

or men, who like Clay, Lincoln and Carlisle, have by hard work long continued, reached eminence and distinction as a reward of genuine merit.

But is it true that the history of this country has been made by men with little or no training in their youth?—I think not. Bear with me, while I select only a few notable examples, out of the many, to prove the reverse.

Who was the founder of the greatest political party this country has ever known?—A party, however badly degenerated as claimed by some, must still have been based upon great principles of governmental liberty, to have endured for a century. The same fertile brain that gave us the declaration of independence, perhaps the most remarkable pronouncement in history. The University of Virginia was also the child of his genius. William & Mary College enrolls his name with others of her famous alumni.

Columbia College, N. Y., gave us our first Secretary of the Treasury, and so well was the work organized and conducted, that his method and system are said to have been in practice as late as 1860. Next to Hamilton in this capacity, should perhaps be mentioned Salmon P. Chase—a graduate of Dartmouth, who supplied the treasury at Washington during the trying hours of civil war.

It is customary now to make frequent reference to the moral bravery and great integrity of Andrew Jackson as a friend of the people against the bank of Philadelphia, and the monied power of the country; but his nerve and strength must have failed him in the trying hour of his greatest need, except for the resistless power of Thomas H. Benton in the senate—a son of William & Mary College. You will in a little time hear of the "Monroe Doctrine" I shall not presume to pass upon its wisdom or statesmanship, but would like to claim that it must be second in importance to his other great work as special commissioner, in negotiating the purchase of Louisiana territory, by which we gained possession of the Mississippi river and all our territory west to the Rocky mountains from Spanish possessions on the South to