

quite as much in a process of pouring in as in that of drawing out. Thought quickens and begets thought, and it is by grappling with and mastering the thoughts of others that the student acquires, at length, the power of standing on his own feet and evolving thoughts that are his own.

Another benefit—by many thought of as the sole purpose of college study—is in the amount of knowledge the student will have required. This acquisition is not large; indeed, as I have already hinted, it is relatively very small. He will have no claim to take rank as a scholar or a learned man. But he will have gained a knowledge of the elements of a considerable number of the most important branches of study. He will, if he makes good use of his opportunities, have laid a broad and solid foundation upon which he may afterward build any superstructure of scholarship he may choose without any fear of its toppling over whatever winds may blow.

Then, while acquiring this knowledge, he will have learned how to study. He will have learned how to use the knowledge he has in order to acquire more, how to run down a truth that eludes him till he has followed it to its lair and captured it. He will have gained the power and habit of concentration and continuity of thought, of holding his mind intently on a truth till the mists fall away from it and he is able to see it clearly. He will be able to see, as those who have followed narrower lines of study cannot, how wide and manifold are the relations that truths hold to each other, and how a truth taken out of its relations may become an untruth. He will have gained a breadth of view, a sense of proportion, an appreciation of the multiplicity of the relations which bind things together, that will help him to avoid many of the perils and pitfalls into which men of narrower culture are liable to fall. If he should become a specialist after he leaves college, he is not likely to commit the folly of supposing that all the truths in the universe can be tested by the methods of his science.

One other benefit only need be mentioned. College study is a sort of mental gymnastics in the course of which all the faculties of the mind are developed and strengthened in due proportion. The studies are chosen with a view to cultivate ALL the mental powers, and so graded that strength to conquer each new difficulty shall have been gained by the time the difficulty is reached. It is, perhaps, at this point, that the contrast comes out most strongly between the culture given by a college and the training obtained at a technical school. The latter cultivates one or two faculties while leaving the others dormant; it aims to qualify the student to serve some definite