

privilege of high value, which it is your duty to turn to the best account. You may have been wearied with reiterated exhortations to industry, but although numerous examples may be adduced to attest its importance, it is by no means easy to be convinced of the real extent of its power. Nothing valuable can be acquired without effort.

“ Nil sine magno
Vita labore dedit mortalibus.”

“Ply, therefore, your labors, and distrust every other means of success. Above all beware of a treacherous confidence in the advantage of a supposed superiority of talents. These, unsupported by industry, will drop you midway; or perhaps you will not have started when the diligent traveller will have won the race. Be assured that in study, application is the first, the second, and the third virtue,—application, not *per saltum*, not in capricious fits, with ebbs and flows of indolence and exertion. Ardent, indeed, it must be, but uniform and unabating. Those among the Grecian youth who aspired to Olympic crowns, would by no means trust their hopes to the flattering gifts of nature, however lavishly bestowed; but sought to fix their fortune and secure their laurels by long and vigorous preparations for the contest.” Remember that you are the objects of public attention, and that on you are centered the hopes and fears, the wishes and expectations of anxious and affectionate parents. It is in your power to do much honor to this rising Institution,—it is in your power to disgrace it. Look forward to your own destiny in future years, and then resolve to take your stand on the high vantage ground of virtue and unflinching effort, and maintain it manfully. I would beg to remind you that the cultivation of the intellectual faculties, without the sanctifying and controlling influence of religion, has, as is abundantly proved by sad experience, little or no direct tendency to improve the character and purify the heart. Under all circumstances, therefore, strive so to conduct yourselves, as to make it evident that you have not repaired hither to gain knowledge at the expense of correct principles and sober and religious habits. Never forget that there is a higher