

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS, 1900.

*Rev. Principal, Members of Convocation, Fellow-Students,
Ladies and Gentlemen :*

Past, present, future. These are the words which to-night fill the mental vision of the members of the graduating class of 1900. In the present we stand at the partings of the way, where we turn to take a lingering look over the path by which we have come, and to say farewell, ere with quickened step we hurry forward on the new pathway which is now opening before us. Looking backward, what do we see? College halls, lectures, midnight oil, examinations, receding, vanishing. Farewell all, especially ye latter. But these were all necessary in our training for the work on which we trust it is to be our high privilege to engage. Who ever yet found himself too well equipped for any duty? Where, especially in the work of the Christian ministry is the man who finds his intellectual equipment quite equal to every emergency? When more than at the present time has the need been felt for intellectual vigor, strength and power, in the great battle against evil, strange views of truth, practical infidelity and thorough-going scepticism? These are strong forces in the world to-day and we go forth feeling our weakness. In these halls, however, we have been taught how we may grapple with some of these giant forms, by opposing error with truth. We have been made familiar with their subtleties, so that we may not be taken unawares, and what we value more, as we believe it has been the aim of our professors, we have been taught how we may keep our armour bright; we have been trained to habits of thought and study rather than filled with matters of detail in any department. Matters of detail are important, and we all know that these have had due prominence but these alone are not sufficient. New forms of thought, of belief or unbelief are constantly springing up and