

## ADDRESS TO GRADUATING CLASSES.

*Members of the Graduating Classes in Arts and Theology:*

I consider it a privilege once more to speak to you whom I have known so well. Let me, too, congratulate you upon the consummation of this course of study. We look back with you over the years of effort and aspiration. What self-denial in your beloved home to make your success to-night possible! Some of you have made special efforts to gain this end, and what has been done is largely the result of your own struggles; but, for all of you, this graduation means that you have actually done something in the world, one blow has been struck, one victory gained. Let no one undervalue the good work already done. It signifies much when we look back; it means more when we look forward. I congratulate you upon your accomplishment.

I wish to say a few words concerning your mission as educated men and women. We believe that we are in some sense masters of our lives and can fashion them as we choose. We should, however, choose our life-work with due regard to the qualifications which we possess. Every acquisition means proportionate increase of obligation to serve. Your scholastic training makes it necessary for you to do more and choose differently than would otherwise have been required. "The educated man," says Newman Smythe, "is under special obligations to the community. It has been happily said that the scholar has received the people's oil, and it is his duty to return it in light." So you are of the privileged few and are to fashion life with a due sense of its increased obligation. Of course there may not be much difference between you and those whose advantages have been less, but such as it is, it is of vast importance, for it is by just such small differences that the race is led forward, that you will undoubtedly become leaders of men.

While you are called upon to touch life effectively at every point, there are some phases of life which should be especially dear to you. One of these is that, as you have cultivated the reasoning powers during these years, you should be men and women in whom reason rules, reasonable in the best sense. We