

College can produce or order this kind of personality or guarantee the possession of these gifts by her diploma; but yet the College may contribute to furnish forth such men, and in so far as she does this she is rendering her best service to the Church.

There is yet another way in which, apart from the work of the classroom, the College may influence and, in turn, be influenced by the student. There is a tone, a character about a College, a certain subtle, indescribable something that marks it off from other Colleges, not so much by way of teaching as by the general spirit that pervades it. In this respect a College is like a home-circle; it has an individuality of its own. There is a character, a tone, perceptible in households, distinguishing one from another. The home life may be specially marked by some one color, dominated by some one factor, it may be by fashion and gaiety, or by getting and spending money, or by love of literature and art, or by devotion to works of Church and charity; but, while the inmates may differ widely, there is a certain life or tone that expresses the aggregate life of the home,—a life to which all the members contribute and by which each of them is affected.

There is often, too, a character or tone distinctive of a congregation, so that one is marked off from another by prevailing features as real if not as manifest as the Church walls. One is pre-eminently sociable, another is distinctively missionary; one is hopeful and generous, another is timid and half-hearted: one is loyal to the general interests of the Church, another is shrivelled and self-contained. The congregation, like the family, has its characteristic life and tone.

So has a College its own distinctive character, we might almost say its own personality. It may be difficult to define it, and yet we cannot fail to be affected by it. We may recognize in it some prominent feature, it may be intellectual activity, or satisfied orthodoxy, or missionary fervour, or zeal for practical training; but it combines various elements, and is the product of various factors. Indeed, the pervading tone or life of the College seems to be the joint product of all connected with it, past and present; it is the outcome of a combination of its past traditions and the influence of the professors and the prevailing type of student character; the product most of all, perhaps, of the students.

We have seen what is called a composite photograph, in which, by some subtle process, a number of photographs have been so blended into one, that the aggregate, or perhaps I should rather say the average, of a group of men, such as the members of a Government, is represented by one face, having certain traits of each and yet combining all. Naturally, in such a case, the composite photograph is largely affected by the features of him who is the dominant spirit of the group. So, in what we speak of as the tone or spirit of a College; it is a composite product; all connected with the College contribute to make its life and spirit what they are. And yet, as you try to analyse it, you may be able to trace the origin of some of its characteristics. In our own College, for instance, does not any intellectual activity that prevails there still