

the balmy gulf breezes laden with sweet perfume, from the honey--suckle and hyacinth, and a vision of intoxicated delight breaks upon us. We imagine the misty veil which hides us from the future to be lifted, revealing a beautiful picture of wonderful prosperity and satisfied ambition.

In this fanciful moment we will not forget the many pitfalls and rocky heights and uncertain paths to be passed before we reach the top and look into the vale below, and too, will not forget public opinion is watching with a cynical eye our actions and divining our thoughts and motives. In the language of one of our American poets, we are boys today, boys tomorrow, and boys as long as life shall bring to us the memory of the class of 1896. A band in which the interest and prosperity of each individual will be the common property of all. Though the golden cords are broken today which have bound us for years in sweet companionship, they will be replaced by memories chain, the links of which are to be vivid recollections of victories and defeats in the conquest of true enlightenment at the A. and M. college. As we step out upon life's thorough-fare, experience will teach us that the high road of our welfare leads along the old highway of well doing, and that every honestly attained success treads on the heels of right effort. Today the recall is sounded and we part, some of us never to meet again, until the last tattoo shall sound. May it then be, comrades, classmates, to rally for still higher conquests, where he leads who is the embodiment and final end of all noble ends and legitimate ambitions.

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### Response to the Valedictory.

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BY BEN F. BRYAN.

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Members of the Graduating Class, Ladies and Gentlemen:

As one to whom my beloved class has left so great a charge, I feel overjoyed in this humble attempt to pour out