

shall we have crossed the threshold of these doors, never again perhaps to enter. In a few hours more, will Hamilton, with its beautiful scenery, and delightful reminiscences, have receded from our vision, perhaps never to be revisited. But, are we go, permit us, kind friends and patrons, to thank you, for the kindly interest you have manifested in our beloved institution, and for the generous forbearance you have to-night exercised, in so patiently listening to our youthful essays.

Long and arduously has this institution struggled up against opposing influences to its present promising condition. Those acquainted with the history of this school, cannot but recognize in it the child of Providence; an agent raised and sustained by God, for carrying forward his benevolent designs, in the education and uplifting of our race. To Him, therefore, who selects his own agents, and assigns to each his part to act in his moral vineyard, we would feel especial gratitude, and lift our hearts to him in praise. We feel, that upon our beloved institution, and upon that cause, of which she may well be regarded as the pioneer, a brighter day is dawning. Many, who a short time ago, viewed efforts, on an extensive scale, for the education of girls with distrust, or cold indifference, are now convinced that the most liberal education, conducted on a right system, free from the pernicious influences which generally attend its pursuit, does not unfit woman for the sphere assigned by Providence; but tends to make her a better daughter, sister, wife, and mother.

May we not hope, that the citizens of Hamilton will yet form such an appreciation of female education, and become so alive to its importance as to place in their beautiful city, upon a permanent basis, an institution that shall flourish, and bless generations yet to come, when those who now labor in the Burlington Academy shall have ceased to work and live?

To you, beloved teachers, you who have guarded us with such tender watchcare, and even parental solicitude, what shall we say; how express our feelings, in being called to bid you our last adieu? Placed under your guidance and direction, at that period of life, when the young heart is most wayward and thoughtless; at that period, when its warm impulses need most the restraining influence of some friendly hand, how faithfully have you endeavored to direct those feelings in the right channel; how tenderly, at the same time, that with unwearied diligence you have labored for our intellectual progress, have you endeavored to draw us, by the most gentle admonitions, to the paths of piety and truth. Never, never shall we cease to be thankful that we were placed under your instruction; never, while memory lives, shall we cease to remember, with the liveliest emotions of gratitude, your unwearied exertions for our welfare. And now, as the hour draws near in which we must take our final departure; must leave you, in whom so long we have found kindness and sympathy, when unbosoming, as children, our griefs; whose hands, with unwearied love, have gently administered to our wants in the hour of sickness; who so patiently have borne with our weaknesses and failings; we feel a melancholy dread steal o'er us, lest, when left without your daily counsel, we should not satisfy our parents' fond desires, nor meet our parents' hope.

For many months we have looked forward to this period, as the most solemn of our life—a period, from which, hereafter, we must assume the deep responsibility of acting, in a great measure, for ourselves, upon the instruction here given. For this period you have labored to prepare us, as well as for all other vicissitudes of life, by showing us, that the path of duty is the only safe and happy path. Accept the assurance, dear teachers, that your many and valued precepts shall be most faithfully cherished. And if, on reviewing the past, the remembrance of any unkind or thoughtless word or act presents itself, pardon and forgive; forgive, if at any time we have wounded your feelings, or inflicted one pang of grief.

We leave you, while hang upon our lips fervent and heartfelt prayers, that your most zealous labors in the cause of female education, may be crowned with yet more encouraging success. But, ere we go, we would crave one more favor—that those prayers which have so often ascended with deep and tender earnestness, in a less needful hour, may still go with us; that still you will remember, before the throne of grace, your unworthy

pupils; and though we may not meet again on earth, a sweet hope whispers that we shall meet in heaven.

It is in vain, my dear companions, that I attempt to give utterance to the conflicting feelings of my mind, as thus, for the last time, on the last evening we are all assembled. Thoughts of the happy past we have spent together; the sad, sad present, and the unknown future—all press themselves upon me. And can it be, that we shall never repeat the happy hours spent together? Oh! little did I think so many precious links had been formed in friendship's chain—little did I know how firmly knit my spirit is to school companions—and, as the cold reality forces itself upon me, that the blissful moments here spent in sweet communion with kindred spirits shall never be renewed, how do they seem invested with a new, and hitherto, unknown interest. Together, dear companions, have we struggled with the difficulties which oppose the growth of mind, and foster all its powers; aye, and together have we felt the joy resulting from successful effort. Together have we knelt, and breathed our simple prayers to Him, whose ear attends His youngest children's cry; and together have we often talked of a happy home in heaven. But, ere we reach that goal, where rests the weary soul, many, many changes may come o'er the spirit of our dreams.

Life is a chequered scene. We are young and inexperienced. Pleasure has tones of music; sweet chords of melody for all—but, alas! she smiles only to deceive; false is her voice of flattery; beneath her beautiful exterior lies concealed a deadly fang.

"Trust not to earth, trust not to earth; its very leaves that twine
Their strong roots deep and fast around our being's holiest shrine,
Till earth its clustering boughs of joy in confidence we trust,
And lo! the vengeful lightning bursts—and all is in the dust."

Let us beware how she allures us from the path of piety and rectitude; let us profit by the bitter experience of others; by the daily lessons we have received. May we never swerve from the principles we have here avowed, but humbly endeavor to fix our steady eye upon a purer, holier clime.

Life's silver thread will soon be spun; the halcyon days of youth will soon be past; and though some of us may live till age stamps his deep impress on our brows; yet, how will it increase the happiness of our waning hours, to contemplate a well spent life; and then, though soon or late, ebbs the living tide, all will be well.

Be ours the happy task, to administer consolation to the afflicted; to wipe away the tears of sorrow; and, especially, to diffuse peace and gladness in our several family circles, and thus fulfil our parents' joy. And thus, living and acting, though we meet no more on earth, the journey's short, and soon we'll meet in heaven—crowned with immortal diadems; linked in one bright celestial band; all joining in one heavenly chorus, around Emmanuel's throne. Till then, beloved teachers and dear companions,

"A short farewell,
Until at home we meet!
Oft shall remembrance fondly dwell
On days and scenes, that owned the spell
Of your communion sweet.
So, when on earth we cease to dwell
In pilgrim converse sweet,
We'll need no other parting knell,
Than—'Dearest friends, a short farewell,
Till soon at home we meet.'"

Address to the Calliopean Library Association.

(CONCLUDED.)

THE higher branches of education may be divided into the useful; the ornamental, and the speculative.

By the useful, is understood that which is necessary, in order to qualify us for the peculiar position we may fill in society. In this class may be enumerated, an acquaintance with a language, or languages, other than our own; by which our acquaintance with the vernacular tongue is increased—we are enabled to read the volumes of antiquity, and we become conversant with the philosophy of language, which is of vast importance in forming the mind for thought and study. The study of history fills the