

# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1903.

EDUCATION AND THE WORLD'S WORK OF  
TO-DAY.\*

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It is a time-honored custom in connection with the commencement exercises of our American colleges to read an address, for the benefit especially of those who are about to pass from the limited duties and responsibilities of studentship to the wider duties and responsibilities of citizenship. An opportunity is thus afforded for some last words of friendly counsel, and for a review of those ancient academic ideals which, while they have animated generation after generation of our predecessors, have survived them all, and are still a source of inspiration to our contemporaries. But appropriate as this sort of baccalaureate address may have been in the past, it now appears to be somewhat too scholastic for the happy day which marks the end of a college course of study and the joyful entrance of the graduates into the activities of professional and business life. Moreover, a just appreciation of good advice and a generous susceptibility to lofty ideals require a degree of physical comfort and a degree of mental repose rarely attainable in the heat of our average summer day. The solemn lessons of antiquity are losing their force, also, by reason of iteration and reiteration from the commencement plat-

\* Commencement address read at Rose Polytechnic Institute, June 11, 1903.