



MEMORIAL SERVICES.

Held January 16, 1898.

President Ross as an Educator.

BY DR. BITTLE.

In the eloquent tributes to the memory of Gen. Ross to which the press, various organizations, and the individual have given utterances, one point has been to a degree left unemphasized. This occasion demands its especial notice, and in the name of the Faculty of the 'Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, I honor General Ross as an educator, cognizant of the seeming anomaly in the association of terms. History will record, has already recorded, his career as a soldier, legislator, and statesman; I venture the assertion that his greatest work—or I should rather say, the work in which he proved himself greatest, was that in which he gave vent to his personality—if I may be allowed the expression—in the training of men. Understand me, it is not necessary that one have the title of "Dominie," "Doctor," or "Professor," to be an educator of men. It is not necessary that he use any of the paraphernalia of the school or lecture room, or that he subscribe to any text-book or that he have adopted any Socratic, Pestalozzian, Froebelian or other form of pedagogics, in order to be a teacher, and a successful teacher.

In the good old days of a broad and thorough scholarship, not gauged by any mercenary ends, men boasted, not that they had taken degrees at such and such great schools, but that they had been pupils of this or that great teacher. Now, with our systems and methods and grade differentia-