

On Thursday Judge Clayton and Mr. Senator Berrien, the representatives of the *Demosthenian* and *Phi Kappa* Societies, delivered orations in the College Chapel. Judge Clayton spoke on the character of *The Statesman*, as connected with our free institutions; and in unfolding his views of the constituents of his character, dwelt, at great length on the article of *Eloquence*. This all important constituent he held to be, when exhibited in its highest excellence, the gift of nature. The subject of Mr. Berrien's oration was *Eloquence*;—but he advocated the opposite theory. The former preferred the stern majesty, abrupt impetuosity, and overwhelming force of the Grecian model:—the latter, the mild dignity, calm persuasiveness, captivating suavity and polished elegance of the Roman. Each sustained his positions with powerful arguments, beautiful and appropriate illustrations, and rich—often magnificent imagery, extorting from a crowded audience frequent bursts of applause. And each furnished, in his own manner a happy practical illustration of the theory he had adopted. Each of course had his admirers, awarding the palm of excellence according as the judgment and taste of the auditor corresponding with the theory, and the manner of sustaining it, adopted by the orator. Though the conclusions as to the superiority of the orators, one over the other, were thus diverse, yet the sentiment was universal, that both were excellent in their respective spheres, and that the exhibition they gave of their powers and attainments was honorable, in the highest degree, not only to the Societies of which they are members, but also to the State of which they are distinguished citizens.