

Dearest Peucinian,

Last week we entered the political sphere and determined that, despite our griping, political parties do serve to benefit American society. This week we turn from the political to the personal. Step in to the arena or the confessional this week.

Resolved: Shame is a Greater Motivator than Glory.

Affirmative: Ajax son of Telemon

Negative: Hypatia

I have a serious suspicion that this dispute has troubled all who read this email. It is a theme that spans literature and roots itself in our upbringing and daily action. Both of these states are largely products of being social animals, but they can be to a degree germinated in the self. Both of these states set one apart from their comrades. Both of these states prompt humans to action. Both of these states have profound impacts on the psychology, soul, and choices of those who are within them. Which state does the most to help one become just, temperate, wise, kind, driven, shining, and virtuous is what will be left to our sifting.

One distinction that is worth knowing before we begin is between guilt and shame. The former, put simply, is the realization "I did something bad" while the latter is closer to "I am bad".

For reference material this week, look no further than the biographies of our disputants. Other good sources for inspiration; The Iliad (all of it), the lives of many many saints, Icarus, those who died with boots on, and this Avett Brothers song.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ciJ2vKgpAE>

Please come to the third floor of Mass Hall at 7:30 in business attire (whatever combination of skirt, trousers, collared shirt, tie, bow tie, blazer, dress, sweater, vest, sweater-vest, suspenders, and relevant accessories suit you).

Come ready to say what you mean and ask anything.

Yours in the fight, flight, and the falling,

Aesop