

The Chancellor's Column.

ABOUT CHOOSING A PROFESSION.

Many students ask for advice concerning the choice of a profession, and come to me about this very early in their University course. Inquiry proves that a large proportion of these seem to be under some outside pressure in this direction; that is, they are not seeking to settle their future because they feel the necessity of making a choice at the present time, but because there seems to be a family or popular tradition that the man who enters the University ought to determine then and there as to what he will do, and make all his work shape toward that end.

Occasionally a man or woman seems born to a given work, but these are rare exceptions. More generally it is true that men and women find their true places in the world by trying several places. If many men stay at the work which they have chosen before they are thirty years of age, it may be said to be generally true that they do so not so much because they could do no other work just as well and possibly some work better, but because having made the choice there seems to be no special incentive to change. The shiftiness and adaptability of the American character is one of its most noteworthy traits. Most of our people are good all-around men and women, and could do about equally well almost any piece of work assigned them.

There is really no hurry about choosing one's life work. One should know something about men and motives and aims and ambitions before he selects his vocation. It seems hazardous, sometimes almost criminally hazardous, to set one's self early in life in a given direction. It is far better to make the man or woman first; and the lawyer, the doctor, the mechanic, or the business man, afterward. It is well to lay a broad foundation for manhood before the special foundation for some special work is undertaken. This is one of the places in which haste generally makes waste. Observ-

ation shows that most men who determine early in life what they will do, either change their course of life afterward, regretting their limited preparation for other and broader fields; or stay where they are under irritation and a sense of limitation and unfitness.

Do not hurry in this matter. Do not undertake to make up your mind until you have a mind to make up and a mind with which to make it up.

Art Items.

Classes in china painting and wood carving will be organized soon.

In connection with the clay modeling, Prof. Richards will give a course in shop work, mechanical drawing, etc.

The quality of the work turned out by young American sculptures has been one of the surprises of the World's Fair.

Clay modeling and cast drawing, varied by an occasional sketch from life is substituted for the regular cast drawing.

The membership of the life class in sketching is increasing. The ability to make rapid sketches of persons and places give pleasure as well as profit.

Classes are carried on in oil painting and water colors. The work is from still life. Practice in painting metals, flowers, etc., is a leading feature.

The French propose to have an International Exhibition in 1900. Decrees have been issued authorizing it to open at Paris, May 1st, and to close October 31st.

A heroic group for a triumphal arch at the Chicago Exposition, represents Columbus riding in a chariot, with out-riders and symbolical female figures leading the horses.

It is proposed to have at Chicago, a manikin representing Columbus. It will have a flesh-colored India rubber countenance and will deliver an address of a thousand words, in more natural tones than a phonograph.

The children's Saturday class in clay modeling will be continued through the