

W. K. CARR,
REAL ESTATE,
1008 F STREET N. W.

Washington, D. C., June 9 1892

Dear Father:

I enclose you a few notes today, which I trust you may be able to use. But, however I doubt it, since a man can scarcely say anything, till he first knows what to say, & that was exactly my position in this case. I did not know whether the school was male or female, white or black, the age of students, whether they wanted a dissertation on mountains or plains, third party or Democratic party, or whether indeed it would be wise to refer to anything without the proper modification & qualification. But the article is so nebulous that you will be able to read parts of it at least anywhere but at the Romish ceremony of the Mass,

When Post this morning says that Col. Peck
is dying, I am glad that I wrote him
a nice letter several days ago, & asked
permission to call on him, though he
was too ill to answer it himself, his
Secy, at his dictation, wrote a nice
reply, in a most friendly tone, which
I assume you I very much appreciated.

Will give you the information asked
for in your postal of yesterday, just
as soon as I can get hold of it.
Wood is looking after that for me.
Excuse haste. Am very busy today

Yrs
H. M.

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I am in no sense of the word a public man. I have never aspired to political honors, and hence, have never been trained in the school of public speaking. Therefore the few observations I am about to make are to be regarded merely as words of friendly admonition, and not as an attempt even at an address. For some of you at least, today may be truly regarded as an epoch in your lives; for you are to lay aside your books, & the guidance of your teachers, who I am sure have tried to instil in your minds a proper appreciation of those truths without which there can be no true worth in the rising generation. You have no doubt felt at times that your

duties here have been onerous, & like most of us in all the walks of life, you have had your little ups & downs, but the dawning of the most serious day of life is just now with you, for you are to lay aside these college duties, & assume those consequent upon the enjoyment of the rights of citizenship, the going out, unattended & unaided, as it were, in the great world, & the effort not only to benefit yourself, but to elevate your fellow man, How can this best be accomplished?

You all know that it is an easy matter to give advice, indeed that a willingness to do so under any & all circumstances, characterizes the vast majority of us, & though such action is not always followed by good results, yet if we ceased to admonish because of this, we should prove recreant to

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our duty, & dire would be the consequences. So in this, Primarily, then since you are about to go out in the great world to carve your fortune, let your first act, be it public or private, be prompted by the purest motive, show your manhood here in the very first instance,

Let the first step be right, above reproach, & it will not be so difficult then to shape the course of your after life. But I shall not dwell longer upon the duties which one owes to himself & to his fellow man, since in this respect, I am sure you have been well instructed by your Christian mothers & tutors, but, with your permission, I shall have a

word to say concerning a duty, not a
whit less important, & that is one's
duty to society at large, which he
must neglect, if he fails to identify
himself with some system of good
government, the primary object of
which is the protection of society.
It is too often asserted by men other-
wise above reproach, that they have
no time for politics, which is tanta-
mount to declaring that they have no
time in which they may look after
their own welfare; that the reign of
ignorance, of brute force over intel-
ligence, of corruption, of venality
in every form & walk of life, &
finally, red handed anarchy itself
are features that can enter into
government without occasioning any
cause for alarm, Deuced beings!
The result of this shirking of

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political responsibility, attracts us on all sides; we feel it seriously in every fibre of our great social fabric. What branch of industry is not affected? What more looking towards the alleviation of the suffering of the toiling masses is not crushed, because as tis asserted, it is subversive of our constitution? We have waked barely in time to amend the results of our long time lethargy. Though there have been exceptions, yet the rule is that the best men of the country have eliminated every thing political from their lives, & have entrusted the constitution - that hard

fought for instrument of our liberties - to the keeping of those who have fearfully abused it in their efforts to centralize power & accumulate wealth. There is but one way out of the darkness, but one key to the situation, and young gentlemen you hold that. Put your shoulder to the wheel with a hearty good will, let every man lead the life of a politician, but withal a pure one, and that condition for which our fathers so freely gave their hearts blood - liberty to all, favoritism to none - shall once more become the motto of our Republic.

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