

Valedictory.

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NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINE tute of a sense of sadness. The soldier, worn and weary, his clothes tattered and torn, about to be discharged after a long campaign, although EDITH LONG STEVENSON loved ones, with a swelling heart bids adieu to his brave leader, and wipes a tear from his eye as he grasps the hand of comrades, who have stood by his side in many a hard fought battle.

So it is with us, as we say farewell to teachers, and companions, although we may look forward with joyous expectations to the life upon which we are entering, though we may have before us the most attractive ideals, yet it is with sadness that we realize that we meet for the last time as a class in the old school.

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There are few partings in life wholly destitute of a sense of sadness. The soldier, worn and weary, his clothes tattered and torn, about to be discharged after a long campaign, although expecting to return to his home and his loved ones, with a swelling heart bids adieu to his brave leader, and wipes a tear from his eye as he grasps the hand of comrades, who have stood by his side in many a hard fought battle.

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At the moment of leaving we begin fully to appreciate the privileges that we are to lose. We leave this institution and go forth into the world to mingle with its busy scenes. No more appropriate motto could be adopted by us than that contained in these words,

"We live in deeds, not years;

He most lives who thinks most,

Feels the noblest, acts the best."

Let us do our best in the life that is before us, remembering that "In ourselves our fortune lies, Life is what we make it."

When we take off school armor we often put on that which is made of rougher material and is much heavier for us to bear. We rejoice that our school days have ^{been} passed under such favorable circumstances. When we compare the advantages of a century ago with those of the present time, we realize the progress of the wheel of civilization. May it ever roll onward and with its mighty revolutions bear forward the Youth of our country.

And now, esteemed teachers, as we say farewell, allow us to extend to you our sincere thanks for the kindness which you have manifested in our behalf. You have patiently borne with us and endeavored to inspire us with an interest in our various studies, and with a desire to attain a higher standard

of scholarship. To whom does a pupil owe a deeper debt of gratitude than to the teacher who has guided him step by step in the path of learning, and prepared him to meet the responsibilities and discharge the duties which await him in life? We can never repay you for your kindness, but we will endeavor to attest our gratitude by remembering what you have taught us and by putting into practice the lessons we have learned.

You, our principal, have led us faithfully through the High School course, and we do not wish to stop our research for knowledge; for you have prepared our minds for receiving instruction in the branches of a more advanced course and we wish to show our gratitude to you by advancing higher in the educational world. Farewell.

Now dear school-mates, as we part today, accept our best wishes for your future welfare. May you emulate the good deeds of the class of 1909 and avoid all their mistakes.

Dear Classmates, no friends in life prove so faithful as the friends of youth. What wonder then that we part with sadness. It is a source of gratification to us that the years of our association have been so pleasantly spent and that harmony and good-will have marked their course. Though soon to pass beyond these walls, let us hope that the cordial and friendly ties which have united us here will not be broken.

Where we may be another year we know not. A great world and a greater future stretch out before us, but where ever we may be, let us strive to be doing something good, something useful.

To you, kind friends, who have encouraged us by your presence, we extend our thanks. May you live long and have health and happiness, and may this institution grow under your favor into larger proportions and greater usefulness.

And now, to all,—the trees, the desks, the benches, and the old bell, whose notes, in season and out of season, have urged their claims upon us—to all, we bid an affectionate farewell.

With best wishes for all, permit us again to speak the parting word -- farewell.