

of our schools or the intellectual cleverness that generally gains the prizes in that sharp competition. It is *necessary* for us all to be stirred up to the keen pursuit of these prizes which are open to us at school, in college or in life, but this is only the first step; it is equally necessary never to forget that there are higher enjoyments and higher duties connected with the due appreciation of knowledge for its own sake, and to remember that it is the effort to win rather than the victory which has real value. For while victory in a competition may be the means of laying the mind asleep and inducing it to rest upon what it has done, yet the effort, the true, honest, manful effort, whether it be successful or not, will have left each one of us more competent and more vigorous for the discharge of every other duty and better disposed to face and grapple with the difficulties which in one shape or another must be our lot in life. It is for this reason that I am but little in sympathy with systems and theories that profess to have discovered the royal road to learning, along which they guide the steps of their votaries painlessly and unconsciously. Even allowing the possibility of such a process, I disallow its utility. Our own experience is apt to make us sceptical. All who hear me to-night, I believe have known what it is to work against the grain, to begin a lesson when they would rather have gone to play, to finish it when they would rather have gone to bed. And I am sure that such efforts of self-denial and conscientiousness form at least half the real benefit of education: that it would do us little good to wake up and find our heads magically stocked with all manner of facts in comparison with the good that it does us to *fight* for knowledge, to suffer for her, and to make her *at last* our own. In illustration of this and of my thorough belief in the three-sided education, I wish to say a word in support of games, even the rougher ones. Games, when not carried to excess, are not to be frowned upon. They require a certain amount of courage and the healthy boy, who is not willing to run some risks in their behalf, is not likely to be the boy, who will succeed in life. It is sometimes the skin, sometimes the head, sometimes the ribs: but when a fellow can stand up against these mishaps and is anxious only to win in spite of them, he is in part fitting himself for the battle of life, when many, by dint of sheer perseverance and firmness, rise to prosperity and