

store or office, or in the professions which she graces with her presence education better qualifies her for the place, making her what she is and what it was intended that she should be, an equal, a companion in labor and in love—a blessing to the man.

Another reason why I love this institution is in the fact that although its doors will be open to the knock alike of Jew or Gentile, yet it is under the dominant influence of the Christian religion.

And I feel certain that I voice the sentiment of every lover of morality, be he Christian, atheist or infidel, when I say that it is right and proper that it should be so. No man can be successful who does not live an upright and a moral life. And nowhere else can such pure precepts of morality be found as are contained within the pages of the Book Divine.

Addressing myself more directly to those of you who are students, I assume that it is your high ambition, in some way, at some time, when equipped and fully prepared for the conflict, to fulfil the highest purpose of your creation, in the faithful and conscientious discharge of your every duty.

Thus animated, for you there are wonderful possibilities in the changing drama of life and human events. This is more particularly true of the present than of any preceding age. You have all of life and human experience to aid you in the struggle. Buoys and beacons scattered all along the shores of time to warn you of the reefs and breakers, upon which millions full of hope and promise have been wrecked and ruined. Apply those lessons, profit by their teachings, and there are no heights that have been scaled by mortal man that you cannot attain and occupy. In the advanced civilization of the nineteenth century the duties and responsibilities that rest upon each individual have increased and widened until the language of inspiration comes to us with tenfold force and power, "no man liveth to himself." Would this thought could be impressed upon the mind of every student present. May it not, as in the case of many, go unheeded until the best part of your life has passed away, crippling your capabilities and impairing your usefulness forever. Resolve now and here, upon the beginning of this university year, that no such causes shall interpose as barriers to your success. Armed and equipped with the sword of truth, clad in the armor of a well-trained intellect, cultivated and thoroughly disciplined in these halls, go forth, in time, to vanquish and disarm ignorance, superstition and error wherever it may confront you in your career in life.

Be like the drummer boy in Napoleon's army. At a critical time in the battle the commander said, "Boy beat a retreat." The boy replied, "Sir, I know not how. Dessaix never taught me that. But I can beat a charge that will make the dead fall into line. I beat that charge at Lodi, I beat it at the Pyramids, I beat it at Mt. Tabor, may I beat it here?" And over the dead and wounded, over the cannon and battery men, over ditches and breastworks, he led them on to victory.

We live in an age of enlightenment, progression and wonderful discovery. An age in which present existing realities exceed by far the period of fabled mythology or the marvels of past romance; an age in which man, not only grapples with, but solves the most intricate and perplexing problems. An age, when, in the flight of his imagination, the wonders of his scientific research and the progress of invention, man stands majestically erect, clothed with powers in which we see reflected the unapproachable attributes of divinity. Those, then, who enter upon this stage of action, amid the gleaming sunlight that radiates the world, have important duties to fulfil, great and mighty responsibilities resting upon them.

Those of you who would labor for the elevation of your race, and the amelioration of suffering humanity, must work, must get down with bared arms into the battle that will be forced upon you, and wrestle as did the gladiators of old, not like them with wild beasts, but all the same like them for life.

Turn whichever way we may, in every domain where mind in triumph reigns over matter, were confronted by new and rapidly changing problems; problems that require the brightest intelligence, the clearest brain, the keenest analytical perception and judgment to aid in their solution and proper disposition. In education, through and by it alone, we find a solution of every problem that confronts us.

To attain this you must labor. No maxim contains more truth than that which affirms—"There is no royal road to learning." It was only by perseverance and the most untiring energy, that the God-like conceptions of the old masters, were brought into being, which, in all their loveliness, shine down upon us through the mists of centuries.

By the most arduous toil, with mallet and chisel, the sculptor forms the image of a Greek slave or an Apollo.

When, from the mire and clay of a neglected yard in the city of Florence, Michael Aneglo rescued a fugitive block of marble, and cleaned from it the slime and filth with which it was covered, he was jeered at by his companions, who asked him, "What he wanted with that useless piece of rock?" He answered, as you all no doubt have heard, "O, there is an angel in the stone, and I must get it out." After sleepless nights and days of ceaseless toil, he let the angel out.

The waves of twenty-five centuries roll between us and the days when the citizens of Greece were charmed by the eloquence of Demosthenes, but his name and the fame of his matchless oratory comes "sounding down the ages," an example of labor worthy the emulation of the youth of the Nineteenth century, for Plutarch the historian and philosopher affirms: "he was not a man of much genius and all his eloquence was the result of labor. To-day, as then, labor will win success. There is no other way known among men whereby it can be obtained.

While neither wise nor prudent to magnify the difficulties you will have to contend with it will be equally cruel and unjust to conceal them. Let me then address a few words of admonition and in conclusion strive to encourage and stimulate you to action as well.

Young man, young woman—the world is before you, one vast arena prepared by creative wisdom for the grand struggle of human life.

If you have not already awakened to the fact, have not as yet heard rumblings of the coming strife, if the turmoil and din of conflict has not been sounded in your ears, you are destined soon, at least, to learn that life with its stern and uncompromising realities, is one continued battle, not a dream.

Like the winding footpath upon the mountain, there are rugged cliffs to climb, difficulties to encounter, obstacles apparently insurmountable, that Alp-like tower above you to impede your progress, making more severe the toil and more uncertain the success of your journey.

Before you, also, yawn precipices innumerable over which you may plunge, while a misstep, a careless word or premature act may bring down upon you the avalanche.

Young friends, the difficulties must be met, the journey must be made. Once begun there is no retracing of the footsteps, no retreating from the conflict. By thoroughly training and disciplining the powers of the mind, moral and intellectual the journey may not only be accomplished with safety but with honor and distinction as well. This will require to be continued, when, after graduating from this institution you bid