others, which we despair of ever seeing excelled by writers of the
present or preceding times. It is upon models like these
in which there are delicate tints, impassionate touches, shades
of expression and accuracy of thought, that we wish to
see the taste of the youth of the present day formed. It is those
who have drunk deep at the Perian Spring and are sensible how
much remains to be known, that we find to be more modest and
untaunting—better qualified to engage in any pursuit of science
or of literature—better fitted for an entrance upon professional
duties and possessing more taste and ardor for knowledge of all
kinds, than those of more varied educations.

These remarks, fellow members, have been made, not so much for the
purpose of setting fully before you the importance of the classics,
as of calling your attention to them.

I cannot conclude however, without offering you a few remarks on
the duties that devolve on each one of you as a member of this
literary compact. It is an association which we have formed for our
improvement and in whose honor or disgrace we must all partake.
The estimate which we place upon a piece of metal or matter of any
kind, depends wholly upon the value of each separate particle with
which it is composed, so the estimation in which this society is held
and its future prosperity, depends very much on the character
of each individual member. The duties of this house, although they
have long since ceased to interest us, with their novelty, in
consequence of our familiarity with them, are not on that account
to be esteemed of less importance. It is by a faithful performance
of them that you will acquire the capacity of executing your