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~The~
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~Edited By~

~William Hulin~

Assistants

F. H. Potts & F. E. Whitman

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"Sapientiane Diligentes."

Voice of the Phi Sigma

~Wm Hulin, Editor~

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Editorials.

Since we last had the pleasure of addressing the class in our present capacity many months have rolled away. The Phi Sigma after its long summer rest has now been put well under way on the work of another year, which we trust and hope may be a bright one. Let us profit by whatever experiences we have acquired on other years and make this the best of them all. We discovered our shortcomings on English History, to which we devoted over a year and in our study of Guizot and believing that there was some more profitable way to employ our time we have finally concluded upon our present course – probably the wisest for us to pursue. We will none of us have many more seasons to study such as we are now having with the “knowledge seekers” and our remaining time should be well spent. To make it as profitable as possible to the class as a whole we have simply to see that our duties as individual members are performed well and promptly. Procrastination is our chief enemy. This bustling rushing world of ours is greatly harassed by the “thief of time”. We are apt to look only at the present employment and too often do not consider whether it would not be more profitable to prepare for some future duty and not spend our moments in idle or next to idle pursuits. When we have some duty to accomplish by some specified time we should not allow one opportunity to pass unheeded in which we might have performed any part of it, for if we permit this spirit of putting off to begin the victory of procrastination over us it three-fourths won. The American people do not seem to be overcoming this evil of wasting time, but the evil seems more and more to overcome them. As a proof of this look at the quantities of trashy, good for nothing literature that is read today. The chief income of our circulating libraries is not in the books of a good, substantial sort but in the latest sensational novel or romance. Ask at any of our large libraries for Bacon’s or Prescott’s writings or any such work and you will find usually that they are as fresh and clean (though they may have been listed for years) as if they had scarce been read at all. But a new story book never rests until it is dirty and

torn and perhaps even coverless. We have often spoken of these subjects before, but we hope the old story will not lose any of its force by repetition.

The President has wisely chosen the theme of punctuality as the great one for the present year. Let us excel in this direction and the class will be an invaluable aid to us now and the foundation of great good in all the after years of our lives. We must first be prompt in opening and closing our meetings at the appointed hours – failure in this direction leads to bad results as well as neglect in performing our apportioned part of the programme. A quarter to eight is not inconveniently early to open our meetings nor is a quarter to ten, or if we choose to make it, ten, too early to close, if only we will each of us let alone unnecessary discussion and devote our powers to the greater considerations of the evening. This combined with the promptness and zeal of each to perform his duty well will attain for the Phi Sigma its highest ends.

Every society seems necessarily to have to undergo at least once in its career a debate on free trade. Our class has had its turn and it may safely look now for a long and prosperous career.

As we remember it (and in fact as the critic of the meeting also understood it) we were to each consider ourselves a committee to look up and bring to the fold new members; we have not as yet heard said committee's report.

We are indebted to Mr. F. H. Potts for an article on "Henry VIII of England". Mr. Potts does not state in so many words, but certainly implies, that he does not agree with Mr. Heap in regard to Henry being to some extent excusable for putting off his wives in that he had a longing desire for a son and heir – in fact Mr. Potts mentions the birth of Edward VI by Jane Seymour and Henry married three or four times after her death.

Mr. F. E. Whitman has furnished us with a well and carefully written article on "Orators and their influence". He speaks of a number of orators familiar to us all and briefly mentions some of their points of excellence. He brings out well in one of his examples Daniel Webster's power and brevity and Rufus Choate's animation and intense earnestness.

Considerable time has evidently been spent in preparing this essay and it deserves the merit of the class.

Further remarks and criticisms upon the paper we leave to the individual members.

Editor.

Henry the Eighth King of England

Henry the Eighth, King of England, was born in 1491. He ascended the throne in 1508 in his eighteenth year. He was married to Catherine of Aragon his brother Arthur's widow in 1509.

This period was peculiarly interesting in the literary history of England. On the first and most tranquil years of his administration it is pleasant to regard him in the character of patron of letters.

Dean Colet having returned from his studies in Italy founded the school of St. Paul, the first public seminary in which Greek was taught in England. It was this impulse of Christian charity in the founding of schools where the learned languages might be taught, which formed one of the means employed by Providence for bringing about the Reformation. One important event at this time was the printing of the New Testament in the original Greek text and to this was added a Latin translation.

In 1517 Henry fitted out several vessels and entrusted them to the care of Sebastian Cabot for the purpose of exploring a northwest passage, but it happened unfortunately that there was conjoined in the command with Cabot Sir Thomas Pert (at that time Vice Admiral of the Kingdom) by whose timidity and obstinacy the success of the expedition was entirely frustrated. At this time occurred the outbreak of a great moral revolution, while no one could shut their eyes to the ignorance, idleness, and corruption of the Roman clergy. It was apparent that every day the laity and the people were becoming more enlightened. The invention of printing, the revival of literature, the study of the civil law and above all the translation of the Scriptures in many of the European countries into the vulgar tongues helped to stimulate the people for the contest in which they were soon to be engaged. It was at this

time that Martin Luther arose an extraordinary man and destined by Divine Providence to be the principle mover in the discovery and dissemination of truth.

In 1523 Sir Thomas More who had long resisted every entreaty was compelled to enter public life. Previously he was connected with the introduction of classical literature into England. In 1519 a ship belonging to the Pope had been seized and forfeited in the port of Southhampton. More appeared as council for the supreme Pontiff and on this occasion distinguished himself so highly that the King would take no denial but insisted on engaging him in his service. At this time Henry had become enamored of Ann Bolyn and wished to procure a divorce from Catherine. More was consulted on this occasion but excused himself from giving an opinion because he had not professed divinity.

In 1530 Henry made More Chancellor. He filled the high office with extraordinary ability and integrity for three years but observing some presage of the future storm and having already declared his opinion of the lawfulness of Henry's marriage with Catherine he resigned the great seal. Henry separated from Catherine's society for five years and married Ann Bolyn in 1533 in spite of all obstacles. More was too distinguished a person and his opinion had too great an influence not in England only, but in Europe, to permit him to be unnoticed and Henry used every method by promises and persuasion in the hope of altering his opinion concerning the unlawfulness of his second marriage.

In 1533 the Oath enjoined by the act of supremacy was ratified in Parliament. More refused to take it and was committed to the Tower. During his confinement he was visited by Cromwell, Cramner, and others who held out the fairest promises to induce him to alter his resolutions but to no purpose. After having been kept a year in prison he was brought to trial on the King's bench and arraigned for treason for having refused the Oath. Upon this occasion although worn out with long confinement and sickness he made an eloquent defense. He was found guilty and the only indulgence he met with was the changing of the usual sentence of hanging to beheading.

Henry had now gratified his revenge. But his victim was one of the most illustrious and virtuous men of his age and the news of his execution was received not at home only but throughout Europe with a universal cry of horror and detestation. When intelligence arrived in Italy of the extraordinary severity used to those who denied the King's supremacy, the execution of several Monks who had refused the Oath and above all the death of More a sudden revolution took place in the sentiments of the Romish hierarchy and Henry was excommunicated.

Queen Catherine died at this time. During her illness she addressed a request to the King that he would permit her to see once and for the last time her dear child from whom she had been so long separated but this tender request Henry had the tyranny and heartlessness to refuse.

The office of Jane Seymour brought her frequently into the royal presence. He fell violently in love with her. A royal commission was issued which directed certain peers and judges to institute an inquiry into Ann Bolyn's conduct. She was charged with high treason, and although there is no record containing an account of the charges brought against her, Henry would hear neither of pardon nor respite and on the 17th of May 1536 Ann was led from her chamber in the Tower to the scaffold. On the morning which was to be her last he went to hunt in that district and as he breakfasted surrounded by his train and his hounds under a spreading oak which is still shown he listened from time to time with a look of intense anxiety. At length the sound of a distant gun boomed through the wood. It was a signal that marked the moment when the execution was completed. "Ah!" he said, "The business is done, uncouple the dogs and let us follow the sport".

On the next morning he was married to Jane Seymour. Thus, within the short space of a month, was an extraordinary example of the uncertainty of human grandeur exhibited in England. The impression made by such tragedies on the continent was that of pity for the nation, abhorrence for the King and caution as to any transactions with so remorseless and capricious a tyrant.

Wm Tyndale completed his version of the New Testament which was published in 1536. He next translated the five books of Moses, but when proceeding with his labors of the versions of the remaining part of the Old Testament he was seized by the Catholics and after languishing some time in prison he was brought to trial as a heretic and condemned to be burnt. The last words of the martyr being a prayer that God would open the eyes of the King of England.

This prayer was heard. Henry in 1531 had most strenuously interdicted the reading of the Scriptures, by the common people, without the license of their superiors. At length he was induced to alter his opinion and agree to the proposal of Cromwell and Cramner that the Bible should be communicated to all classes of his subjects. Every one that could bought the book and busily read it, or heard it read and many elderly persons learned to read to benefit by it. Jane Seymour died at the hearth of Edward the Sixth. It has been erroneously supposed that Henry evinced his love for her by a two years constancy to her memory as he remained a widower that length of time. But during this interval he made several attempts to marry. He sent a proposal to the Duchess Dowager of Milan, who replied that if she had two heads one should be at the service of his Majesty, whereas having but one she preferred to keep it. Cromwell wished to bring about a marriage with Annie of Clevis expecting that such an alliance would destroy the power of the Popish party in England and he labored so zealously to carry his point that he at last succeeded. The interesting accounts of those christened (?) by the minister and a flattering miniature of the princess executed by Holbein deceived the monarch into a belief that she was extremely handsome and misled by these representations (for Annie was really a plain woman) the King consented to the marriage without having seen his bride. When he came to see her he was so much disappointed that his first resolution was not to wed her, but a dread of the indignation of the Protestant princes of Germany compelled him to go through the ceremony of the marriage although apparently with a very bad grace.

Gardiner Bishop of Winchester contrived that Henry should frequently meet at his home Catherine Howard the beautiful niece of the Duke of Norfolk and as was anticipated he became deeply in love with her, this naturally increased his aversion to the Queen.

In 1540 Cromwell was sentenced as a traitor and was executed on Tower hill. He was the author of one truly valuable improvement, the institution of Parish registers. The King was now earnestly intent on procuring a divorce from the Queen. A former contract of marriage between Annie and the young prince of Lorraine was made the pretext for raising a doubt as to the validity of their union. It was unceremoniously decided that the matrimonial alliance was null, he having married her against his will without the inward consent of his mind and there having been a precontract between her and another person. This sentence was immediately communicated to the Lady who by her ready and humble acquiescence appears to have considered the issue rather as an escape than a subject of resentment. The monarch lost no time in availing himself of his recovered liberty and having previously espoused Catherine Howard he on the 8th of August acknowledged her in public as his Queen.

It would be unpleasant to describe minutely all the disgusting executions which occurred during the remainder of his reign. It may be sufficient to state that ten Protestants and fourteen Catholics were in the space of four years sacrificed to the temper of a monarch whose heart seemed steeled against every touch of pity.

It appears that for a year after his union with Catherine Howard nothing could surpass his matrimonial contentment. But a sudden calamity fell upon him in the discovery of the infidelity of that beautiful woman who was now his fifth Queen.

The Queen discovering that her practices were completely brought to light acknowledged the truth of the charges and signed a written confession of the crimes. She was arraigned in Parliament of high treason and on the 13th of February she and her accomplice were executed within the Tower. Familiarized as were the people with blood it was not without

some feeling of national abusement that they beheld another Queen ignominiously led to the scaffold.

The Bible had been lately given to the people in an English translation and now ended the pretext that Tyndale's version was in many places corrupt and faulty. This precious boon was withdrawn from all under the degree of Gentleman and Gentlewoman. Henry had now so far recovered from the shock he received from the fate of Catherine Howard that he began once more to think of matrimony and being probably somewhat cooled in his excessive admiration of youth and beauty he espoused for his sixth wife the lady Catherine Parr a widow of mature age. Three Protestants were led to the stake at Windsor and instead of nuptial torches the wedding of the King was lighted up by the flames in which those unhappy men were consumed.

This Queen barely escaped death, 'tho day and even hour in which she was to be seized had been determined upon, but the Chancellor who was engaged in the plot accidentally dropped the bill of articles which had received the royal signature. A reconciliation was brought about by her physicians and she thus escaped a dreadful death. It would have been pleasing could we have dwelt upon this escape made by the Queen as one of the last transactions which illustrates the personal character of this monarch but short and dark was the period of life now allotted to him. It must be lighted up by the flames of martyrs and stained by the blood of the noblest and the most accomplished of his victims.

About this time Annie Asken a lady of ancient family, remarkable accomplishments and great beauty had embraced the reformed opinions. No torture could prevail on her to recant and she was soon after with three others burned at Smithfields.

The King was now on his death bed. Owing to his enormous bulk it had been necessary for some time to employ a machine to lift him into his chair and remove him from one chamber to another. He died in 1547. It may be doubted whether in the wide range of English history there is to be found any monarch where moral features became more harsh and repulsive than in Henry the Eighth.

F. H. Potts

The Gas Meter

'Rah for Garfield!

Wilson was the only representative of the Phi Sigma at the polls last Tuesday. Our Democratic member could not find any acquaintance to swear that he had resided in the state a year.

We haven't noticed Mr. G. H. Beard's moustache of late; we conclude that its care consumed too much of that gentleman's valuable time. At least we hope that the remarks of certain jealous members had nothing to do with its youthful curtailment.

Native Joker (dissemblingly), "It's been very fine here for the last week."

Tourist (who has been kept in by the showers), "What's been very fine here?"

Native Joker, "The rain. Very fine rain." [Exit N. J., humidly].

We found this little item in a late no. of one of our dailies, and give it for what it is worth, hoping it may not be laid up too harshly against us. "F. E. Whitman, titular husband of E. A. Whitman, complains that by the latter's desertion in 1877, he has only been able to know he is a married man by looking at his marriage certificate, and as this only affords a soup-like kind of comfort, he asks that this cloud on his title or name may be removed." Our Mr. Whitman says that it's a remarkable coincidence. We for his sake hope it is no more.

Any one who has ever gone up the Connecticut River knows that there are a number of places near Middletown of nearly the same name. These places the boat passes, on its up passage, during the night. A traveler who happened to be on

one of these vessels, going to Hartford was awakened about mid-night by the men shouting "Haddam", again, soon after he was fairly "off" in a good snooze, he was startled with "East-Haddam", later by "Haddam-Neck" and then by "Middle Haddam", finally becoming exasperated at these continued disturbances, he exclaimed, "I wish the devil had 'em".

"Why does a miller wear a white hat?" To keep his head warm.

The first year after marriage comes the paper wedding. This first year also often brings a mother-in-law, or poverty, or grief and sometimes it brings twins.

An author in describing his heroine says: Innocence dwells in the dark clusters of her hair. An unkind reviewer suggests that a fine tooth comb might bring them out.

"Edward", said Mr. R., "what do I hear, that you have been disobeying your grandmother, who told you just now not to jump down those steps?" "Grandma didn't tell us not to, Papa, she only said, 'I wouldn't jump down those steps, boys,' and I shouldn't think she would, an old lady like her!"

When you are really in that state which Young America calls "mad" and somebody tells what you know to be a falsehood, if he be bigger than you we suggest this manner of addressing him: "Well, sir, I won't say you are a liar, but I must say you use the truth with penurious frugality."

A Paragraph

We have perhaps overstepped the bounds of this paper in mentioning affairs political, but we hope we may be forgiven this brief note on the recent election, pronounced from a Republican standpoint.

The country has just passed through a struggle, a war – of the ballot, such as was never known since the election of Lincoln. We all of us looked forward to the result with great anxiety.

We have been victorious; our hearts throb with joy as we feel that this is a nation and that we may hope at no distant day to see the South entirely united to the North – then no “Solid South”, no “Solid North”, but a Solid Nation.

The street scenes during the receiving of returns from all over the land displayed the wildest excitement combined with the most exultant joy. What a glorious, yea, sublime thing it must have been to have listened to the grand old strain of the Doxology as it broke forth from the myriads of voices in the Public Square of New York City. Never has Chicago, during any Presidential election, witnessed such sights as occurred on last Tuesday night – thousands of people marching in procession through the crowded thoroughfares making their way amidst the dense masses of people, causing the buildings along their path to echo and re-echo their glad patriotic choruses.

The farmer-statesman of Ohio will take up his abode in the home of the departed fathers at Washington and the Rebel Brigadiers will have to look to other quarters than the halls of Congress to gain their disloyal ends. *Editor.*

Orators and Their Influence

In every pursuit of life there are opportunities for men to exert great power. Merchants create corners in the markets, Brokers raise or depress stocks with almost as much ease as they talk, Bankers make the rich poor in a single day, Boards of Trade fix the price of grain to a large extent, Lawyers give a dead man's money to the ones who pay them the most and governments quake and tremble under the heels of political parties. But no one can exert a greater influence on men and the world at large than a good orator. With him rests the power of filling men with loyal or rebellious spirits, of putting down treason or of working a nation's ruin, of making friends the bitterest enemies, or making homes desolate and their dwellers sad.

Oratory was divided into different classes by the ancients and we have classified its branches in our day. As divided by the Greeks there were demonstrative, deliberative and judicial orations – in our own time we have the eloquence of the pulpit, bar and Senate. But as two or even three styles may be introduced into one discourse these classifications are of no great use.

By the ancients great attention was paid to oratory and those countries in which the greatest excellence was attained were those where the most freedom was, those where the people were granted the right of free speech. It is said that in Greece oratory reached its highest excellence when Greece was most unfettered and began to decline when her liberties were abridged. In Rome during times of severest military rule no one dared to utter a single complaint for fear of banishment but when the times grew more peaceful Rome had orators of whom she did justly feel proud. The United States, young as

she is, has attained a high standing in oratory and no country can offer speakers of greater power and talent than the young nation of the west.

Many a school boy compelled by the rules of the school he attended has stood up before his fellow sufferers from modern ideas of culture and "spoken his piece", trembling the whole time, stammering at every third or fourth word, forgetting a gesture here and inserting it further on and finally, with a heart glad that he has finished, taken his seat to be criticized by the teacher and taunted by his mates. But all who find themselves in such a position must not lose courage. All orators were not born such. It is said that Demosthenes was hooted and jeered at by the first audiences to which he spoke because he had a weak voice and a stammer that was very unpleasant. But he determined to overcome this and, as the story goes, used to go down to the seashore when the waves were dashing wildly on the rocky beach and, with pebbles in his mouth, repeat his orations until his voice was strengthened and he could get thro' one without stammering. As a result of his labors all antiquity pronounced him her greatest orator and no one has yet lived to take from him that honor. Daniel Webster used to say that one of the hardest things that ever fell to his lot to do was to declaim in school. But he determined to make his mark as an orator and he did so. So now-a-days people must not think that, because they cannot now get up and deliver a powerful oration or an appeal, they will never be able to do so. Determination and hard work works wonderful changes in men and things.

Some speakers who are among the best who have lived always wrote their discourses and committed them to memory or read them from the manuscripts but very seldom the latter. Demosthenes is said to have always written his. From this let those who cannot find words to express themselves when suddenly called upon take courage.

In order to be effective a speaker must believe in what he says, he must know just how to take his hearers – that is – he must talk in a way that will hold their attention when he has secured it – tell them not words only but thoughts. In the use of gestures orators differ very much. Some use one gesture or

more with every sentence, are always on the alert darting from one side of the desk to the other, standing on tiptoe and finally becoming worked up to a tremendous excitement. Others speak in almost a monotone, use scarcely any motions of the hands and arms, stand almost still and are as composed at the end as if they had not spoken. These are the extremes of course. Probably those whose words are most effective choose judiciously from both styles. The following extract from an account of a famous case in which Mr. Webster and Mr. Choate were the opposing lawyers will show two very different ways of pleading, either of which is very weak or very effective according to the mood of the audience and the occasion for the effort. "Webster's gestures as well as his words were comparatively few but weighty, massive, the very embodiment of dignity and conscious strength. Most of the time during his half hour argument he stood perfectly motionless, his body slightly bent forward and his hands behind his back. Choate spoke for nearly two hours in a manner the very counterpart of Webster's and yet equally appropriate to the speaker's individuality. He was all alert, every vein swelled to fullness, every muscle to its utmost tension. He advanced toward the jury and retreated. He rose on tiptoe and several times in his excitement seemed to spring up entirely off his feet. He ran his long nervous fingers thro' his dark hair and anon shook them in the air above his head with so swift a motion that they seemed to run into each other like the spokes on a spinning wheel. His plea lasted two hours. The day was hot and when he had concluded he sank into the arms of attendants in a state of perfect exhaustion and was borne out into the lobby like a corpse. The excitement in the court room was intense but Webster's calm stern logic carried the day over Choate's brilliant and fiery rhetoric." Mr. Sumner was one of those speakers who used very few gestures but he had one which was extremely effective. When building a climax he would raise his hand gradually above his head gesticulating with it somewhat, as he spoke, and when he was about to cap it would stand on tiptoe and thrust his hand higher into the air with an exultant and triumphant expression. It never failed to thrill his hearers.

The influence of oratory on nations has been very marked. The speeches of Chatham and Burke in the British Parliament had much to do with the freeing of America. Daniel Webster on this subject says, "Who doubts that in our own struggle for freedom and independence the majestic eloquence of Chatham, the profound reasoning of Burke, the burning satire and irony of Barre' had influence on our fortunes in America? They tended to diminish the confidence of the British Ministry in their hope to subject us. There was not a reading man who did not struggle more boldly for his rights when these exhilarating sounds uttered in the two houses of Parliament reached him from across the seas." When this land was oppressed by the rule of George III the eloquence of Patrick Henry filled our forefathers with determination and spirit. When the serpent of treason raised its head and endeavored with its deadly sting to strike down the power of Rome, Cicero, Rome's greatest orator, sprang to his nations' rescue and drove the traitor and conspirator from the city - an exile - abandoned - ruined - lost!

On the public mind as well as on nations orators have a mighty influence. One of the best examples of this power - altho' it is not an actual speech which was really delivered but one of those passages from Shakespeare's Julius Caesar which shows human nature so well, such as place Wm Shakespeare in the front rank as a delineator of human character - is the part containing the speeches of Brutus and Antony over Caesar's body. On that memorable day in March 44 B.C. when the nobles in Rome, imagining that Caesar was too ambitious and was aiming at imperial power, struck him down "at the base of Pompey's statue" in the Senate house the whole populace was surprised and terrified. At first the people appeared not to know what to do or which faction to follow - but when Brutus in his few well-chosen words told them that he slew Caesar "not because he loved Caesar less but because he loved Rome more", that "as he was valiant he loved him but as he was ambitious he slew him" they no longer doubted. Eager were they to take Brutus to his house with honors and make him what Caesar had been --the most powerful man of Rome. "This

Caesar was a tyrant", say they, "we're blest that Rome is rid of him".

Antony speaks next. He realizes the impression which Brutus has made and as he asks for hearing he says "For Brutus' sake I am beholding to you." They listen to him but say to each other that "twere best he speak no harm to Brutus here". He begins by speaking of what the "Noble Brutus" has said and succeeds in making them think that he is not praising Caesar but burying him. After a few moments he is so overcome that he cannot continue. The people have time to think on the subject and decide that they have acted rashly – that Caesar was not ambitious and that Antony is the noblest man in Rome. Again Antony produces Caesar's will which fills the crowd with great curiosity and enables him to hold their attention better. He says 'tis not well for them to know how Caesar loved them, and by this time they are ready to denounce the conspirators, Brutus and all, as villains and murderers. He now descends from the rostrum and makes use of the greatest means he has for moving them. Lifting up the mantle from Caesar's body he says "You all do know this mantle – I remember the first time ever Caesar put it on. 'Twas on a summer's evening in his tent that day he overcame the Hervii". In a moment they call to mind how the news of that great victory filled all Rome with wild delight – how they praised Caesar for his generalship -- how they thanked him for his victory. When Antony has finished speaking from beside the body there is almost a riot in the crowd but he holds them a little longer and when he at last reads the will their madness knows no bounds – they rush wildly about the streets crying "Burn! Fire! Kill! Slay! Let not a traitor live!" – and they cease not till having burned Caesar's body on the funeral pile and having made him a god they place another Caesar on the imperial throne of Rome!

Such is the power that lies in a judicious use of language coupled with allusions to important circumstances and strict attention to the emotions of the public.

Among the orators of the past Demosthenes and Cicero stand at the head. England's great speakers have been Chatham, Pitt, Fox, Sheridan, Burke and Grattan. Ireland's

sons have been eloquent and many a throng has been fascinated by the magic words of O'Connell and Emmet. Our own most finished and eloquent speakers have been Henry, Everett, Phillip, Webster and D. Nott (?). As to the present king of orators the public is somewhat divided. Many consider that Col. Ingersoll merits that title and others that Senator Conkling deserves it more.

We have now written at greater length than we intended. Enough has been said to show how broad the subject is – how infinite the sway of human speech. Oh! That men endowed by their creator with great powers of oratory would always use their talents for the good of humanity –for the peace of nations – for the liberty of mankind! Oh that men would always think unselfishly and nobly and give blessings to this people, honor to their God and true fame to themselves.

F. E. Whitman

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