

Some of the rough spots in connection with the student's private affairs may be noticed first. Space will only permit of a few examples being mentioned; but the list can be completed by the reflective mind at leisure. In starting out to assume the responsibilities of college life, the current and circumstances of his life are materially changed. A number of offices which were performed for him by indulgent hands at home, devolve of necessity, on himself, when he enters college. The conditions for mending clothes, for instance, are increased, while the source of repair is suddenly cut off. He must make his own fire and oftentimes his own bed. These menial duties are at first regarded as serious grievances; but they come at a later period, to be recognized as important factors in his education. There is an amount of good to be received in the sewing on of a button, or the making of a fire, which approaches in practical disciplinary value to that received in the solution of a problem in differentiation. These are only homely examples of difficulties constantly arising in college life which tend to the formation of habits of patience and self-reliance. The Freshman with difficulty confines his *darning* to the hole in his stocking, while the Senior will sit, needle in hand, for hours exhibiting an amount of patience and skill calculated alike to surprise his friends and excite the envy of a model housewife.

Another point where the benefits of friction appear is in the matter of pecuniary means. It not unfrequently happens that the want of money resists, to a greater or less extent, the student's progress. Often a break of one or two years in his course is necessitated by the low state of his finances, and consequently he is apt to deplore what is, in reality, a blessing in disguise. It is no discredit to a college or to its individual students that a large proportion of them pay their own way. On the contrary, with the list of great men who have risen from obscurity before him, who shall say that this very fact is not highly beneficial to both? to the student because struggling makes strong; to the college because it is largely what the students make it.

There is always more or less friction between the student and the Faculty. He has not entered college long before he discovers that this body have ideas which conflict with his own and seriously impede

his progress. He petitions for certain privileges, but the prayer is not granted. He remonstrates, but they remain firm. With an air of injured innocence he lays the matter before his parents who, knowing the benefit of such training, chuckle at the prospect of reform. Friction at this point has been known to prevail to such an extent as to stop for a time the whole college machinery; but such exigencies almost invariably prove beneficial to the students concerned. But, perhaps, contact with the different members of the Faculty in their individual capacity of teacher, though of a milder type, does most in the way of polish. For four years this rubbing process goes on; and it would indeed be difficult to estimate the amount of good accruing to the Student from such a period of contact with a number of men of culture as each, in his own peculiar manner, seeks to do his part in polishing the article before sending it out as a sample of the work done in the college. The hard lesson which necessitates the burning of the midnight oil, the argument in which he is usually defeated, the words of advice and reproof kindly and firmly given, and the various ways in which his deficiencies are pointed out, all appear disadvantageous to the Student, but they have a large place in reducing his asperities to floating proportions.

The text-books tell us that friction is greatest amongst homogeneous bodies. The analogy holds respecting friction in college life; for it is among fellow-students that it prevails most extensively, and where its benefits are most clearly seen. The graduate is indebted to his associates for no small amount of his polish. Students appear to take it for granted that they have a license to laugh at one another's mistakes, to criticise any peculiarity in dress, manner, or utterance, and even to regulate the frequency of calls. By far the most prominent bump, which all feel bound to lend a hand in diminishing, is that of conceit. The average Freshman is full of it. He is proud of his distinction as a student, and wears the college uniform on all occasions. But his love of show, in this regard, gradually subsides, so much so, that if a student is seen in cap and gown twenty rods from the college building it is safe to infer that he is a Freshman. He is proud of his oratorical powers, but he soon finds that the tone in exhortation and prayer, which he has, most likely, borrowed from