Introduction

Arché sprang from humble beginnings; initially, we merely aspired to provide a forum where deserving undergraduates can display their scholarly work. But in this third volume, we have grown bolder, and within these 64 slim pages we twice track through more than two thousand years of philosophy.

As any philosophical attempt has to begin with our faculties of reason, Rachel Bayefsky begins our traipse through history with an analysis of how those faculties can occasionally lead us in circles, and provides a diagnosis to help us avoid deductive vertigo. Our analytical skills now firmly rehearsed, Douglas Kremm, with a detailed analysis of two early Socratic dialogues, shows us how Socratic virtue can be unified without being impossible to achieve. Two millennia and 14 pages later, William J. Brady takes on contemporary epistemology with an intriguing and empirical refutation of Michael Huemer’s dualistic theory of memory-beliefs. Finally, Peter Moore returns us to ancient Greece, enjoining us to seek out the enlightening harmonies hidden within the dissonant speeches of the Symposium.

The journey in these pages is varied and arduous, but I hope the reader will not find it too presuming. Philosophy today is as much a study of history as it is of any other discipline, and while any good scholar must know what has come before her, she must also be careful not to become bogged down in the past. I think that the quick flight through philosophy presented in the following papers will allow the reader to alight on the interesting ideas of our philosophical forefathers, without denying her room to pursue novel thoughts as well.

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