

tions, our bewildering machinery of wheel within wheel, we too often turn out degree men who are graduates in every thing but that higher manhood, that sane mind in a healthy body, which is certainly no less unnecessary now than formerly. Similarly here,—whilst we, the teachers in name, have been hammering away as best we know our duty, these boys have learned more from him who had no class-room, no books, no charts, no apparatus, no laboratory, than from all of us. In saying this I am disparaging none of my efficient and faithful colleagues. We have been the instructors, President Ross, with his winning affability, his accessibility to the humblest, his unique knowledge of men, his contempt for meanness and ready word of encouragement for noble though rude and plodding effort, his chivalrous regard for truth and virtue in others, his pure lips from which none of us ever heard an oath—President Ross has been the educator. We have impressed upon these young men truths with more or less success as those truths came to us through a more or less misty scientific atmosphere, we have experimented before them in things which will ever be more or less abstruse; he, on the contrary, brought with him to the Institution some eight years ago a maturity of greatness achieved in departments which to the young mind are fields of romance, and he has proven himself every whit the hero before them in his administration of their affairs. I mean that the chivalrous defender of southern rights and southern honor, of whom these youth had read in history and heard in forensic debate, lost for them none of his laurels as he stood before them in propria persona. I mean that the personality of such men as Ross and Gordon and Lee is to our young men a constant denial of the assertion that a great cause such as theirs was ever “lost”: I mean that such men make others like them by contact; that growing, ambitious, developing youth conceive nobler ideals and formulate more dignified life-plans by association with those who, like President Ross, possessed