

class. At 2 PM on Tuesday we have the Class exercises. These consist of orations poems valedictory etc from members of the class. The faculty have nothing to do with these as it is given entirely by the class. The graduating exercises proper come on Wed—at 10 AM. In these exercises 10 theses are read and the members of the class receive their diplomas. If you can come Monday evening at 5 PM and stay in Ames till the next morning and then stay at college all day and then stay in Ames Tuesday night and go back home Wed evening on the passenger I think that would be as good an arrangement as could be made. If you can not come to stay any length of time you had better come so as to be here Tuesday anyway. I would like to have Ma Hattie and the girls come Monday if possible. If you can let me know right away how many rooms you will want and on what nights I will secure them. But I ought to know as soon as possible. I have one more examination and then I will be done except learning my valedictory.⁹ Let me hear from you soon. Love to All.

Your Affectionate Son

Geo.

P.S. I sent an invitation to Mrs Rice. You can tell Mr Rice it was meant for him too.

I would like Floy's address as I would like to send her an invitation.

⁹ George's valedictory address was regarded as one of the high points of the class day exercises by the student paper. At commencement, as an honor student, he gave a summary of his graduation thesis on "High Speed Engines." *Aurora*, Commencement Number, Nov. 1887.

Massena

The new town of Massena, 14 miles west of here is being boomed right along, and thus far is ahead [of] Cumberland, the terminus of the road. There are now eight buildings erected and in process of erection. Prominent among these is the business house being put up by our fellow townsman B. A. Green, who will start a lumber yard at that place. In addition to Mr. Green's office, Charlie Baker will put a stock of groceries in the same building and Bailey & Fox will have their land office there also . . . *Fontanelle Observer*, January 15, 1885.

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