

acquire a reputation which in peace will be a universal passport for her sons, and in times of peril must secure for her sympathy and support.

This Institute has already done much to accelerate the march of improvement. Its resources were never greater than at the present moment—its prospects more brilliant—the hopes of its friends better sustained. I know that you who have the power will continue to labour for the improvement of the young ; and I feel assured, that those of us who may outlive the vigor of youth, will find the Boys reared in this Institute the props and instructors of our declining years. They will mount the platform to pay us back with interest whatever we may have bestowed. They will make our grey hairs honorable by their improvements in manners and in mind—they will shower upon our fading intellects the discoveries of modern science, and delight us with the higher philosophy of a riper and more cultivated age. And should they, in turning back to the past history of the Institute, recall any of the views which I have endeavored this evening to develop—though they may smile at the imperfect language in which they were conveyed, I think their experience will prove them to have been correct ; and justify the only apology, which, in the language of the Roman Orator, I make for their expression :

Who is here so vile, that does not love his country ?
If any—speak—for him have I offended.