

OLD PRINCIPLES UPHELD

President Taylor's Baccalaureate Talk at Vassar College Arouses General Comment in Poughkeepsie.

TOO MUCH SENSATIONALISM

A Protest Against the Extreme Radical Tendencies of the Times—Privacy, Honor, and Truth Sacrificed to a Love for Notoriety.

POUGHKEEPSIE, June 7. — President Taylor's baccalaureate address at Vassar College yesterday is being generally commented upon here to-day. In the condensed report sent out yesterday several strong points were omitted. Following is the important part of his talk to the students:

"Our age calls for restraint rather than revolution. Many of the old principles that in former times made our lives sound and healthful are in danger of being lost sight of to-day. Nothing is so holy and sacred that it has not been criticised and questioned within the past twenty years. The cry has been, 'Away with the old' in politics, society, and religion.

"Our age, in virtue of its very nature, calls for a protest against the extreme radical tendencies of the times. There should not be less broad education; that is, in the direction of liberal conservatism. A sound education should develop the historic sense. Things can be understood only in their growth. You cannot interpret an animal to-day on the theory of an absolute fixity of type. Nobody supposes that the Constitution of the United States was struck out at a few sittings of the convention. We hear constantly in these times that the country is in danger if one party does not win; as if it were likely that one-half of the people would ever commit themselves to a ruinous doctrine.

"The conservative spirit is particularly needed by the young men and women of our colleges. We cannot look at the world, nature, and revelation as we used to. It is impossible after the investigations of philosophy, history, and science to consider these matters as men did a century ago. But because our attitude is changed we must not consider the old of no account. Young people are apt to think that they know all about the past; but the reaction comes. People find that there is truth in the past. We are bound to hold to the old until we can safely approach the new.

"Another tendency of our times illustrates the danger of rushing after the new—the tendency of sensationalism, with its general product of vulgarity. What is it that the gourmand seeks when he wants a new sensation? The instant tickling of his palate, a new gustatory excitement. In turning from the physical world to the world of art, we see the demoralizing effect of sensationalism. A new sensation, excitement for its own sake, is always ruinous, sapping the moral life. The pulpit and the press have both ministered to this demand of rousing popular emotion. Private life has almost ceased to be. Influenced by the fear of the reporter or the love of notoriety, men have opened the secrets of their homes, their social entertainments and aspirations to the world. Where are privacy, honor, and truth in the face of this ministering to sensationalism?

"We see this tendency in literature. Years ago, some of us can remember, when novels were considered rather undesirable reading. What a change has come over our times! We see books now on library tables, open to the children, that our fathers, to their honor be it spoken, would not have read. The literature of passion and sensualism cannot be read without corruption, if not of action, of the mind.

"Is what we call the American home decaying? Some people say that flats, hotel life, clubs, especially in the large cities, are destroying our homes. If the American home falls, the whole American fabric, social and political, will fall."

To the graduating class Dr. Taylor said among other things: "You will find temptations to low ideals in social life and in personal life, tendencies to publicity and to notoriety, false ideas of a new womanhood. Keep the trust of high endeavor, of faith in human nature, of a noble purpose, of a simple, pure, and honorable life, and may God be with you."

All the students at Vassar except the members of the graduating class left for their homes to-day for the Summer vacation. The city is filled with strangers who came to attend the commencement exercises, which began with a concert at the college to-night.

RAID AT CONEY ISLAND.

**Proprietor of a Resort Arrested, and
an Alleged Attempt to Break
Jail Follows.**

The Hotel Fenate on the Kensington Walk on Coney Island was raided by the police last evening and the proprietor, Frederick Mana, was arrested for maintaining a gambling house. The police claim that Harris A. Bryant of Hartford, Conn., and others have been robbed in the place within the past few weeks. They also claim that it is the headquarters for a gang of confidence men, who "work" Coney Island, Brooklyn, and New York City.

Yesterday afternoon Henry Geafke, a Swede, who said that he lived on Hester Street, this city, met a man in Battery Park, who induced him to go to Coney Island with him. There Geafke was robbed of \$300. He had the stranger arrested. He gave his name as George Crawford, and later he, Mana, and others were discovered trying to break out of jail. It is said that they were being aided by a gang outside.