

cannot be wondered at that to so many young men just entering college the athletic ideal is the most prominent, and the truly successful college career seems to be that of the champion oarsman or football player. There is much that is good and healthy in college athletics, but the goal of all athletic work, the development of a strong body to fit a strong mind, is rarely gained in this way. Almost without exception, to win and keep a place in the crew, the nine or the eleven is to leave better and more necessary things undone and to miss the higher college life. The social ideal, as it may be called, has much that is to be said in its favor. Around the social side of college life, the clubs, the societies, the friendships, centres much that is helpful and pleasant to remember. Many a young man has a strong, though unavowed desire to be prominent in his class as a society man, as a member of the most select clubs, or if he has wealth at command to live luxuriously and entertain lavishly in a college way. This is far more perilous than an athletic ideal. It means wasting time, money and health, even if in too rare cases it stops short of dissipation and utter failure.

Another and in many ways a higher ideal than either of the other is that which makes high scholarship as measured by rank in the class the highest aim, and which holds up the first scholar of his class as the truly successful man. But this, too, falls short of the mark. While a class sometimes contains a man of such commanding ability that, without sacrificing better things or endangering health, he leads his class in scholarship, such men are too rare and unusual to be held up as examples. Among the saddest failures in the college world is the man who sacrifices all things in and out of college and risks and often ruins health in an endeavor to obtain the highest marks. No industry or sincerity can make a college life truly successful when its chief end and aim centres in self and self-advancement. A good rank in scholarship should be essential

for self-respect. A low rank in scholarship is in most cases a thing to be ashamed of unless it comes from inherent inability, after hard study, to rank well. There is no other excuse for low rank except, perhaps, sickness. But study for rank and high markings, first and foremost, is costly, wasteful and foolish.

We must seek further for our true ideal. It cannot be found in social enjoyment, in athletic honors or distinguished rank, nor even in a wise combination of them all, well-rounded as such a college life, if possible to live, might seem. Good in its way as each of these ideals is there is something better. Life in college, as indeed all human life, is a preparation for higher and wider life. Into a truly successful college life must enter work and thought for others. The true ideal for the young man just entering college is so to begin and so to spend his college years that not alone in mind and body, but also in the higher things of the spirit (and here opens the wide field of the true altruism, which is Christianity applied to daily life), he may be fitted to the best work in his power for himself, for others and for the Kingdom of God among men.

Whatever may be the financial standing of his family the student should start on a modest scale of living. Even in case of large wealth this is wisest. Too often a college career has been a failure and a whole life ruined by too lavish allowance of money, especially if at home or in the preparatory school there has been little training in the use of money in considerable sums. In such case the responsibility for the ruin is upon the parent or guardian, and not upon the college. Beyond the fixed charges for tuition, board, room-rent, clothing, books and travelling expenses, after the room has been furnished, there are few necessary expenses. Unnecessary and harmful expenses, ending often in dissipation and the ruin of character, are almost inevitable if a young man is given a large amount of money to spend as he will. Here, as elsewhere,