

**THE OLDEST SCHOOL IN  
AMERICA. AN  
ORATION AND A POEM**

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The Oldest School in America. An Oration and a Poem by Phillips Brooks & Robert Grant

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**PHILLIPS BROOKS & ROBERT GRANT**

**THE OLDEST SCHOOL IN  
AMERICA. AN  
ORATION AND A POEM**



*H. V. Smith*

◊ The Oldest School in America

AN ORATION

By PHILLIPS BROOKS, D. D.

AND

A POEM

By ROBERT GRANT

W. H. L. SMITH,  
MILL ST. DOR. DIST.  
BOSTON, MASS.

*At the Celebration of the Two Hundred and Fiftieth  
Anniversary of the Foundation of the Boston  
Latin School, April 23, 1885*



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1885



## NOTE.

THE Public Latin School of Boston enjoys the distinction of being the oldest existing school within the bounds of the United States. It was founded in the spring of 1635, thus antedating Harvard College, and has been in continuous existence ever since, with the interruption of a few months during the siege of Boston, 1775-1776. The Association, composed of its past members and teachers, celebrated the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary by a festival in the building occupied by the school, on the evening of April 23, 1885, when the address and poem which follow were given. The appendix to this volume completes the record of the occasion.





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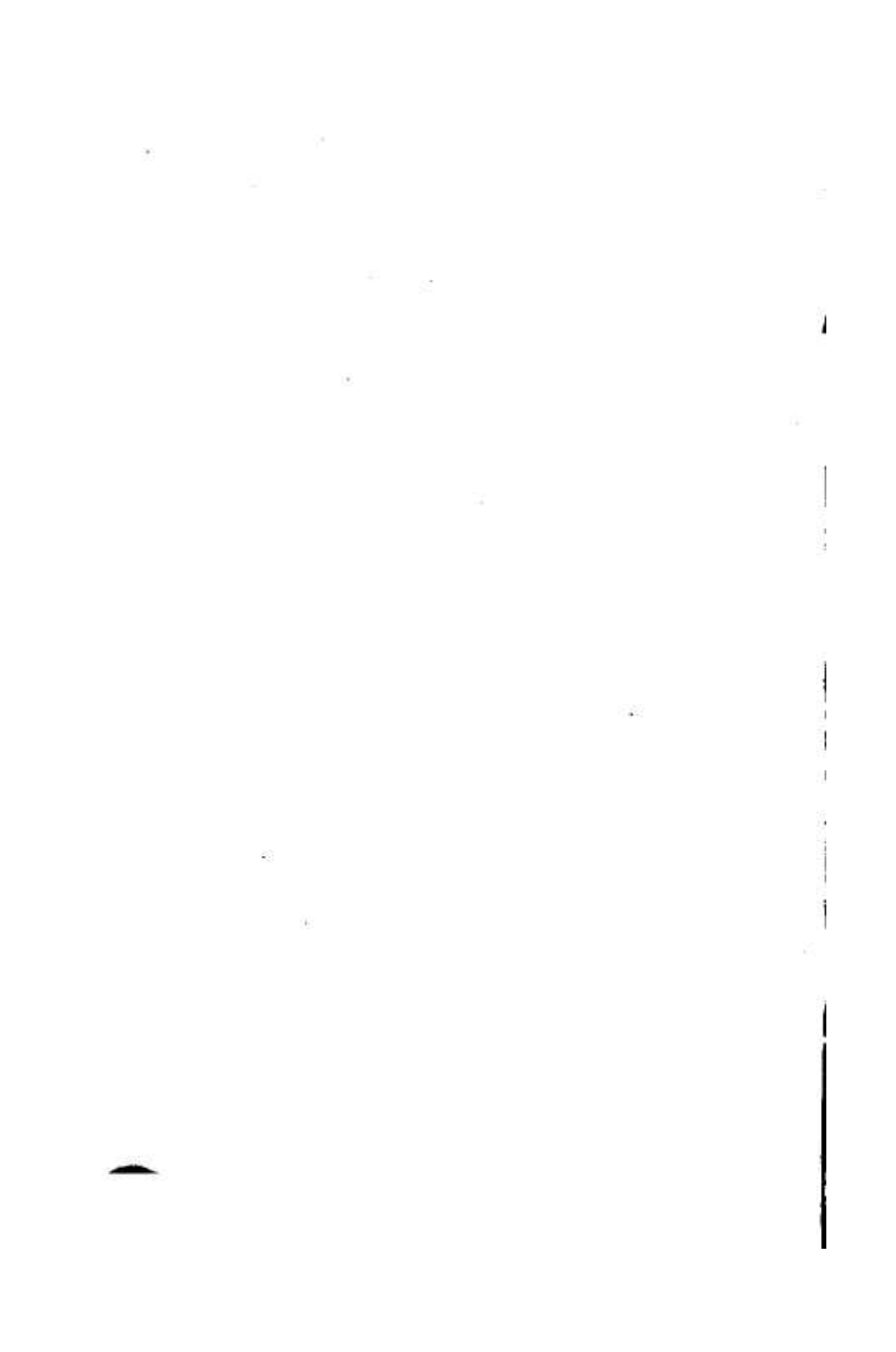




ORATION

BY

PHILLIPS BROOKS, D. D.





## THE BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL.



*Mr. President, and Brethren of the Latin School Association :*



**G**REAT public school which has lived to celebrate its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary must surely have a story of which it need not be ashamed. It may well fling wide its doors and invite the congratulations of the world, for it has entered for an appreciable period into the world's history. Its arc on the great circle is long enough for the eye to see. It evidently has possessed a true vitality, and had to do with perpetual principles and the continual necessities of man. For, lo, it has lived through the changing seasons. It evidently was no creature of the air. It must have had its roots in the unchang-