

SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 1902.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT BUTLER, OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

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FOR these kindly and generous greetings I am profoundly grateful. To make adequate response to them is beyond my power. The words that have been spoken humble as well as inspire. They express a confidence and hopefulness which it will tax human capacity to the utmost to justify, while they picture a possible future for this University which fires the imagination and stirs the soul. We may truthfully say of Columbia, as Daniel Webster said of Massachusetts, that her past, at least, is secure; and we look into the future with high hope and happy augury.

To-day it would be pleasant to dwell upon the labors and the service of the splendid body of men and women, the University's teaching scholars, in whose keeping the honor and the glory of Columbia rest. Their learning, their devotion, and their skill call gratitude to the heart and words of praise to the lips. It would be pleasant, too, to think aloud of the procession of men which has gone out from Columbia's doors for well-nigh a century and a half to serve God and the State; and of those younger ones who are even now lighting the lamps of their lives at the altar-fires of eternal youth. Equally pleasant would it be to pause to tell those who