

# WOODWARD ANNUAL.

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## EULOGY ON DR. JOSEPH RAY.

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*Delivered by Milton A. Dalton, at his graduation from  
Woodward High School, June, 1855.*

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When the troubled sea in agitation rocks beneath our feet—when the angry waves buries our little bark beneath its furious stroke—when the storm-riven clouds lowers its dismal mass about, and wraps us in its mantle of black, we spring to action—every fibre of the system *must* vibrate for our safety, every step *must* be exact, every movement *must* be Herculean. And so it is in life. Many of the great men of the past were forced by circumstances to win the honors which now adorn their names. Such, however, is not the case with the man whose name I come to commemorate. Christianity was not sinking into oblivion; science was not on the decline; education was not perishing for the want of advocates; but beneath a serene sky, and upon a smooth, unruffled sea, he became, without ambition, without pride, without contention, a nation's benefactor. From childhood on through life, down to his untimely death, there is no act which can not be admired, no step which did not tend to some great end, no point of character which did not bear upon his face the evident tokens of that firm, studious and dignified man.

Originally, his youth bore no indication of uncommon vigor of mind; no superior natural talent won flowery paths and admiring hearts to aid and cheer him on his way; no wealthy