

try, blacksmithing, etc., and what they expect to do with their trades when they have mastered them; the girls of what has been taught them in such arts as sewing and cooking. One year at Tuskegee a girl talked about butter making, showing the actual work of skimming, churning, etc.

The school officials at Hampton are very particular about the dress of the students, though only plain materials are used. Frequently a class will select a special color. One year the girls wore a tan shirtwaist cotton suit; another year they had blue and white striped print, always neatly made by themselves.

The office deems it essential to the best interests of the Indian School Service that the annual commencement exercises shall be of a practical rather than a mere rhetorical character, and we hope you will take the matter up in arranging the program for your next commencement.

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### For Our Boys

Lord Melbourne said: "Young men should never hear any other language than this: 'You have your own way to make, and it depends upon your own exertions whether you succeed or fail.'" Any observer knows, that the boy who has his life planned for him, and the rough places made smooth without any exertion on his part, is apt to be indolent, discontented and incompetent. This is the kind of boy, when fortune fails him, who takes up the idea that the world owes him a living, and waits for his supposed inheritance. There are times, in the life of both boys and men, when they think if they had the chance they could do great things. The way to have the chance is to make it. Oppor-

tunity does not come to us heralded by trumpet and drum, and greatness is seldom thrust upon us though men have achieved success through influential friends, or by the pushing of great talents; but the majority achieve it by a combination of poverty, ambition, hard work and determination.

The hard road is the sure road, and strength of mind, as of muscle, is only to be had by persistent exercise and steady training. The true meaning of success is not accumulate wealth, or gain the applause of the multitude—the majority of whom shout only because they hear the shouting of others. A truly great man wishes to stand pre-eminent for something higher and better than money or notoriety. One to be really successful in the higher meaning of the word, must be a hard, earnest worker, and must expect to take the knocks and buffetings he is sure to get from meaner, envious spirits. Modest merit is not necessarily overlooked, but merit, to be recognized and hence to gain the reward it deserves must exert itself to find it; it must not fall through inactivity, neglect of opportunity or untrained abilities. It must not hold back to be sought, but should "let its light shine," and hold itself ready at all times to make the most of whatever advancement comes in its way. Forward and impudent men are not preferred above retiring merit, but it often happens that men of inferior abilities are prompt and active in grasping opportunities, where superior merit holds itself in the back ground. "A barking dog is often more useful than a sleeping lion," and his presence is surely better known.—Ex.

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