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## EDUCATION.

## Address to Young Teachers (1)

to respond to the call, made by your esteemeed and able rector, say a few words of advice to the students leaving Moray

ing College, at their parting soirce, by Dr. Ferguson of the Edinburgh Institution.

House. I do so, not from any sense of my ability to say anything valuable, but from my desire to renew my acquaintance with an institution in which I spent many of the most profitable and valuable years of my educational life. To say anything new, or even unusual, to young men and women who have been ransacking works on method, or or mental or moral training, who have been the special objects of exhaustive lectures on such subjects for the last two years, and who have just risen from a Government examination, well up in all details, is a hopeless task. In fact, I very much fear that if I were to be examined by my audience on these matters, they would have little difficulty in concluding that I had a slender claim to authority in regard to them. Still, I know the students of Moray House from several years' acquaintance with them. It is somewhat over ten years since I left Moray House, and I had then been some years in the Normal Department. I must confess that I never dealt with students who had a keener relish for knowledge, or who were more prepared to sacrifice ease and enjoyment to acquire it. And the subsequent career of many of them has more than borne out the promise they then gave. I have no doubt the qualities of those now before me fully maintain this former reputation, and give as ample promise for the future. I feel, however, a disadvantage on the present occasion, as compared with my former position. I then allowed no one to differ from me; and if a student did not say as I said, or did not prove as I proved, he was cut down fearfully in his examination papers. Now, in the few remarks I make at present, I do not wish to occupy the lofty dogmatical position I then held; I do not now play the lecturer, and no evil consequences, either in respect of examinations or any thing else, can follow those who differ from me. I would only speak conversationally, as I would do to a young friend of my own who was beginning his career as a teacher, being at the same time convinced that his own judgment and experience might be as good as mine. I feel sure that you will be prepared to listen to me in this light.

In the first place, I would congratulate you on your entrance into a really pleasant, useful, and honourable profession. You will have to discharge functions of the utmost value to the community, which to the kindred mind is fraught with many and lasting pleasures. To see the young mind growing under your care, acquiring its marvellous powers under your direction, and