

LITERARY.

An Oration.

SPILLER.

TIME in his matchless flight goes on; years come and go. Men spring into the arena of action, last but a short time, then fade away; some to sink into oblivion, others to leave names upon history's pages that years of trial and tumult cannot efface. Each year, as it rolls by, sees some of the men at the head of affairs pass away, and soon they must one by one answer that summons "which no man can shun." Then upon us, the young men and boys of today, will fall the responsibility of the government. Oh, what a responsibility rests upon us! Shall we be equal to the task? is the question which presents itself to us. If we would we must now prepare ourselves. We must now lay the foundations upon which to build our character. Let these foundations be deep and firm, for character is the chief essential of success. We are influenced in this work to a certain extent by our surroundings.

The great trouble with the world today is to show, as has been said, "the desire to 'seem' rather than to 'be,' is the great crime which this age, as well as all other ages, must deplore." We are too apt to judge a person by what he seems to be rather than by what he really is. There are people in our country today who are worthless to our notion; they parade before the world as great beings, and in show and surface they seem such; but when robbed of their silken