

imagined than those of college friendship, formed in these early years, and based upon mutual esteem and confidence, and a perfect knowledge (from daily contact in the class-room) of each others minds and characters. From such friendships life oft times derives the greatest comfort and consolation. It is often true that the value of a college course depends as much upon the associations thus formed as upon the knowledge and mental training there acquired: and this, I believe, has been the experience of the classes who have gone forth as graduates from this college year by year. To you, as you go forth, as to them all, while I would never have you lightly esteem the inestimable value of high scholarship, yet I would most earnestly say, make this always second to conduct and character. You are the fifteenth class graduated from this college, making the number of Swarthmore's graduated Alumni 174. In two days more you will take your places as members of this honorable association. Of this body of 174, seven are now starred upon the list, having, thus early in their career, been call up higher, and one of these seven was called upon our last Commencement Day. I have been recently asked how many of our graduates have turned out well, and upon a careful examination of the list, and following them, as I have, with a deep interest in their varied careers since graduation, I am happy and proud to say to-day that none of them have turned out otherwise. They have, now through almost two decades, fulfilled the earnest wish that has been annually expressed in the familiar form when their diplomas were handed to them upon Commencement Day—" *Utinam cursorus futurus vester semper honorat, et has, et Almam Matrem vestram* "—"May your future career ever reflect honor upon these and upon your Alma Mater."

To-day, when addressing you for the last time as students, it would seem

eminently appropriate to give you some word of counsel as to the new lives opening out before you. Doubtless you have already formed some definite plans for your future, and my first advice to you all with reference to these is to cultivate from the beginning an earnest fixedness of purpose.—"Nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea, driven with the wind and tossed." Be careful to make the choice of your life's work with due deliberation, and in accordance with your circumstances and your character, and when once made, never give it up, nor change it for light and transient causes. You must not expect a great degree of success in the beginning. Whatever your avocation, the highest success in it can come only from long training, the earnest and patient endeavorer. Chance and accident seem to favor some, and forward them rapidly on the high road to fame and fortune. Be not led astray, nor betrayed into false hopes, by the seemingly early success of these. In the end, the highest success comes only to those who are worthy of it, and who are willing to patiently labor for it. Probably your experience has already taught you the truth of the maxim of the President of my own Alma Mater.—Dr. Francis Wayland, more than once repeated in your hearing, that "genius consists in day's works." You know that it is not the quick and brilliant student who is lacking in application, but his slower and surer brother or sister, who toils patiently to the end, that wins the coveted prize. The familiar fable of the hare and the tortoise is being repeated every day.

In the selection of the courses of study which you should follow here, some of you have taken classical and literary studies, others scientific. You have been taught, and you have surely learned from your own experience, that it matters far less what your studies are, in school and college, than how they are pursued, and how they are