THE BATTALION.

the past and those men who are shaping the destiny of the world today, are the men who used and are using their present.

Those collossal figures that stand out in bold relief against the back ground of time are not the result of chance. Those masters of war whose magnificent deeds excite our praises and admiration, yea, even close our eyes to the enormity of their blushing crimes, are the men who use their present.

Those men who have extended art, developed statecraft, encouraged science, and who have perpetuated religion, are the men who have wrested from the grasp of time in its flight the brightest jewels of history.

Those men who, today, are blending classics with agriculture and mechanics, are the men who are founding a dynasty "that will outshine in splendor the glittering cenotaph, and who will enjoy the lasting gratitude of a great and enlightened people.

Our past history is most glorious and there can be no lack of interest in the splendid achievements of our fathers. Shall their blood, the best strain that ever uplifted human endeavor, that ran like water at duty's call and never stained where it touched—shall this blood that pours into our veins through a century luminous with achievements, ever falter or fail to maintain a heritage in manliness and courage better than riches, or broad and fertile acres ?

This courage and manliness must be employed in accomj lishing a great work, if very different from the achievements of our fathers.

It is the commerce of a country that enriches its people and gives force and character to its morals and intelligence. When obstructions to cheap transportation are removed from Southern commerce, we may hope for a land of wealth in a land of flowers, and most perfect union between all sections. When the richly laden argosies of Asia and the Orient and the ever shifting commerce of India may, unobstructed, find