

gret to say that among the latter class you will find many men of this government who air themselves very proudly upon the floor of the lower house of Congress at each annual occurrence but we have only to look to actual instances to the great results that spring from these institutions. Follow up as the Honorable Superintendent has informed me today. Follow them into the various industrial walks of life, and there the record talks for itself. We find them in the army, we find them in the navy, we find them in mechanical and in clerical positions. We find them in the professions, in law and in medicine. I have found them distinguished representatives of the people in the Congress of the United States. I recall one of your own blood, the Honorable Charles W. Curtiss, of the State of Kansas, who is an interesting character, has a bright mind, and a magnificent structure of humanity, and there he stands, proud of the Indian blood which courses through his veins, and with me go through many instances of history. Boys, you are being fitted for self government, and this government and these people who surround you and all of us should encourage you in the efforts you are now making. In studying the principles of self-government aim to study these results and remember it is history, that those who climbed the highest began the lowest. Let that incite you and stimulate you onward.

Look among the white race; look at Andrew Jackson; at poor Henry Clay, called the mill boy of the slashes; at Abraham Lincoln, the rail splitter; at Edison, the great electrician and scientist, and at the philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie. Look at them all. It is the history of this country that those who climbed the highest began the lowest.

You may ask what chances there are for a boy in 1903. I answer, far better than for a boy of 50 years ago. Competition is close, but yet at the same time opportunities are vastly greater today than 50 years ago. If you do not have the capacity, opportunity will be of little value. Birth and ancestral honor do not count, unless there shall be the merit, the virtue, the capacity. for in this age of industrial progress, this age of rapid transition, it is capacity that counts; honor and capacity. If we seek for those who are to control the destiny of the 20th century, we will not find

them in the club room or in palaces—we will find them on the farm and in the work-shops, we will find them in the various manual employments, we will find them to be boys in jumpers and overalls. Let me say to you again as another advice, exercise self-control. Nothing so fits the man as to be the controller of himself.

Remember the teachings of Alexander, the Great, how he conquered and controlled the world, yet he could not conquer and control himself and he died the victim of his own weakness and conceit. Again let me suggest to you that whatever is worth doing is worth doing well. Remember this in all your thoughts, that what you undertake to do, do it well, for the world, as I said before, counts upon your capacity and in such you will either rise or fall. The world to-day pays more for accuracy than for inaccuracy, it pays more for the man who is correct than for the man who is liable to error.

Be contented in the beginning with the industrial operations in which you are so practically fitted in this magnificent institution here. There is where your lives will be best, and there is where your fortunes will be the better guaranteed.

Again, I advise you, use plain words in the expression of your thoughts. Language is merely the instrument for expression. The Anglo-Saxon tongue is rich. The Anglo-Saxon tongue abounds in ample latitude for the finding of useful words. Use plain word to express your thoughts. Therefore, do not imitate the high sounding and incomprehensible phrases, but content yourself with expressing in plain language which we find used in the community about us.

Now pupils, a few moments more. Love your country and its flag, study its constitution and its history, learn something of the terrible ordeal through which this union went from baptism to a splendid career of glory and prosperity and wealth.

And now in conclusion, permit me to say I feel honored in having taken this humble part and in being present to day. I say to you, boys and girls, look forward with hopefulness. You have for behind you a great and generous government that will assist you through these crucial tests until you go forth and fly with your own wings and in the end may you be able to say, we have had a fair chance and a fair play in the race of life.