

lastic training will always outshine even genius in an examination. Well, but I address those whose chance of scholastic training is gone. What they are likely to get of it, they have had. But they must not sit down therefore in despair. Culture they must have. And I purpose to show this evening, that the very best culture they may have; for after all there is no education, which for its best and highest results, is equal to self education. I say its best and highest results. I here waive of course the question of examinations for appointments, and speak of that mental culture which does not merely supply literary adroitness, and argumentative skill, but which enables a man to reason rather than to argue—enables and prompts him to feel nobly, to think bravely, and to act manfully. These I call the best and highest results of education. And this is a part of his education, which, whatever may be his advantages, each man gets for himself. A system of intellectual and moral pumps will never fill the passive recipient with such results as these. Exhaustive notes and rare editions, various readings and all the *minutiae* of criticism—these are the tools of the critic; and critical scholarship I am far from undervaluing; but do not let those who cannot get this, fancy that they can get nothing; or that what they can get is of little value. The dynamic value of education (though there is a good deal in the form, for thought cannot be divided from the form of thought) lies much more in the quality of the matter of our studies, and the intenseness of the intellectual heat we contrive to evolve in the process of our studies, than in the getting up of their adjuncts. If a master mind has poured out high thoughts upon his page, or dissected with his pen the compound substance of life, and laid open to view the springs or motives of conduct, I may, with great advantage, go through what is called the getting up of his work. To learn off a compendium of the treatise—to acquaint myself with what others have thought about it—to ransack libraries, to compare authorities, and to exhaust commentaries, in order to acquire an exact and accurate knowledge of every chronological, historical, geographical detail connected with the work in question—this is, undoubtedly, a process producing