

this opinion degrade themselves. Such mercenary worshippers at the shrine of wisdom are like the money changers in a sacred temple. True wisdom neither sanction their traffic nor their currency. Knowledge sought with such motives will never reveal itself in its depth and grandeur. The glory of Rome had departed before her imperial purple was bartered for gold.

What enobles the intellect confers a distinction which gold can never purchase. The learned Erasmus maintained this theory when he gave as a reason for refusing a lucrative office, "I will not be hindered from prosecuting my studies for all of the gold in the world."

Considering knowledge, therefore, as an inalienable possession which scorns to be bartered for gold let us trace its effect upon the intellect. It imparts strength and dignity, that while it enriches the casket it enlarges its capacity. It gives ability to weigh, compare, decide, and a mind accustomed to such labors expands and consolidates its powers as a frame inured to heathful exercise becomes vigorous and elastic. In cases of doubt or difficulty, collecting the concentrated experience of past ages, it comes forth to counsel the right.

This property recommends it peculiarly to the young. A time must come when the voice of the interested counselor will be silent; when the student must pass from under the guidance of tutors to the toils and responsibilities of life. Then it will often be necessary to decide without advice, and to act without precedent. Judgment, laying aside all leading strings, must dare the steep and slippery ascent alone, meeting with firmness and decision the buffet and the blast. Then the stores of a well balanced, well furnished mind will be put in requisition and the mistakes of ignorance and vanity be avoided.

Knowledge is like a tree that grows and spreads during youth, blossoms in early manhood, but whose well ripened fruit is for the autumn of life. Severe and tireless applica-