

to the applause of the good. In this glorious struggle you must quit yourselves like men; for here are wanted no triflers, no insignificants, but zealous, earnest workers. Here too are wanted not superficiality but thoroughness; not merely the graces, but also the virtues; not hollow punctiliousness, but genial morality; not a torpid lukewarmness, but a lively exercise of every faculty and talent. And wherever duty, wherever honor calls, there must you be, and dare to do all it becomes a man to do, to overcome ignorance and stem the torrent of prevailing immorality. And prevailing misery too; for you must extend your view over all the wide field of practical benevolence, and unite yourselves with that glorious band of both sexes who are habitually engaged in assuaging the pains and alleviating the woes of mankind. Let it be your chief ambition thus to engage yourselves, so that responsive to the words but just now uttered by your representative, when you are called hence, you may leave the world better and happier for your having lived in it. And think not that your success in the battle of life will be viewed either coldly or uninterestedly. Nay, but on you do relatives, instructors, friends and society now turn their anxious eye, all alike desirous to see realized in you their best wishes, their fondest hopes. In your keeping there is placed the happiness of many others. On your behaviour will depend the progress of multitudes who will rise or sink accordingly as you shall adorn or disgrace your generation, accordingly as you shall fulfil or neglect the discharge of the various duties devolving upon you as conservators of those great moral and social privileges which must be transferred to your keeping when your predecessors have finished their allotted task, and their sand is run. You may thus be blessed as the benefactors, or become execrated as the enemies of humanity. It is given you to choose. But when mortal and immortal powers are interested in your choice; when the great Searcher of all is watching you from Heaven his dwelling-place, and when those you respect and love best on earth are regarding you with earnest expectation and awful suspense, can I doubt what will be your choice? No. It will be that which constitutes the whole duty of man, "TO FEAR GOD AND OBSERVE ALL HIS LAWS."