

COMMENCEMENT.

(CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.)

He crossed the Hellespont, defeated the Persians, conquered Egypt, routed the Persian host, and the mysterious east still alluring him on, he, exploring, conquering, and founding cities, at last reached the river Hyphasis. Ten years after he crossed the Hellespont he reached Babylon. While spending several days surveying the marshes surrounding Babylon, he contracted the germs of a violent fever. This malady was developed and heightened by his daily revelries, and finally was the cause of his death. Alexander reigned nearly thirteen years, but when he died, his fond dreams and empire perished with him.

Or who of us has not had a friend, whom we loved, cherished, and adored; in whom we had implicit confidence, who, unknowingly, imparted to us the impression that he was perfect, almost superhuman, and would never fail in any emergency, nor, in the hour of trial leave us forgotten and abandoned to the cold charities of an unsympathizing world. Then how often in some unguarded moment, that fondly cherished ideal, all unconscious that he has been considered as a demigod, and placed at a height such as no mortal can hope to attain, is shattered by the utterance of some thoughtless word, or by some little unkind deed. And too often when that grand ideal falls from its lofty pedestal, our hopes and aspirations are partners of the great destruction. Then we realize how true the words of her who said, "Is not the destruction of an illusion worse than the illusion itself?"

But when we stop and consider, we see more clearly the instability of man, and learn to repose confidence in few but to place our most implicit faith in a supreme power, and one who has never in any case proven false, but who will ever keep his promises made to us and will be the truest and best of friends at all times, in adversity as well as prosperity.

Carlyle spoke truly indeed when he said: "Adversity is sometimes hard upon a name; but for one man who can stand prosperity, there are a hundred that will stand adversity."

Observation teaches us that youth is quick to enter a new project and age fearful of change. The one sees the bright side only, the other has had his fingers burned time without number, and shrinks from the alluring ideal.

"How beautiful is youth! How bright it gleams, With its illusions, aspirations, dreams! Book of Beginnings, story without end, Each a child a heroine, and each man a friend." But the vicissitudes of years has destroyed the ideal of youth:

"Backward, flow backward, O tide of the years! I am so weary of toil and of tears— Toil without recompense, tears all in vain— Take them, and give me my child-love again."

"One Today is Worth Two Tomorrows." MATTIE ABEL.

Present opportunities teach us the value of time. In fact time itself teaches its own lesson. In a day there are 86,400 seconds, and yet we are intruded with but one of them at a time. We must use them singly, and each as it comes to should be improved. The star that sparkles bright in the firmament, even the smallest insect that flutters a brief life away in the sunbeams, the tree, the shrub, the blade of grass whereon the dewdrop sparkles brightly for a moment, teach us that as time is written upon every atom of nature is so written for us and warns us of eternity. God is the highest authority. The parable of the talents which Christ used enforces a lesson of the use of advantages, and the parable of the pounds explains the eternal necessity for diligence. Neander, the German theologian, never went from home without taking with him a number of books. It is told of him that once the king of Prussia invited him to go on a journey, but forbade him to bring his trunk. Neander accepted the invitation, and came wearing a huge overcoat although it was in the summer season. The king in surprise asked why he wore such a coat and examining it found that it had many pockets, each full of books. Darwin had a place for books in his traveling carriage and always kept it supplied, so that even moments of journeying might be turned to the most advantage. Elijah Barrett worked eight hours a day at the anvil for several years, yet during the same period he acquired the distinction of being termed the learned blacksmith, and made himself one among the intellectual leaders of New England, purely by the careful economizing of the minutes. When he afterwards traveled in Europe he enjoyed the satisfaction of being an invited guest at every hall of learning and of being a welcome companion of the notable men in all departments of knowledge. While Hugh Miller toiled on his daily task of breaking stone, he found unused moments in which to note down the varying formations of the very fragments that fell from his hammer. He filled thirteen large volumes with notes of his observations and became the father of modern geology. There is not a condition in any life where moments and opportunities such as made these men gradually suc-

cessful do not occur. Never put off till tomorrow what can be done today is a maxim for all time. Napoleon said that fifteen minutes had won and lost many a battle, and every event in the life of the greatest conqueror shows that he knew how to seize an opportunity in time, that promptness, the use of the moment was with him a continual virtue. In all the stirring events of his life, on the arid deserts of Egypt, on the sunny plains of Italy, in the somber forests of Germany, on Russia's forest bound plains, every act, deed and thought demonstrated, that one of the greatest minds appreciated the importance of doing what-ever was to be done without delay. As Napoleon approached the Alps with his army he asked the Swiss guide whether the way (pointing) was passible. The guide responded trembling and frightened, "Barely passible, sir." That was enough, the command was forwarded and the impassible mountain yielded to indomitable energy and opportunism. It is told that when Napoleon arrived at Marengo the battle was already lost but as the sun declined he muttered there is just time to recover the day. Giving his orders with a rapid and characteristic energy he soon turned defeat into victory and this supreme moment on a lost field made possible for him to become the Emperor of France. There is a motto inscribed in Latin on a dial at Oxford, "The hours perish and are laid to our charge." And perhaps many a passer by has read it to gain renewed vim and energy for prosecution of his affairs, and a renewed appreciation of the moments as they pass. An Italian scholar placed an inscription over his door thus, "Whoever enters must join me in my work." The sentiment may have been harsh but the moments were precious and the scholar surely reaped the reward of his precaution in creating an inheritance of thought for coming generations. Great men do not write books in a single day or make inventions in a moment. Some of our greatest authors have written their masterpieces more than fifteen times. Books that we may have read in an hour may have found their beginning in their author's youth and ended in his whitening hair. Edison has worked year after year in his garret on his great and successful inventions, the phonograph, vitascope, mimeograph and other important inventions. Yet with the author and inventor every moment of the long labor was the important one, and none passed without doing like the drop of water, contributing its proper share. It is not a modern lesson that the seconds should be improved. Renowned, pathetic Homer of ancient times, penned literature that any nation would be proud to own. "Seven cities contend for Homer dead, In which the living Homer begged for bread." As some people never leave a moment unimproved, so others leave too many. In France there was a besieged army which was ready to attack the enemy but at the last moment the commanding general concluded to wait until morning. When morning came and the sun arose with majesty over the hills as if to lend his royal splendor, the enemy had fled and the guard had lost reputation. The battle of life may thus be lost or won. How much the coming generation depends upon the culture and refinement of the present. Our heedless boys will soon be dignified men directing affairs. The school girls of today will be the educated women of tomorrow. Commerce, medical science, education, politics and religion will succeed in proportion to the physical, intellectual and moral training of our young people of today. How necessary then that we improve the golden moments as they are given to us by an all-wise creator.

"Trust no future how e'er pleasant, Let the dead past bury its dead; Act—act in the living present, Heart within, and God o'erhead."

"A Citizens Duty to His Country." BY ROBERT S. MITCHELL.

Self preservation is said to be the first and greatest law of animate nature. It is probably true that not very remotely every act of man has had its origin in this primal characteristic. Self love, or lower yet, selfishness, is the mainspring of all human activity. Self love is the broader and wider application of the principle. Selfishness, which I fear is the more common of the two is the narrower and more debasing. Self love impels a man to do that which is truly best for himself, it hurteth not his neighbor, it worketh not ill to his brother, rejoiceth his own heart and pleaseth God. Selfishness regardeth not his brother, it seeketh the possession of his neighbor, and crampeth his own soul and is a stench in the nostrils of Deity. Self love compels a man to do that which in the end is best for self, for country and for God.

Selfishness permeating the mind of man oppresses the poor, robs the widow, spreads abroad woe and sorrow, withers and dries up the higher and nobler instincts of liberality.

Man, enjoying the advantages of self government and free institutions, holds his option the destiny of a country like ours.

The free man, with that strong and

potent force, the ballot, can shake the foundation of a government like ours to the bottom or can elevate it to the highest pinnacle of human conception, until it reaches a perfection unknown to the greatest government of antiquity. He can make his country, his government and its institutions a cherished ideal, or from selfishness can make it the most wretched place in the universe, wreaking with political rottenness and decaying institutions. Oh, that we could banish selfishness from the human heart and put in its place self love and charity! The science of human government would be a thing of the past and every man would do his duty to his country and his God. The state of human government reached in this nineteenth century would be so great that the philosophers and wise men of the future would stand amazed at the great stride made in civilization. But by the advent of man's sin, we must do battle against these lower impulses, and ever be on our guard against them as man's lower nature is continually striving for mastery, especially in a country where every man is allowed the rights of suffrage. It is true in national affairs as in others, that the more rights a man has, the greater his responsibility, and in no other government on the face of the earth is so much power intrusted to a voter of a country as in the United States, therefore his responsibility is greatest. In the first place he should see that good men are nominated and elected to office. To do this he should attend the primaries and see that upright men are delegates to the county convention; because if dishonest men are sent from town caucus, dishonest men will be in the successive conventions, for as the old adage goes "Like begets like."

The easiest way to check an evil is never permit it to start, if it does the voter should ever be ready to check it with his ballot. Not only should he see clean men elected to office, but he should study the principles they advocate. Important questions are arising all the time, sooner or later to be settled by the ballot. At one time the tariff, at another time the money question demands recognition. The patriot studies these questions as should everyone holding right of franchise and votes as he thinks will best benefit himself, his country, and further the interests of his posterity. One of the greatest evils endangering our country is giving the right of franchise to foreigners who have been here only a short time. They do not understand the principles of our government, the questions before the people for settlement, and a great many times not even our language, and nearly always their sympathies are with their fatherland. Such a condition of affairs should be adjusted at once. Another dangerous element is the indifferent voter. We have Joseph Addison as authority for saying, "There is no greater sign of general decay in virtue in a nation than a want of zeal in its inhabitants for the good of their country." With the right of franchise under so great a government as ours, with civil and religious rights, among as enlightened a people, does there a man live such as Scott describes:

Breathes there a man with soul so dead, Who never to himself has said, This is my own, my native land. Whose heart bath ne'er within him burned, As home his footsteps he hath turned: From wandering on a foreign strand: If such there be, go mark him well, For him no raptures e'er shall swell, High though his titles, proud his name, Boundless his wealth as wish can claim, Despite those titles, power or pelf, Living shall forfeit fair renown, And doubly dying shall go down, To vile dust, from whence he springs, Unwept, unobscured and unsung.

"He Who Gathers Roses, Must Not Fear Thorns." BY EDNA HENDERSON.

"He who gathers roses must not fear thorns." Men who have been inspired with this thought have made a success of life.

There was never, probably, a time in the world's history, when high success in any profession demanded harder or more incessant labor than now.

Men can no longer go at one leap into eminent position.

The world, as Emerson says, is no longer clay, but rather iron in the hands of its workers, and men have got to hammer out a place for themselves by steady and rugged blows. A deep enthusiasm is wanted in everyone who would achieve great ends.

This quality is seen wherever there are earnest and determined workers—in the silence of the study, and amid the roar of cannon; in the painting of a picture, and in the carving of a statue. Some may think that great geniuses are born with their power so developed that all they have to do is to spend their time in luxurious ease, and then, when wished the beautiful song or opera, or wonderful painting, will spring into being like magic. On the contrary genius, must have born with the power, a capacity for hard work, and an indomitable perseverance. A noted sculptor, after tedious months of labor once finished an exquisite piece of work. Admirers from far and near gathered to gaze upon this piece of art. But one day it was found broken into fragments, scattered about his

studio, due to the carelessness of an attendant. What must have been the feelings of this artist on viewing the wreck of what had taken so many months to perfect? Did he despair? No, but immediately he began to make another like it, and persisted in his labors until he had succeeded in producing a still more beautiful piece of work than the first had been. It is this solid faith in one's mission that marks the heroic spirit.

Only men of high resolves and firm determination scale the dizzy steep of excellence and fame. Let us not despise a small beginning. We have heard it told of a man worth his millions, that he commenced by selling fruit at a street stall.

Old King John, the Frenchman over five hundred years ago conceived the idea of founding a library, and he began with but two volumes. That library, the Royal Library of Paris, is now the most magnificent public library in the world, and contains one million volumes. Sands make the mountains, moments make the year, drops make the ocean, and so little endeavors, earnestly and honestly put forth, made the great men in the world's history.

Many years ago a little band of sailors sought harbor in an unknown land. A new country was discovered. Other expeditions were made into this country, and a few years later the sunny skies of America canopied thirteen colonies scattered along the eastern coast. From this small beginning has grown one of the greatest nations on earth.

But not in a day did our country attain this high rank. Many years were required to pluck away the disagreeable thorns of adversity which infested the land. Looking back upon the history of past ages, we discover that crises, seemingly insurmountable, have risen, but have succumbed at last to the ceaseless energies of man.

Out of the chaos of the black night of moral depravity, which had settled over the European countries in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, there appeared a man who wished to tear away the foul thorns of sin and bring to light the beautiful rose of morality.

Martin Luther was that brave, fearless man. He dared to institute reform in the church, even amid the prejudices of the world. One by one

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVEN.)

Lincoln Route

TIME TABLE. B & M. R. Y. RED CLOUD, NEBR.

DENVER HELENA BUTTE SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND SAN FRANCISCO and all points west.

By Arriving to Healthy Action oil her Organs. It causes health to bloom, and joy to reign throughout the frame.

It never fails to regulate. My wife has been under treatment of leading physicians three years, without benefit. After using three bottles of BRADFIELD'S FEMALE REGULATOR, she can do her own cooking, milking and washing."

BRADFIELD'S FEMALE REGULATOR. Sold by druggists at \$1.00 per bottle.

Thousands of Women SUFFER UNTOLD MISERIES. BRADFIELD'S FEMALE REGULATOR, ACTS AS A SPECIFIC.

Advertisement for Bradfield's Female Regulator, featuring a bottle illustration and text describing its benefits for women's health.

Advertisement for Full of Health Hires Rootbeer, featuring a bottle illustration and text describing its refreshing qualities.

Advertisement for South Side Sample Rooms, John Polnicky, Proprietor, featuring text about wine and liquor.

Advertisement for Dick Bros Quincy Beer, featuring text about the beer's quality and availability.

Advertisement for C.A. Snow & Co. Patents, featuring text about patent services and legal notices.

Advertisement for JAS. PETERSON, Farming Implements, featuring text about McCormick and Eagle Listers.

Advertisement for The Latest and Neatest JEWELRY, featuring an illustration of a watch and text about Edgin Watches and Newhouse Bros.

Advertisement for SHERWOOD & ALBRIGHT, GROCERS, featuring text about boots and shoes and Chase & Sanborn's Coffees.

Advertisement for SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION, featuring text about legal notices and court proceedings.

Advertisement for FRED E. McKEE, M. D., PHYSICIAN and SURGEON, featuring text about medical services.

Advertisement for PARKER'S GINGER TONIC, PARKER'S HAIR BALM, HINDERCOINS, and BIOVOLES, featuring text about various medicinal products.

Advertisement for C.A. SNOW & CO. PATENTS, featuring text about patent services.

Advertisement for J. S. EMIGH, DENTIST, featuring text about dental services.

Advertisement for PAINLESS DENTISTRY, featuring text about dental procedures.

Advertisement for RANOLPH MONITT, ATTORNEY and COUNSELOR AT LAW, featuring text about legal services.

Advertisement for WANTED - An Idea, featuring text about a business opportunity.

Advertisement for PORCELAIN INLAY, featuring text about dental work.

Advertisement for RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA, featuring text about local news or events.

Advertisement for WANTED - An Idea, featuring text about a business opportunity.