

presents, to those with whom we mingle.

Expressing the words that rise to our lips in kindness or sympathy, in rebuke or blessing, and we shall often meet with a response that is far beyond our expectations.

Putting not off the time for a more convenient season, expecting not great things, to do or say, but simply yielding to the little that is called for in the present, believing the divine blessing will rest upon every endeavor that is actuated by His love.

Let us not leave the discovery of our better selves to the trying hour when we must part with all of earth, but bear with us, as the days and years of our lives are passing, the consciousness of obeying the injunction of our blessed example, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

S. A. M.

June 28th, 1886.

#### BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS AT SWARTHMORE.

After conferring the degrees upon the graduates at Swarthmore College, on the 15th inst., President Magill said :

My young friends :—In this transitory life of ours there are many eventful periods, but there is scarcely one among them all so fraught with deepest interest as the one in which you find yourselves placed to-day. You have reached the end of one of life's pleasant paths, and are looking wistfully forward to another, and the question with you all this day is, "What shall the other be?" The past and present alone are ours. The future is veiled in mystery, and it is not for me to lift the veil. The exact line which you will follow in the broad field of life before you must be more or less uncertain, but one thing is sure : what you are to do, and to become must depend largely upon what you have made yourselves by your labors here. Although to-morrow is always, in a certain sense, uncertain, it is ever largely born of to-day. There is much less chance in the affairs of this world than all of us, and more especially the young, are liable to suppose. Even the Roman satirist, Juvenal, without the light that Christianity has since shed upon the world, teaches us that if we are wise, we will not suppose that Fortune rules in the affairs of men :

"Nulum numen habes, si sit prudentia; nos te, Nos acimus, fortuna, Deum, coeloque locamus." No ; it is by our own actions, our own wills, our own thoughts, that our lives are chiefly made or marred. We are often too prone to censure others for our failures, and to ascribe our successes to ourselves. In this we are not unlike the soldiers of whom Tacitus speaks when he tell us that they claim their successes

as their own, but ascribe their defeats to their general.

"Prospera omnes sibi vindicant, adversa uni imputantur."

You have just finished the four years of your college course, and I can no longer address you as "students," except as fellow-students with myself in the great school of life. If you have thoroughly learned, as I feel that you have, the real import of all that has been taught you here, I am very sure that you understand that you are no less students because you are leaving to-day the walls of your Alma Mater. That the knowledge acquired by your studies here is of far less value to you than the training which the acquisition of that knowledge implies, and the preparation which it makes for your future education, which must go on through life, and of which you have here laid the foundation, is an important truth by which you can not fail to have been deeply impressed throughout your college course.

The four years just ended will, I trust, ever be remembered, as not only among the happiest, but the most profitable of your lives. Here you have laid the foundation—(may it prove deep and strong) for future success ;—here you have acquired habits of study, of concentration, of overcoming difficulties, of punctuality, and of obedience to law, which will prove to you of more value than any fortune ; here you have formed friendships which will I trust be as lasting as life itself.

As you go forth now to make your own way in the world, let me impress upon you, as effectually as earnest words of exhortation can impress it, that whatever else you are to be, whatever your aims and purposes, you owe it to yourselves, your parents, your Alma Mater, and the world, to be first of all true and noble men and women. Cherish that aspiration first and last, and never sacrifice it for any prospect of gain, or for the securing of what a narrow and short-sighted policy might deem worldly success. You have chosen different paths in the selection of your studies, representing in your class all of the first degrees regularly conferred by this College,—Art, Science and Letters ; and your pursuits in life, for which you have been here preparing, may be as various, but as all roads lead to Rome, let all of these be subservient and contribute to the development of true and noble manhood and womanhood.

You are this day, for the first time, to be enrolled in the list of the Alumni of Swarthmore College. This is a body to which the College must look in the next generation for its greatest encouragement and support, and it is already a body of scholarly men and women, of large and yearly increasing influence, and one in which their Alma Mater justly feels an honorable pride. Swarthmore is not yet rich in worldly endowments, but like