

## Hon. Grover Cleveland

On October fifteenth, ex-President Cleveland delivered a short address before the students, as follows :

*Ladies and Gentlemen :*

Many incidents have occurred since I have been in this city to make me feel at home; but, somehow, I think that the most emphatic were the noises I heard when I entered this hall. Such noises are very familiar to me, living in a university town, and I never get tired of hearing them. Of course, my surroundings at home are such and my associations with other men closely connected with college work, that I have something to do with the management of a university, which we call great, and I must not be disloyal, nor will I be. I am a great stickler for higher education—the best that can be acquired; but I cannot refrain from telling you one thing—I don't believe that anything appeals so strongly to me as the opportunities now being offered in our country, here and there, for our young men to get a practical and industrial education.

I have said that I believe I would rather my boy would grow up to be competent to build and plan a bridge like the Brooklyn bridge than to see him in any place of honor that his fellow citizens could bestow upon him. There is to me something admirable in these things, perhaps, because they are incomprehensible to me. I never could understand how they could be done; but when I come to an institution like this, and see the eager faces of those who have come to master the technical problems, I think I have a glimmering idea of how it is done, and at this time, when every indication points to industrial and commercial advancement, what a wide door is open for our young men. I hate to hear a man talk with reference to the chances for young men, and say that the times are past when a man can get on in life. They are not gone. There is always room, and always will be room on top, and those who fit themselves for the places will always find them.

Now, then, its a very old story, I suppose for you to be told how important it is to take advantage of all opportunities for study, etc., that are set before you, and the regret and remorse you will suffer, if you neglect these opportunities. I want to repeat these things in closing, and my concluding words are these: Let me enjoin upon you the importance of these words, and let them be given emphasis from coming from a man who knows.