

Young gentlemen of the Corps of Cadets—The memory of General Jackson is precious to you. You know how faithfully, how conscientiously he discharged every duty. You know that he was emphatically a man of God, and that Christian principle impressed every act of his life. You know how he sustained the honor of our arms, when he commanded at Harper's Ferry—how gallantly he repulsed Patterson at Hainesville—the invincible stand he made with his Stonewall Brigade at Manassas. You know the brilliant series of successes and victories which immortalized his Valley campaign—for many of you were under his standard at McDowell, and pursued the discomfited Milroy and Shenek to Franklin. You know his rapid march to the Chicahominy—how he turned the flank of McClellan at Gaines' Mill—his subsequent victory over Pope at Cedar Mountain—the part he bore in the great victory at second Manassas—his investment and capture of Harper's Ferry—his rapid march and great conflict at Sharpsburg—and when his last conflict was passed, the tribute of the magnanimous Lee, who would gladly have suffered in his own person, could he by that sacrifice have saved Gen. Jackson, and to whom alone, under God, he gave the whole glory of the great victory at Chancellorsville. Surely, the Virginia Military Institute has a precious inheritance in the memory of General Jackson.

His work is finished; God gave him to us and his country; He fitted him for his work, and when his work was done, He called him to Himself.

Submission to the will of his Heavenly Father—it may be said of him that while in every heart there may be some murmuring—his will was to do and suffer the will of God.

Reverence the memory of such a man as General Jackson; imitate his virtues, and here, over his lifeless remains, reverently dedicate your services, and your life, if need be, in defence of that cause so dear to his heart—the cause for which he fought and bled, the cause in which he died.

Let the Cadets' battery, which he so long commanded, honor his memory by half-hour guns to-morrow, from sunrise to sunset, under the direction of the Commandant of the Cadets.

Let the flag of the State and Confederacy be hung at half-mast to-morrow.

Let his lecture room be draped in mourning for the period of six months.

Let the Officers and Cadets of the Institute wear the usual badge of mourning for the period of thirty days; and it is respectfully requested that the Alumni of the Institution unite in this tribute of respect to the memory of their late Professor.

All duties will be suspended to-morrow,

By command of Major-General F. H. SMITH,

(Signed)

A. GOVAN HILL, A. A. V. M. I.