

"The greatest minds are those of whom the noisy world hears least." George Eliot was impressed with the same thought, for she has written:—

"We see human heroism broken into units, this unit is little, might as well not have been. Let us rather raise a monument to the soldiers whose brave hearts only kept the ranks unbroken and met Death. A monument to the faithful who were not famous, and who were precious only as the continuity of sunbeams is precious, though some of them fall into rain and are barrenness. Doubtless life is strewn with shipwrecks, but the function of philosophy is to take all men at their best. Influence moves in waves from continent to continent, from cycle to cycle. A great star sets, but the tiny ray of light which strikes our eye was sent on its lonely journey thousands of years ago. For aught we know that star has long since ceased to be. The light still shines on, so it is with the influence of a few great minds

"O may we join the choir invisible
Of those immortal dead who live again,
In minds made better by their presence: live
in pulses stirred to generosity,
In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn
For miserable aims that end in self,
In thoughts sublime that pierce the night, like stars,
And with their mild persistence urge man's search
To vaster issues."

On the question of the higher education of women public opinion has not hitherto, shown a "sound majority." The few have been in the right, the majority are in the wrong. But the day is coming, the day is not far distant when the few, the "scattered remnant," will be the many, when the higher education of women shall prevail. The environments of woman in the nineteenth century, are such as demand higher education. Amid the progressive developments of the age shall woman be the only clog? Shall the narrow thought and bigotry of preceeding ages be represented by her? If man with his superior intellect, is enabled to pursue his life-work with greater ease and efficiency, why deny woman access to it?

The fact that the higher education of women has not been recognized as it ought, is a stain upon modern civilization, a blot upon the boasted liberality and culture of the age. The home is the chief factor in the community: while all other lines of thought are advancing in this progressive age, the education of women must keep pace. The higher education of women must come, as come it will.

To night we stand upon the verge of another life. What the future holds in store for us we know not. And in looking back, as I trust we shall look back, the old College will be the touchstone of many tender memories. And now to our fellow-students, to you with whom we have toiled side by side, we say "farewell." We thank you for your sympathy and kindness. To your keeping we entrust the honor of the dear old College. May it ever be your first thought. We wish you every success and trust that in days to come you will outshine your predecessors. We thank Mrs. Burns for her kindness, for the thoughtful care and consideration for our welfare which she has ever shewn. We thank the Directors and the kind friends in the city, for the warm welcome accorded the students at their homes. We would especially remember Mr. and Mrs. Sanford, to whose hospitality the students owe so much. Scarce was their home brightened by their presence when their doors were thrown open to us.

To you, Dr. Burns and the members of the faculty, we owe much. When the heart is full words lag behind. When the heart is touched words suggest, they cannot convey that which we would wish to express. But we know that life will be all the fuller, richer and brighter, for having come in touch with your lives. You by your example have shewn us the true worth of life. We have never had anything but sympathy in our work. In leaving the College we would wish you every success, we know your work will be as nobly done for others as it has been done for us. We appreciate the spirit of self-sacrifice displayed in the labors of the past. With deep gratitude we say