

der to the insatiable thirst of Napoleon for universal supremacy. We can scarcely estimate the real value of that wondrous battle; or conceive of the entire overthrow of empires and destruction of established civilizations that would have followed if that all-important and decisive victory had not changed the whole face of Europe.

At first the turning points of individual life and those of national life appear widely separated, but the intervening distance diminishes before the sturdy steps of inquiry and research.

"Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide,  
In the strife of Truth with Falsehood for the good or evil side."

### ALUMNÆ DAY.

THE last Friday of the Collegiate year known as Alumnæ Day, and devoted exclusively to the interests of the Association, witnessed the usual reunion. The College hall had been tastefully decorated for the occasion with flags and evergreens, and the platform with a profusion of flowers and tropical plants. By 11 a. m., a number of city friends had assembled, to be present at the annual open meeting, and we noticed not a few of our former non-resident graduates who had returned for the Commencement exercises. In addition to the President and Secretary of the Association, there were present on the platform the Rev. Wm. Williams, of Guelph, who had been requested to deliver the annual address, also several of the Board of Directors and of the city ministers—Doctor Burns occupying the chair.

The proceedings were opened with singing and prayer, followed by a piano solo from Miss Rosebrugh. The Chairman made a few introductory remarks in reference to college life, and expressed his pleasure at seeing so many of the old graduates present. The annual report was then read by the Secretary, after which Mrs. T. H. Pratt, with a few graceful words of welcome, congratulated the nine successful candidates at the recent examinations, and admitted them as members. A song given by Miss Evans preceded the introduction of the Rev. W. Williams by the Chairman.

REV. W. W. WILLIAMS said he was about to make his maiden speech before an association of this kind. He wished to greet

most cordially the President and alumnae upon this occasion, and said he would take for his topic "The School of Life." He said: Educating influences were around them from the very earliest period of their history. In infancy the mind was not a mere piece of blank paper waiting to be written upon, but an active and extremely inquisitive agent. Every look of the infant eyes was a question, and the little hands went out on voyages of discovery to every thing within their range. How soon the child discovered the difference between hot and cold. For years, some of them the most important of life, when the mind was most impressible, the educating influences of home were enjoyed, and when the school, properly so called, claimed some hours of almost every day, the former did not cease. And, then, side by side with the home and day schools, were the Sabbath-school and the church, forming character and sanctifying life's aims and enjoyments. Happy they who, from the combined use of all these advantages, built up a pure and hopeful and happy girlhood—fit preparation for a lofty and useful womanhood.

But the time came in many a young life, as it came to them, when the associations of home gave place to those of the distant school, when the separation of a few hours a day was followed by absence for months together. Important as the character of the institution was, their own personal character and purposes were of still greater moment. Those who were faithful to themselves and their opportunities would reap a harvest of thought and feeling incalculably precious. But the time came when they must appear as students in a still grander school. The rev. gentleman here went on to describe the duties to be performed in the great school of life, in which he said there were many options. They could not learn everything that waited to be taught. Whether social standing, intellectual eminence, artistic taste of skill, or the higher nobility of practical industry should call forth their powers it was for them to determine according to their circumstances and tendencies. Woman's power was not that of the lightning flashing and scathing and speaking in thunder, but that of the light, quietly painting the grass and flowers; not that of the hurricane sweeping all before it in its destructive rush, but that of the summer's breeze gently stir-