

## ADDRESS.

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*Gentlemen, Graduates in Arts :*

The Academic distinctions and honors which have just been bestowed upon you, constitute a fitting and happy termination of your connexion with this University in the capacity of students. For these distinctions you have long, well and earnestly labored. And while I tender to you the warm congratulations of your Professors—may I not say of the assembled University?—on this gratifying termination of the past, I would ask you to afford me a brief and patient hearing, while I proceed to say a few words as to your future. I would ask you, further, to accept the words of advice and admonition I shall offer you on behalf of the Faculty, as best proof of the complete satisfaction with which they have viewed your proficiency, industry and general good conduct,—as best proof that these have begotten in them sentiments of esteem for you, and a warm interest which will not cease with the relations they have hitherto borne to you, but will follow you from these walls to and through every stage of your future careers.

And now that you are about taking the first steps in your respective careers, it becomes my duty to forewarn you, that the Divine Creator has subjected everything in the physical, intellectual and moral worlds, to the dominion of immutable, unerring laws; and in proportion as you are acquainted with these laws, and conform to them, will you be virtuous, prosperous and happy. Endowed, as you are, with conscience and will, this universal prevalence of law invests you with duties and responsibilities infinitely great and important to yourselves and society. One of the first of these duties to which I would now direct your attention is that which refers to the preservation of your bodily health. The progress of civilization seems to have directed its efforts, almost wholly, to the education of man's intellectual capacity, while it has raised countless impediments to the development of his physical powers. Now, this is repeating that sad and fatal mistake against which the sages