

The Auburn Daily Bulletin
(Auburn, New York)
Saturday, April 13, 1872

High School Entertainment

A crowded audience attended the literary entertainment given by the Academic High School at the Opera House last evening. A well-selected programme, combining the popular elements of fun and fancy, oratory, music, colloquy and declamation, kept the house in close attention for three hours, while the various features of the entertainment were put on with a rapidity of succession which was a decided relief from the usual tedium & long “waits between the pieces.”

The recitation by Miss M. Belle Clark, of the striking anonymous poem – “John Maynard,” was a gratifying surprise to the audience. Descriptive of the thrilling scene where a steamer takes fire, and the noble helmsman stands at his post until he runs the burning vessel ashore, with its hundreds of passengers, while the flames gradually scorch out his life, as he still clings to his helm – the intensity of pathos culminates in his noble death, as a sacrifice to the safety of his fellows. The fair young speaker, with her fine voice and presence, her exquisite purity of pronunciation and inflection, lent a charm of natural talent and most faithful study, to a rendering of the best piece of the evening. . . .