

Fatherland, enthusiastic in a rational way over national attainments and national institutions, and perhaps more than rationally confident of the future growth, and the absolute supremacy of *Das Deutsche Reich*.

What has been said of the outer life is true also of the inner or intellectual life. The American student excels in clever analysis and rapid intuition. The Englishman follows a blunt, realistic, common sense, straight-ahead plan, arrives without unnecessary struggle at his conclusions, and holds them tenaciously. The German, in his mental methods, differs widely from each of these. There is with him a steady, evenly-balanced, unbiassed, determined seeking after truth. It is natural to the German to love truth and to seek wisdom. He loves and seeks in an unselfish spirit, keeping his mind in equipoise until he has followed his subject to its conclusion, and then forming his argument in accordance with the principles of reason and sound judgment.

So the German student in Germany is a thorough-going German. But he is also, and always, and essentially a *student*. The proportion of idlers to workers is smaller than in any other country. In the Gymnasium, which corresponds to our College, the pupils are compelled to work. When the nine years rigorous discipline of the Gymnasium has been passed, and the University, with its elective courses, lack of surveillance, and absence of recitation-system, is entered, some slothful spirits make their appearance. These, however, usually withdraw from the ranks at the close of the first semester, or, after taking a vacation from study for a term or two, yield to the habit learned in the preceding nine years, and return to their books.

This preparatory discipline is an interesting feature of German student life, and is largely responsible for the fact that Germany has now the intellectual supremacy amongst the nations. The youth must pass through the various grades of the elementary school, usually through the several grades of the *vorschule*, always through the six grades of the gymnasium, and finally through the ordeal of a searching examination, before he can be admitted in regular standing at the University. Promotion from grade to grade in any of these schools is only possible to faithful students, for entrance on each higher grade is immutably conditioned on the performance of satisfactory work in the grades below it. Nor may a student enter an advanced grade as a result of private study. Regular school attendance is compulsory; neither the rich nor the the poor are exempted. A boy may be permitted to study under a special tutor, but he must be a tutor approved by the State. As a result of the compulsory system there are five times as many public school students in Prussia alone as there are in England, and the German people as a whole are becoming more and more emphatically an educated and educative force.