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## The Monitor (Vol. 1, No. 5)

Philological Literary Society of the Valparaiso Male & Female College

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man's free agency and speaks with boastful pride of his own self centered powers. Where now is the consistency of his boasted freedom when he will not say, *can* not throw off the bonds which bind him. The is our enthusiastic patriot who stirred your *deepest* feelings while your heart beat in glad response to the sentiment as he thanked God that at last we were worthy of our name, and that throughout the length and breadth of our land the sun's rays fall not upon a *single slave*. These words from a man who himself wears the chains of servitude and is just as truly a slave as any whom he would lay down his life to free.

Here is one whom we have seen within the sacred desk, called to minister in holy things—watchman upon the walls of Zion—whom we have heard with earnest heart and burning words plead with his fellow men to lay aside *every* weight and sin—to pluck the dearest idol from their hearts even though its chords quiver with agony and lie broken and bleeding upon the altar of affection. Such a plea from one who clasps close to his heart the galling links which bind him to an idol more depraved, more disgusting and more sinful, which is weighing him down and fettering his powers which before God he has dedicated and consecrated to His service.

Inconsistent, did I say? Yes, and you who acknowledge allegiance to the despotic ruler dare not deny the charge.

FLORIMEL.

#### DEBATING SOCIETIES.

Every age and country blessed with literary culture or philosophical spirit has had its conferences for free discussion. In all the antiquarian schools of philosophers open disputation was the favorite method of testing the soundness of theory, and detecting the disguises of error. How many master minds have in this way, and in this way alone, first felt a consciousness of that strength which afterwards made them illustrious?

Debating Societies afford the best opportunities for the use of general knowledge, and it may be added that debating is the best means employed for preparing the argumentative mind for the *real* conflicts of life. Many things are said and done in these Societies which are offensive to good sense and good taste. The exhibition of ignorance, conceit, and frivolity there often witnessed, shakes the confidence of spectators, and provokes them to ejaculate the poet's aspiration:

"O, that some power the gift would give 'em,  
To see themselves as others see them!"

Many considerations induce the belief that their faults, whatever they may be, are as nothing compared with their capabilities of usefulness. By practice in the Societies many persons become Logical disputants without knowing any thing about the science of Logic—they become proficient in the art of reasoning while they are ignorant of the theory. Logical disputation deals deeply with the laws of thought, and discloses the nature of that mental process by which all true reasoning is conducted. He who aspires to the position

of a successful disputant should not regard the study of Logic as a matter of minor importance; for he who seeks a familiarity, both with the science and art of reasoning, reaps a bounteous harvest of advantages.

Debating Clubs furnish the finest opportunities for the practice of Oratory—that art which is the "crowning glory" of the verbal pugilist. They necessitate the acquisition of a great amount of useful knowledge, and lead to an intimate acquaintance with Parliamentary law. A few years tuition in a well managed Debating Society prepares one for usefulness, gives him the qualifications of a champion of justice, and enables him with more wisdom and efficiency to perform the duties of the citizen and patriot.

#### THE CLASS OF '68.

Through the kindness of class annalist, Mr. Handley, we have been furnished with a part of the following items; he ought to be, in fact, responsible for all of them:

The class is composed of eight ladies and two gentlemen, being twice as large as any preceding one.

The total height of the class is 53 ft. 4 in.; the average height 5 ft. 4 in. The height of our tallest man, D. H. from the floor to the apex of his plug, is 7 ft. M. G. is the shortest, 4 ft. 8 in. Aggregate age 241 yrs. Average age 24 yrs. 1 mo. 6 days. Our oldest man W. T. H. 27 yrs. Our youngest lady M. A. G. 18 yrs., oldest—of course.

The professions chosen by the members of the class are as follows: The legal one, ministerial one, pedagogic four, culinary four.

#### MATRIMONIAL STATISTICS.

Engaged 1; were once engaged, but not now, 4; engaged to 3 girls 1. Engaged to 1 girl and proposed to 3 others 1. Three of the ladies, it is supposed, availed themselves successfully of the privileges of leap year; 2 proposed but were rejected. From aversion to children 3 have taken the vow of celibacy. Both the gentlemen of the class were in the Union Army. One was color Sergeant of the 20th Ind., lost a limb at Gettysburg and for "meritorious conduct," received the famous "Cross of Valor" in Kearney's Division.

The total weight of the class is 1200.6 lbs. Average is 120.06 lbs. Our heaviest man is D. H. 180 lbs. Our lightest lady is M. A. G. 95 lbs.

#### CAPILLARY.

Brown hair, 3; auburn, 3; black, 4; moustache and chin, 2; moustache, 1; moustache observable with a microscope, 1; smooth, 6.

The habits of the class are good. Two smoke, one chews. None indulge in games of chance, but one swears and that only under provocation. The ladies are decidedly averse to keeping hours later than 2 A. M., unless the occasion be unusually interesting. The Institution may well be proud of the class of '68. Its members were remarkable for the punctual and able performance of their collegiate duties, and many of them were acknowledged champions in the various exercises of the literary societies. On the whole, the class presents a record which is seldom equalled and never, perhaps, surpassed.

## REFLECTION AND READING.

In directing your attention to books for knowledge, says Hopkinson, in earnestly pressing upon you to consult with assiduity the great oracles of wisdom and taste, you must not understand us to recommend that you should content yourselves with learning by rote, their reasoning, or adopting, without examination, their opinions. Indeed, if every opinion uttered were true and every argument logical, by a servile acquiescence, only a part of the uses of reading would be secured. A rich stock of facts, many true and valuable deductions, just and elevated sentiments and sublime imaginings might be obtained but they would lie on the memory as in the books from which they were derived useless, by reflection, they were passed into the circulation of thought.

Reflection is the digestive power of the mind, which tests what has been heard, narrows principles that are too universal and extends those that are too much restricted to new objects and relations. The good and valuable are retained while the unsound and the worthless are rejected and in this way, the soil of the intellect is strengthened and enriched, making, it in return, fruitful in mental food for others.

The result of depending wholly on authority for our own opinions is, that we remain all our lives in a state of mental childhood, sinking more and more into timid servility. Losing all self-confidence, we give up that independence of thought and action which is the noblest attribute of a rational being. Thus, we become mere automata, worked by a thousand springs and wires and, incapable of moving without extraneous influence, we dare speak only "in verbo magistri." The perceptions and conclusions of our own judgment are altogether disregarded and we constantly and often absurdly refer to what was done a century or more ago. Such is the character of the book-worm, who devours words but fails to apprehend ideas; whose will becomes torpid from inaction and, like a palsied arm, can be moved only by extrinsic force. Who would expect to make his limbs and muscles strong and active without proper exercise, or to excel in athletic feats without the necessary instruction and practice?

It has been well said, "Although we may be learned by the help of others, we can never be wise but by our own wisdom." Wisdom is that practical application of knowledge which enlarges the views, multiplies ideas, corrects errors, uproots prejudices and purifies principles. If these ends be not secured by reflecting on what is read, it becomes worthless lumber, or, rather, the source and aliment of pride, selfishness and conceit.

PHILOM.

The Peabody Southern Educational Fund is apparently disbursed to the best advantage. Donations of varying sums are constantly being made to it, so that it is estimated that in no long time the fund will have become \$2,000,000.

GREEK HALL, Tuesday Evening, Nov. 17, '68.

The Society was called to order at the usual hour by the President. The roll was called, after which the President read the 114th Psalm. Minutes of the previous meeting read and adopted. The question for the evening was read and the special critic appointed.—The question, "Do parents exercise a greater influence in forming the pharacter of the young than teachers?" was decided in favor of the negative. Irregular debate was dispensed with for the evening. The report of the special critic was read, followed by irregular criticisms.

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted as follows: President, E. L. Williams; Vice President, E. J. Green; Rec. Sec. Thos. Mason; Treasurer, T. J. Reece; Censor, C. P. Woodson; 1st Consul, G. R. Kendall; 2d Consul, W. F. Woodson; 3d Consul, C. Moon.

The Censor's roll was read, and the hour for adjournment having arrived the President pronounced the Society adjourned.

C. MOON, President.

THOS. MASON, Rec. Secretary.

## FACETIÆ.

A street urchin on his first appearance at school, being subjected to the usual examination was asked;—"Who made you." "Dun know," promptly replied the lad. The proper answer was given him with the injunction not to forget it. On his next round, the teacher again asked, "Who made you?" Scratching his head for some time, in a brown study, the boy innocently answered, "Well I swah, I've forgot the gentleman's name."

The muses seem unusually active, on the approach of winter; the last victim perpetrates the following, with some more equally as good, which we can't publish for lack of room:

Now dont be a fool but come to school  
And learn to talk grammatic;  
Come through the gates and see Miss Bates  
A teaching mathematics.

The original Mexican for country curates is; Notlozomahuitzteopixcatotzins.

A friend once visiting an unworldly philosopher, whose mind was his kingdom, expressed surprise at the smallness of his apartments. "Why, you have not room to swiug a cat." "My friend," was the serene unappreciative reply, "I do not want to swiug a cat."

Smart Scholar.—Teacher—"Come here, you young scamp and get a good spankin." Scholar—"You hain't got no right to spank me, and the copy you set sez so." Teacher—"I should like to hear you read that copy." Scholar (reads)—"Let all the ends thou alimest at be thy country's."

Dartmouth College has graduated over 3,550 persons. The degree of L. L. D. has been conferred by it 24 times, and D. D. 106 times.

## THE MONITOR.

V. M. &amp; F. COLLEGE, DEC. 1, 1868.

J. C. STEPHENS. }  
W. E. PINNEY, } *Editors.*

*The Monitor* will be published monthly during the Collegiate year, and mailed to any address on receipt of price. For sale at the *News Depot* of M. A. Salisbury where subscriptions will also be received. Specimen copies sent free on application to the Editors. Address all communications to "THE MONITOR, Valparaiso, Indiana."

The first term of a new collegiate year with its tasks and its pleasures, is irrecoverably passed; but it will ever be a delight for memory to bring to view many of the scenes and incidents of the glorious little epoch called the "Fall term of 1868." In reviewing the term we see much to approve, little to condemn. The zeal and perseverance manifested by the Faculty to advance the intellectual status of the Institution, and the general demeanor and studious habits of the students, combine to give encouragement to the patrons of the College, and throw charms around the V. M. & F. which make it the educational centre of Northern Indiana and parts of adjoining States.

The tenth collegiate year of this Institution is now passing, and all who have any knowledge of its history and present facilities, realize that the pristine efforts made towards its establishment have received for a reward, a College that stands second to none in this section of our country. It has been obliged, like most other Colleges in their youth, to brest the misfortunes of adversity. It has patiently borne financial distress. It has bravely, without ostentation, overcome its rivals, and now its increased advantages and the deep interest felt in its welfare by friends and patrons, are its precursors of augmented greatness and success. Few are now found who deny the truthfulness of the conjecture of that young man who said,

"That Indiana's noblest bump of knowledge  
Might some day be the *Valparaiso College*."

So far as we have learned all the Departments have during the past term enjoyed a season of prosperity.—Most of the classes have fully completed the term's work, and are ready to take an advanced position in their college course, at the beginning of next term.

The Literary Societies continue to be prominent among the attractions of the Institution. The younger gentlemen students of the school have formed a new organization which bears the dignified title, "The Greek Society." The Greeks have our best wishes for their success.

The students of last year will be pleased to learn that good feeling exists between the "Philoites" and "Calliopes." The strifes of the past are nearly forgotten. The enmity, if indeed there were any, is entirely gone, and we are fully confirmed in our opinion that the animosity exhibited between the orders last year was rather imaginary than real. We would like to see the fervent friendship of the Societies perpetuated, but we trust that it will never again ripen into nuptial contracts.

The prospects of the next term are unusually flatter-

ing. Many new students are expected to swell the already increased number who are seeking for that knowledge of the arts and sciences which will prepare them to lead lives of usefulness and honor.

## MEETING OF PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

PHILOLOGICAL HALL, Oct. 30th, 1868.

The Society met, and was called to order at the usual hour by the President. Roll being called eleven members were found to be absent.

Society opened with prayer by J. C. Stephens. W. F. Woodson and F. C. Moore were appointed associate judges of debate, and J. C. Stephens special critic.

The question "which is the more pernicious, a bad book or a bad companion?" was decided in favor of the negative.

Moved that irregular debate be dispensed with.—Carried.

Report of special critic, and irregular criticisms.

This being the tenth regular meeting of the term, the Society proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted as follows: For

*President*—J. G. Smith,

*Vice President*—Marvin Campbell,

*Rec. Secretary*—N. J. Bozarth,

*Cor. Secretary*—J. W. Crumpacker,

*Censor*—J. M. Cohoon,

*1st Consul*—E. McCauley,

*2d* " —J. M. Hitt,

*3d* " —W. W. Cooper,

*Librarian*—J. L. Green.

Moved that the time be extended indefinitely. Carried.

Moved that the Rec. Secretary be excused, and that J. C. Stephens act as Secretary *pro tem*. Carried.

Report of Committees; none but verbal ones given.

Moved that the Society go into secret session immediately. Carried. Visitors retired, and doors closed. After the secret session the Society proceeded with miscellaneous business.

Moved that the fine against Mr. Williams for non performance of duty, be remitted. Carried.

On motion, J. C. Stephens on Declamation, and J. H. Hill on Oration, for open door performance, changed places.

The Censor's rolls were then read and the Society adjourned.

N. J. BOZARTH, President.

MYRON CAMPBELL, Rec. Sec.

College Hill is as solitary as a cemetery, to-day, and it is only the second of the vacation. An indescribable degree of loneliness has settled down upon our dreary sanctum which must be increased when our labors for *The Monitor* are finished. Now we have nothing to do but to think of what has been. We close our portfolio and sigh for the return of college duties. Think of us, kind readers.

The removal of Yale College to some other site is being warmly discussed.

## CLOSING EXERCISES.

The examinations of the present term were concluded on Tuesday afternoon, 24th ult., by rhetorical and musical exercises in the College Chapel. Many of the essays read on the occasion were excellent and, indeed, it must be conceded, that all were commendable efforts in view of the fact that none of the readers knew, surely, they would be called upon only as their names were read out. We were especially pleased with the production of Miss Ensign; though the introduction was somewhat unmethodical, the essay was, in the main, beautiful. Miss Blake read, in her forcible manner, an essay on "German Character." Of course Miss B. did well, as, in addition to the advantages of a good subject and fine abilities, she possesses a personal interest in the Teutonic nation of no less than 150 lbs. avoirdupois. We were just becoming interested in the natural and easy reading of our little friend, Hattie M. when from some unaccountable reason she determined to fail. We were really disappointed, as it was evident that Hattie's piece would have proved to be one of the very best on the programme. Among the gentlemen the essays of Messrs. J. G. Smith on "Grease," C. P. Woodson on "Habit," and that of Marvin Campbell, (subject not noted) are deserving of special notice. The lack of taste manifested in the production of Myron Campbell, subject, "The Cow," should perhaps be attributed to the thoughtlessness of haste in preparation. Limited space forbids a further notice of the readings.

As far as we are able to judge, the music under the supervision of Miss Pratt, with which the exercises were interspersed, was excellent. Not venturing any criticisms, we note, as the most pleasing to our ear, the instrumental piece by Miss Dougall, and comical as well as pleasing, "The Grecian Bend," sung by Miss Jessie Smith. But we come now to speak of far the most interesting feature of the closing exercises:

THE CALLIOPEAN EXHIBITION—Tuesday evening. This, it must be granted, was one of the finest entertainments of the kind ever given within our halls—The young ladies, with one exception appeared on the rostrum in neat habits of calico, which struck us as being somewhat unusual, considering the superabundant display of gauze, flounces and lace which one commonly witnesses on such occasions.

The Greeting by Miss Clara J. Loomis, a neat little address of three or four minutes, was feelingly pronounced but with an evident lack of confidence. "The Darkest Hour just before Dawn," an essay by Miss Aggie Freed. This somewhat hackneyed theme was made new by the original treatment of it by the writer. Miss F.'s articulation is admirable, her inflection a little faulty. Recitation—"Baltimore," by Miss E. Wolfe. This performance, to those near the rostrum, was a rich treat, but the low tone in which it was spoken precluded the possibility of its being heard by the greater part of the audience. Admiration of the graceful attitude and movement of the speaker, seemed, however, to secure general attention. The essay of Miss Belle Stephens, subject, "Earth's Battle-fields,"

abounded in good thoughts. Miss Stephens articulates well but might greatly improve in intonation. "Healing of Jairus' Daughter," recitation by Miss Loomis. This touchingly beautiful selection was recited well but it was simply recited. There was no earnestness, no animation, and but little of the pathetic sentiment of the piece expressed in the delivery. We protest against that conventionalism which thus mars the finest performances by forbidding declamation to ladies. "The Tombstone of Time," essay by Miss Laura J. Jones, read in a sweet, well modulated voice but a little too low to be heard by the entire audience. The thoughts were original and beautiful, especially the closing ones—"Hero Worship," an oration by Miss R. R. Bell was written in terse language and an energetic style. The thoughts also were good, but that it was an oration could be ascertained only from the programme. What purported to be the crowning glory of the entertainment, "The Echo," a society paper, was now read by Miss Abbie J. Fifield, Editress. The paper was replete with good sense and well expressed thoughts. The two articles entitled "Musings" and "The Supper of the Months," were especially calculated to please.—The reading was good, somewhat too rapid, with rather sudden transitions from one article to another; it was marked, however, by an unusual degree of the vivacity and energy so characteristic of the reader.

The music furnished for the occasion by Mr. Hawkins and his class was considered by competent critics as being of very superior merit. It consisted of vocal pieces with well executed accompaniments by Miss Gipe. There were but two instrumental pieces, the first a march, the signal for the appearance of the performers, and the other a piece entitled "Le Reve," both executed by Miss Kitty Pratt. The extraordinary skill manifested in the execution of both these pieces elicited general admiration; the second was perfectly enchanting. The exercises were concluded at an early hour and the audience retired, pleased and instructed by the evening's entertainment and highly gratified by the success of the performers.

The *Castalian* published by the Crown Point Institute has been cordially welcomed as one of our exchanges. The fact that a graded school of seventy scholars publishes so faultless a paper is perfectly amazing. We surmise that the "finishing strokes" are put on by the *Artium Magister* whose name stands prominent on the list of teachers. Its motto, "Large streams from little fountains flow," is rather stale; but perhaps, quite significant. We suppose the *Institute* represents the size of the fountain, and the *Castalian* the magnitude of the stream.

We tender our thanks to the Editor for reminding us of the misuse of a word in our third number.

No less than fifteen Japanese youths, sons of Princes and men of high position, have for some time been working hard for a Massachusetts education. Nine of them are under private tuition in Boston, five at Monson Academy, and one at Amherst College.

## LOCAL.

"The Reading Circle," organized mainly through the efforts of Miss Bates, has become a fixture in the Institution. It affords advantages for social and mental improvement which cannot be found elsewhere. The meetings are short, seldom continuing later than nine p. m., the selections are brief and generally from the standard authors and an intermission, each evening of a few minutes, is devoted to social intercourse, enlivened when circumstances permit, by the best of music.—The next meeting will be held on the first Saturday evening of the ensuing term, at the residence of S. W. Smith, Esq. The students generally are invited to attend.

We regret to announce that our much esteemed and highly accomplished music Teacher, Miss Kitty Pratt, has resigned the position so efficiently filled by her during the fall term. The Institution will be fortunate if it succeeds in securing the services of another in every way as well qualified for the place as she.

As a finale for the term, the ladies of the boarding house gave an Oyster Supper, on Monday evening, prepared in a style that would tickle the palate of the most exacting epicurean.

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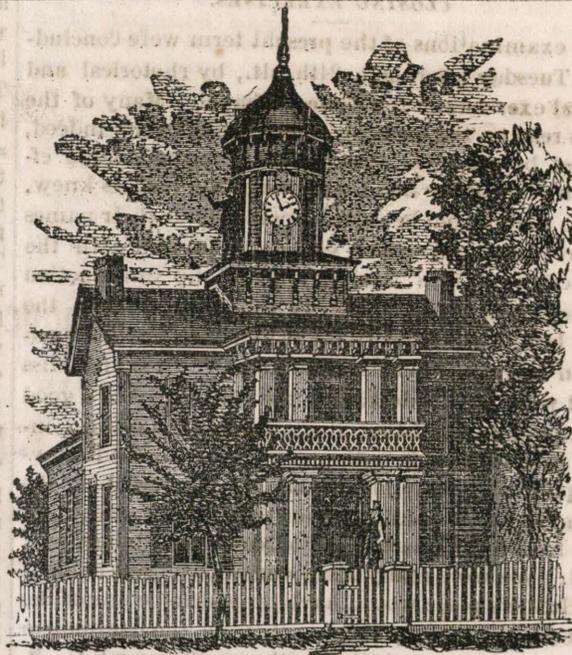
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