

ing—without study. As the basis of their hope, they illuively point to men renowned in history, who received nothing but a common school education. In this country, Patrick Henry, Washington, Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston, Henry Clay and Abraham Lincoln are all notable examples. At least one of these has left us a record of his experience on this point—Lincoln, while president, said, "I have never ceased to pay tribute to the neglect of an early education." These men were great, not because of adverse circumstances, but in spite of them. Early culture would have only added to their greatness.

It amounts almost to a fault with Americans, and more especially with Southern young men, that they are too restless and impatient—too anxious to quit school and college and take on the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, without mature preparation. But, as a country grows older, and civilization advances, the necessity for training, intelligently directed, becomes more and more a demand. Not that such training cannot be taken outside of a college—it may be to serve an apprenticeship in some manufacturing or business enterprise. But I claim that the young man who first trains his mind well in the acquisition of usual knowledge, and then serves his time in business or professional training, is a much better equipped man than he who knows nothing but business for a life time. An education is like a house—construct a good foundation and build well at the start, and after that, story after story may be piled up with enduring usefulness. A mind well trained in youth with the principles of science or literature, has no fixed limit to the extent of its growth and worth—it becomes thereafter a matter of endurance, ambition, and self-denial, on the part of the individual. For the first time, he is in the true sense, the "architect of his own fortune." I am aware that many times, financial necessity may force upon a young man a hasty entrance into professional or business duties, but my argument is intended for him who sincerely believes in a hasty and inefficient preparation—believing that atonement can be made later in life.

Great universities are justly the pride of any people.