitutes. The second eleven was made up as follows: ends, Godman and Tyson; tackles, Ladd and Ferris; guards, Hare and Rotan; center, Strange; quarterback, Bob Hall; halfbacks, Taylor and Savage; fullback, Bachman.

It was stated yesterday that Ben Betner, sophomore substitute center who received a shoulder injury yesterday, will probably be able to play again inside of two weeks. It was thought his shoulder was dislocated but a thorough examination Tuesday evening revealed that it was simply bruised.

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## CLUB FOOTBALL TEAMS

(Continued from Page 1)

first team. But there several men of promise. From the following the team will probably be chosen—Backfield, Morgan, Burke, Jacoby, Mayer, Johnston, Mitchell, Northrop and Jones, ends, Hench, Cates, Sumner, Morrow, and Jacobson, tackles, Bradford, Cousins, and Hallett, guards, Gillie, Goldberger, and Boyle, center, Todd and a new man.

The Greeks under Mr. Trowbridge, Woodward, and Nichols, one of the best men on the Hill varsity last year but unable to go out



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for football, have not as yet been divided into teams. It is a fairly small squad and composed mostly of new men. Ward, Goodrich, Gratiot, and Roland were on last year's squad. Petersen a new man has shown signs of deserving a berth on the first team. Ward and Winchester are the probable choices for guards and Smith and Bartlett, ends. Gratiot, a tackle last year, is out for the backfield.

The Gauls have an unusually small and light squad. H. Jones, Chamberlin, Rolfe, and Willy were out last year, the first three playing on the first team and the latter on the second. However, Coach Blackmer expects to create a team that will give the others a run for their money, and possibly win the championship.

## ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY

(Continued from Page 1)

Wells, Carolyn, ed: A Parody Anthology.

Rousseau: The Reveries of a Solitary.

Stodart-Walker, comp: The Moxford Book of English Verse (Parodies).

Jerrold & Leonard: Century of Parody and Imitation.

Townsend: Birds of Essex County.

Townsend: Cycle of Abbot Verse.

## THE PREP PARADE

In school and in many places the world over one hears much said about Andover traditions and what they stand for. Yet, year by year, these traditions are decreasing in number.

This year the prep parade, which has come down through the generations as one of the foremost of Andover traditions, has been abolished. The only possible reason is the lack of interest on the part of the student body. If this be the case, why not do away with all the football and baseball games up to and possibly including the Exeter game because of lack of interest. In closing it might be stated that as the majority of the school are in favor of the prep parade, the student body should be given the authority to overrule an action of the student council if it so desires.

## LETTER ON AUTHORSHIP

(Continued from Page 1)

such magazines as the *Saturday Evening Post*, or more especially who can write successful plays, are very amply rewarded in coin of the realm. If you can become a successful playwright, you may easily make fifty to a hundred thousand dollars a year. G. B. Shaw has for many years been making more than that. But the successful playwrights of any generation can almost be counted on the fingers of your two hands; anyway, your toes will take care of all that are left over. To enter upon authorship with the idea of making a great deal of money thereby would be very foolish. The law of odds is overwhelmingly against you. Moreover, a man who enters any of the arts from so commercial a motive seldom or never is able to put enough sincerity into his work to please the public. He must believe in what he is doing, and want to do it for its own sake.

That, after all, is the real attraction of authorship, as of any other art the chance to do something you want to do more than you want to do anything else. A writer, like a painter or a musician, has a certain creative urge within him, the type of imagination which shapes his visions into words. If that urge is strong enough to make him a good writer, probably nothing will stop him from writing. He may be a broker by day, but he will write evenings and Sundays. Or he may support himself entirely by his pen. It doesn't greatly matter, so long as he gets the satisfaction of shaping his visions into words.

How shall the boy in school, who feels he would like to fit himself for authorship, proceed? Equipment for writing consists of two things—having something to say and knowing how to say it. Both are essential, but the first, perhaps, is the more to be cultivated, because the second will with practice take care of itself, if the writer really has something to express. But how on earth is anybody going to teach you to have something to say? Nobody can. Indeed, I am not at all sure that a creative writer of promise should go to college at all, for he is there segregated more or less from the world of realities, in a little universe of books and of other immature minds like his own, who for the most part do not yet know that a football game is not the crack of doom. When Eugene O'Neill ran away from Princeton after part of his Freshman year and shipped as a seaman in a tramp ship, thereafter bumming his way through the water fronts of the Seven Seas, he undoubtedly pained his parents, and caused all the neighbors to say he would come to no good end. But presently, out of the raw, real life he had experienced, he shaped those wonderful plays of the sea which introduced him to our stage. Anybody who would not rather have written those plays than have graduated from Princeton has no business to try to be an author. He will never understand what art is all about.

Of course these remarks will be taken, I suppose, by a certain type of conventional mind which is always giving good advice to boys, as very dangerous doctrine. Safety first, prudence, and all that. Sure, safety first for bankers and hardware merchants and lawyers and what have you. But safety has no

place in the artist's vocabulary. It is life he is after. He must have something to write about, he must make his art the reflection of his reactions to the world of active men and women. Play safe, and you may write editorials for the *New York Times*, but you'll never be a Eugene O'Neill. However, don't forget this: even Princeton has changed since O'Neill's day, and I understand that even there it is no longer considered bad form to do a bit of thinking now and then, to discuss real and serious subjects, to understand and admit that "knowing life" doesn't mean knowing where Tex Guinan's night club is, but knowing what actual men and women are thinking and feeling and suffering in the workaday world. It is probably safer for a potential artist to go to college now than it was twenty years ago. But it is by no means essential, for a certain type of artist is probably still a waste of time.

On the other hand, if having something to say cannot be taught, the knowledge of how to say it can be. It can be taught to one's self, but of course it is best learned under the guidance of wise instructors. And almost everything is grist which comes to the mill of this instruction. Mathematics may give you precision of statement. Greek and Latin may give you richness of vocabulary and background of simile, and Homer, especially, a sense of style. All kinds of reading, the wider the better, among poets, novelists, historians, teaches you how others have accomplished their tasks. But above all you must practice writing yourself—not just perfunctory themes once a week, but as often as you can possibly find the time. Daily is best. Keep a note book, and every day put down, if only in ten words, but those ten as well chosen as possible, some impression of the preceding twenty-four hours. I don't mean a diary—Heaven defend us from that! I mean, jot down a bit of amusing conversation so that it has point, get into a word picture something which you have seen and which appealed to you, and so on, always having for object to get into words what is fresh in your mind, so that if you read it a month later it will come back to you, or if read by a second person would make him see or feel what you did. That is real training for authorship. It isn't easy. It takes patience and will power. But if you lack these qualities, you'll never be an author, anyhow.

Of course Andover should have a literary magazine. There is a profound stimulation for the limited number of boys in a school who really like to write in a school magazine which prints their serious, even if clumsy, creative efforts and submits them, thus, to competition and public judgment. I am amazed that a great school like Andover has no such magazine any more, and I cannot help wondering what is the matter. At the risk of having an elm tree crash on my blasphemous bean, I hereby affirm that a literary magazine, though supported by a minority of boys, is worth more to the school than a new library. Of course, I can see no reason why the school shouldn't have both, but if it can have only one, it ought to have the magazine. Stone walls do not a prison make, nor brick walls a school. As long as Andover cannot rally enough students with the creative literary urge to keep a magazine going, I fear the atmosphere of the school must be pretty discouraging to a boy with real ambitions to authorship, and his fitting of himself will be a solitary undertaking.

Crash, oh elm! I have said my say.

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