

long evenings and mornings—without mentioning his vacations—is the fortunate possessor of an abundance of this prime requisite of success. Many a bright lad on his feet from 7 in the morning till 10 at night in many a shop in our cities and towns would leap for joy at the thought of possessing one-sixth of the work-days of the year to devote to the improvement of his mind and to revel among his beloved books—now torn from his hand by a cruel necessity. "How shall I best economize that treasure," for one hour of which our proudest Queen once offered her kingdom, but offered in vain, should be the daily question of every student. Time is lost by commencing studies that are never completed. The man who begins to build, but for some reason or other cannot finish, has been the object of centuries of derision. Never give up anything you have begun in your work, if it be right until completed. Do not, to save time, rob your couch of the hours of needful rest, for the late sitter burns the candle of life at both ends; but while you do not trench upon that amount of sleep which is imperatively demanded by nature for the recuperation of the exhausted powers of mind and body, at the same time be careful that you do not shorten your days by lengthening your nights. I think—and experience and observation will bear me out—that the man who is never out of bed after 10 or in it after 6, will perform the most of any kind of labor that can be done in a day between those hours, and with the least amount of physical weariness. Keeping these hours, what time do we find at a teacher's disposal? From 4 to 5.30 for a bracing walk or a pleasant drive, with half an hour to look at school exercises, an hour to spend over "the cup that cheers but not inebriates," and to join merrily in the social chat and pleasantries of his lodging. Then from 7 to 10 every evening, and from 6 to 7.45 every morning gives 3½ hours daily, exclusive of Saturdays, to devote to our books, those silent faithful friends that "give new views to life and teach us how to live," to roam with Homer by the fair flowing rivers in the land of Troy, to live with Milton and his sinless pair in Eden's bowers, to sail with Washington Irving and his Columbus towards the home of the setting sun, to hear again the lofty eloquence of Burke and the thunderings of Chatham; those silent, faithful friends of whom Cicero says, "they nourish youth and delight old age, add grace to success and afford a refuge and solace in reverses and griefs, delight us at home and do not hinder us in our business, are with us in the night watches, and go with us on our journeys and to our holiday retreats." Then husband your time. That man who can make two blades of grass grow where but one grew before is said to be a public benefactor, and I do not hesitate to say that he who could shew you a means of increasing the time at your command for private improvement, would prove a great benefactor to you. It is not necessary to fly from your books in order to rest your mind, for variety of studies will, if you acquire the habit, relieve and refresh the mind quite as well as entire cessation from study. So English, book-keeping, or science may interchange with mathematics, and result in saving time and avoiding mental fatigue.

*The habit of Perseverance.*—After you have laid down a good working plan of study, do not change often. "There is no royal road to learning," and a good deal of toilsome plodding is ahead of any teacher who would travel far on this same road to learning. He will need to back up all his mental and physical powers with a strong reserve of this "stick-at-it-iveness" in order to climb the Examination Hills which industrious Public Overseers have cast up in the way. "The indescribable virtue of standing in a spot," *nescia virtus stare loco*, was the quality, to the possession of which a Latin writer ascribed the marvellous successes of Julius Cæsar. Whatever he determined to do was done; when he planted his foot upon a place it was never withdrawn until his purposes were accomplished, and the result was that never before did the Roman

eagles have a flight so bold or far. I saw a man try four times in succession to pass the final university examination for a degree in Arts. He taught his rural school every summer and winter, and his regular appearance every spring was a tradition among the undergraduates before I ever met him. At the fourth trial he succeeded. Repeated failures had not conquered his indomitable will. Hundreds would have abandoned the trial in despair, his persevering efforts in the end laid the garlands of victory at his feet. Some may think this perseverance, this devotion to study, can only be attained by sacrifices too great for them to make. Yes! there may have to be a little less sleep, a little less slumber, a little less folding of the hands to sleep, less time for arraying themselves in broad cloth and fine linen, still less for rounds of pleasure and the Saturday's ornamentation of the side-walk. Sacrifices, indeed of the greatest magnitude, but entailing small harm upon any young man who makes them.

*Thoroughness.* It has been said that passing through a course of study is like conquering a country. If you completely master everything you meet you will advance with confidence, but if you leave here and there a garrison unsubdued, you will soon have a foreboding hanging on your rear that will inflict upon you endless vexation and trouble. I find that the cultivation of the faculty of observation is a valuable aid to thoroughness. Observation is a primary essential in obtaining a practical knowledge of the sciences, and I have tested its worth in improving some of my pupils' acquaintance with orthography. Staidly look at a word for a moment and the chances are its form will be indelibly impressed upon the mind. In turning up a word in a dictionary, always note its spelling, pronunciation, derivation and meaning in the passages cited. In Mathematics never be satisfied with "nearly right" for an answer. Accuracy and thoroughness are the only foundations upon which a solid, useful super-structure of learning can be reared.

The practice of writing any passage one may desire to memorize will be found a valuable help to the attainment of accuracy. Any mistake is recorded in black and white, and strikes one's attention in a way that is impossible in verbal repetition, while the advantage of comparison with the original is also obtained.

*Reviewing.*—After accuracy, application and economy of time have largely stored our minds with the treasures of knowledge, it behooves us to devise some means of preventing their loss. There are a few men who have memories so retentive that they retain their reading for a life-time, but with common mortals unless its acquaintance be renewed, the lapse of a few months will cause the details of a subject to grow dim, a year or two destroy its divisions, a decade blot out its last faint outlines from the tablets of the mind. If our means of bread-winning did not admit of any result different from this, the discipline received by our minds while acquiring the knowledge so soon forgotten, would still place us immeasurably above those of our fellow-toilers who had lacked our advantages. For in solving the problems constantly arising in some of the many phases of life, an untrained mind can no more equal one disciplined by study and strengthened by employment, than can the hand of the cool header vie with the skill that directs the lancet, or speeds the rifle bullet on its unerring flight.

But there is no excuse for any student losing his knowledge. One half-hour a day of the time mentioned before, spent in reviewing will keep off all the rust spots of forgetfulness that can possibly form. Many boast off trying to forget the attainments exacted by their teachers, as soon as they have served their purposes. I do not envy, and never desire to imitate, them. Without review the student pursues his way in a fog. Any one can travel in a fog—but with no degree of certainty or comfort, because that part of the road over which he has passed is hidden from his sight, and he can-