

HYMN TO APOLLO.

Written in the third century, B.C., discovered at Delphi in 1893, the text restored by M. H. Weil, and the music transcribed by M. T. Reinach.

I will sing in praise of the glorious son of Zeus!
Who dwellest on the snowy peak of the hills,
Where in sacred oracles to mortal men,
Thou dost proclaim tidings prophetic from the divine tripod seat.
Thou hast driven forth from his place the dragon who watched over the shrine,
And with thy darts hast forced him to hide far in the dark underwood.
Muses came from deeply wooded Helicon,
Beautiful fair-armed daughters, of the loud-singing god dwelling there;
Praising their noble kinsman, even Phoebus, with golden hair,
To the lyre, singing their songs.
He wavers over the twin-headed peak of Parnassus,
And he haunts the rocky places round about famous Delphi.
And Castalia's plentiful springs, full of waters deep and clear,
And presides over Delphi with its oracle true in prophecy.
Come then Attica's noble daughters, come,
Ye who dwell in Tritonis' plain, safe from death-dealing shaft;
Incense and sacrifice offering, Hephaestus kindles sacred fire,
Burning on the altar limbs of bulls,
While the smoke rises and reaches to Olympus;
And from the flute's powerful voice come forth melodious tones, spreading around,
And the lyre's golden notes join in the hymns, aiding in melody,
While, in a throng, Athens sends chosen bands unto the shrine.

A translation of the words sung at the Academy of Music,
Montreal, February 19th and 20th, 1897.