

## PHILODICEAN EXHIBITION.

The exercises of Commencement week began with the fifth annual exhibition of the Philodicean Society, in the University chapel, Thursday evening, June 6th. The audience was late in gathering, but by 8:45 a fair house had assembled, and President Manley announced as the first number, a violin solo by Mr. Gustav Menzendorf, accompanied by Miss Cochran. The first part of the number was plaintive and sweet, the second more lively in movement and fully as enjoyable. Miss Sara Schwab followed with a sketch entitled, "Marcus Aurelius." An estimate of his character and analysis of his stoic philosophy was given. The sketch was evidently the result of considerable study, but being largely biographical, did not give much scope to originality.

The third number upon the program was a recitation, "Courtship Under Difficulties," by Miss Kate Scothorne. The selection was of a different nature from those usually heard on society exhibitions. The reciter took successively the parts of two gentlemen and a lady in a lively and amusing conversation. The changes of voice and manner were fairly executed. The acting was a trifle over-done. The recitation was very well received by the audience.

The next to appear was C. F. Ansley, who read a paper, "In Defense of the Humanities." The need for a more general culture than that of the usual college course was plainly set forth. Athletic training is for the general bodily health. Mental culture should aim at the perfect development of the intellect, the motives and the will. The average college course is for the intellect alone. This is called an age of science. Science has to do with the intellect only, and we do not live for the intellect alone. Character is admired, not knowledge. Children are named after warriors, statesmen, philanthropists, not after scientists or scholars. Astronomy, as a study of worlds, is worth little, but if it nears the full appreciation of boundless space and power, there is enough in this one idea to raise a nation from barbarism to civilization. College courses should train men to live so that the world may be better and happier, and should make every part of their nature in perfect accord. This was certainly the most meritorious article of the program. Mr. Ansley's delivery lacked force. His voice was not powerful, nor his enunciation distinct, so that it required effort to closely follow him.

A vocal solo, "Air with variations—Rode," was next rendered by Mme. Adolf Weber. This was a pleasing selection, rendered in the lady's usual finished style. To hearty applause, Mme. Weber responded with a pretty, taking ballad.

Part II. of the program was opened by H. J. Edmiston, with an oration, "John Bright." This statesman began his career at a critical period. The rising importance of the manufacturing districts necessitated a parliamentary representative who could champion their interests. Such a man was found in John Bright. Lacking elegant erudition, he yet spoke the purest English—that of the Bible. He used hard common sense. In a year the middle class was convinced of the justice of free trade. In 1846 every shilling of duty upon grain was removed. This was due to Bright. He inaugurated a political reform by advocating a measure irrespective of party. He was a leader in the reform agitation, the Irish agitation,

and the temperance movement. He supported the Union against the Confederacy during our civil war. All England mourns his death. Obloquy is silenced, for there is no arguing against a nation's tears. Mr. Edmiston's stage appearance was not easy, nor his delivery natural. There was too much monotone, and the emphasis was not advantageously placed. The composition and thought were praiseworthy.

Miss Nannie Lillibridge followed with a vocal solo, "Dreams." The selection was a pathetic one, and rendered with much feeling. Miss Lillibridge possesses a sweet and remarkably pure voice. An enthusiastic encore made a partial repetition necessary.

The audience next listened to a recitation, "Death Bridge of the Tay," by Miss Minnie Latta. This showed much elocutionary ability. The delivery was marked by animation of voice and action. The action was perhaps too animated for the selection rendered. The number was heartily applauded.

Mr. H. A. Reese then read an essay on "The International Copyright Law." This was urged not only on the grounds of morality, and the justice of giving a man the returns for his labor, irrespective of geographical limits, but on the grounds of expediency as well. Such a law would turn back the flood of cheap and pernicious literature which now does so much to deprave the taste of our reading public. Mr. Reese was entirely self-possessed. His voice was strong, clear, and distinct; his delivery, animated and forcible. The essay was clearly composed, logical, and well-arranged.

The last number of the program was a vocal solo by Mme. Weber, "Garland of Sleep—*De Lara*." So pleased was the audience with the selection that Mme. Weber was forced to reappear, giving in a very pleasing manner the old favorite, "Last Rose of Summer."

## PALLADIAN EXHIBITION.

In spite of the threatening weather, a well filled house greeted the Palladians in their exhibition, Friday, June 6th.

For an opening number, Miss Minnie D. Cochran played in her usual charming manner, Franz Liszt's, "Tannhauser and Lohengrin."

The first literary production was an oration, "Freedom for Finland," by Edwin Farmer. The Finlanders, though subject to Sweden and Russia, yet reserved many rights. But the Tzar is a despotic ruler. The national legislature can only petition the government. Education, freedom of speech and press, are restricted. Exile awaits disobedience. Industry and commerce are checked to furnish a market for Russian goods. Finland's condition is worse than Ireland's. No people yearn more for freedom than the Finns. Independence by force of arms? Not yet, but soon. Let America win eternal honor by hastening the happy time.

Mr. Farmer's delivery was earnest and forcible, and he was self-possessed. His gestures lacked grace, but were energetic and expressive.

Miss Jessie Goodell recited Longfellow's poem, "The Falcon of Sir Ferderigo." Her clear penetrating voice, calm demeanor and earnest sympathy with her subject, produced a pleasing effect.

Mr. N. P. Brigham then sang "Last Night." His full, rich voice was under perfect control. A beautiful selection was given as an encore.