

"The love of money is the root of all evil," but the love of power is the root of all good. It is a noble aspiration. Man being the highest type of creation, the image of his maker, immortal, what can be a higher aim than to labor for man. How is power to be obtained? Many ways. But like all the faculties of man it is a gift, and with each individual, has its limits. It is your duty to improve this gift. Perhaps the influence you might exert is lying dormant, unused. If so, rouse it to action. Bury no talent.

First, your power will depend upon your natural endowments, for no one has any great respect for an inferior. You must be possessed of some superior talents or your power will be limited. Over this you have no control, for your talents are such as God has given you and with them you must be content. But supposing nature has done enough, we will pass to the next consideration. The simple fact of possessing talent will secure no power. If it becomes evident that your abilities will be made subservient to evil instead of good, it matters not how gifted you may be, your power will be weak. You must prove to the world that your talents will be employed for the general good and not for selfish ends. What proof can be offered? Character, nothing else. Life is an opportunity to test one's power; character the result. Then next to natural endowment we would place character. But men of fine natural qualifications, and of irreproachable character often pass through life exerting but little influence, simply because they disregard some minor but essential element of power. A hearty shake of the hand, a reasonable interest in others' welfare, a courteous bearing toward all, are small things, but are often the points upon which hinge one's whole career.

To gain power, to control men, you must study men. Discover the motives which control their acts, and how to place these motive before them. By some it is claimed that selfishness lies at the foundation of every act. Without entering into any discussion, this fact is clear, that with a large class no consideration is so effective as personal advantage. Then make that class as large as possible who would think your increase of power their individual gain.

Another considerable source of power lies in organization. This is one of the chief elements of power. Its importance might be seen by sending an unorganized mob of men to oppose an equal number, well drilled, and commanded by skilled officers. The whole secret of some men's power consists in their capacity for organization: while the lack of influence exerted by some classes can be directly traced to their unorganized state. As a remarkable instance of this we might point to the agriculturists; they outnumber, by far, any other class, and yet we know of no other class but exert a greater influence on society. Organized, they would be the controlling power. Many other examples of the same kind might be mentioned.

Then study the art of organizing. Mankind is capable of many divisions: they may be divided with respect to their race; their nationality; their political opinions; their religious views; their ideas on the different social reforms; in fact, with reference to anything in which there is a difference among men. Each division is susceptible of being organized into a party, and party is the fulcrum of power. By its aid an individual, by securing control

of the party, embodies in himself the combined powers of the members that compose the party. To become a party leader may not be esteemed a very noble aim, but in a country like ours, where party controls everything, the man who seeks for power through any other channel will seek in vain. We do not mean by this that it is necessary for a man to become a political trickster, or that his success depends entirely upon his ability as a wire-puller. But besides talent and character, an absolute knowledge of how parties are organized and controlled is required to compete successfully with those who are tricksters or wire-pullers.

While we have given our view of what power, or the control of men, in itself, consists; namely, natural endowment, character, and ability to organize, there is yet one element the lack of which would render of no advantage whatever other faculties might be possessed: this is work. This element of labor enters into almost every question and too much importance can not be attached to it. The prosperity of every enterprise, whether public or private, depends upon the energy with which it is conducted. If power is what you are seeking, although you may have fine natural gifts, a good character, and know how to organize your forces, unless you use these gifts, prove your character, and prepare your forces for the contest, you will find that when the time comes to test your power it will fall far short of your expectation. Then we say to all, labor, allow no advantage to escape simply from lack of energy.

#### NOTES ON EXCHANGES.

We now for the first time complacently seat ourselves at the exchange table for the purpose of reviewing the interesting and instructive papers of our neighboring colleges. This is a duty which we shall greatly enjoy, however much we may be unable correctly to discharge it. For what can be more pleasant and desirable to a student than spending a half-hour now and then, in looking over the interesting and attractive journals of our distant colleges: by so doing we can easily observe the development and growth of minds which are far from us: but minds that never fail in exercising a common sympathy in the cause of education.

Of course our college journals are calculated to be fair exponents of the respective institutions which they represent. In our review we shall notice the more attractive features of our exchanges, and if peradventure we should make a remark or so as to the questionable merits of the various journals, we sincerely hope it will be received all in good part. For we do not desire to wound the tender hearts of our brethren if we have any belonging to that "genus."

The first exchange that comes under our cognizance is the *Union College Magazine*, Vol. XIV, No. I, which has an exceedingly interesting prize essay on Samuel Taylor Coleridge, by J. G. Lansing. Such an essay we cannot help but admire for the just picture drawn of the old lake poet. We also perused "A Senior's Experience at Niagara Falls" with more than ordinary interest. We heartily congratulate you, Mr. Greene, on your eminent success in felling the combined genius of those diabolical hackmen that linger about the Falls. We think, however, you'll soon do to come west.

We have received the Dec. number of

the *University Reporter*, of the Iowa State University. Have read it with considerable risibility. It is chuck full of locals, which speaks volumes for the combined genius of its seven editors.

The Dec. number of the *Adrian College Record* is received. We have examined its contents and must say that the *Record* is a welcome visitor.

The *College Ohio* makes the valuable suggestion for the fraternal group of college paper editors, that it would be an excellent opportunity for the respective editors of each and every college journal to meet at the Centennial. We think, Mr. Editor, that you have struck the key-note. We, for one corps, will agree to meet you there for a genial shake. We see no reason why an enterprise of this nature could not be effectually carried out, for, as you say, the commencement exercises of the majority if not all the colleges will take place sufficiently early to admit of an excursion of that kind. And so what say you, let us do our part in bringing about a concurrence of that description.

No. 2, Vol. 8, of the *Pucker Quarterly*, is received and has furnished us a half-hour's diversion in perusing its commendable contents. "The Marble Faun" especially attracted our attention, and we must say the author has the happy faculty of showing up his subject in an exceedingly interesting manner.

The *Denison Collegian* greets us with a hearty welcome. We have perused you, Mr. *Collegian*, with no small degree of interest, as well as with considerable benefit. We like the way you talk. Your suggestions on "College Training as a Preparation for Business," were duly considered. We think that a production worthy the attention of any one who desires to make his business relations a success during life.

The *Lawrence Collegian*, in a production entitled "Homely People," says, "the withholding of a pleasant good morning by a beautiful (female) friend from a homely individual makes deeper cutting wounds and more incurable by far, than the golden studded sceptre of Ulysses." Mayn't we enquire, dear Bro., are you a member of that unfortunate (homely) family?

We are the recipients of the *University Reviewer* for December, and we must say we find it unusually interesting. As a college paper it successfully puts forth much that is very readable. We are glad to observe its sound productions, its humorous locals and fine editorials.

The *University Missourian* for Dec. lies on our table. We spent a portion of our time in perusing it and think we have been well paid therefor. The *Missourian* is a live paper.

The *Targum*, the good old *Targum* next meets the scrutiny of our optics. We grasp it, we search its columns, we read "A Query," we peruse a "Venerable Graduate," and then somewhat rejuvenated pass on to "Camping out as I found it," and enjoy the many jokes therein. But, bro. *Targum*, we lay this down with deep regret, not however because you haven't entertained us, but because we have turned the last leaf and drank in the entire contents of your excellent sheet.

We acknowledge the reception of the *Central Collegian*: it contains much valuable reading matter. The poetry entitled "The old Cider Mill" is quite humorous and would be excellent to illuminate a

melancholy countenance—that is providing the mug wasn't empty.

In running over our exchanges, we find it a greater task than what we first anticipated, on account of the exceedingly large number. We also find by our limited space that we shall have to omit mentioning many gems of thought which sparkle with the dazzling genius of a Shakspear, or that disclose the profound thought of a sublime Milton. We pass from oration to oration, drinking in its contents insatiably. Essay after essay is perused and they all disclose such an exalted degree of culture, that it would be hard for us to tell who has been most successful in handling his subject. But we venture one remark that they are all highly seasoned with thoughts which emanate from well equipped minds, no one will deny. And thus Bro. exchanges, with these few remarks we remain your contemporaneous Contemporary Reviewer.

#### EDUCATION, A MEANS TO AN END

The results sought by education seem to be the elevation of mankind, and the better fitting of each individual for the occupation in life, which such individual shall determine to be his choice.

Those countries that elevate the standard of education, and place the means of acquiring knowledge within the reach of all, make rapid strides towards future prosperity; while countries that keep their subjects in ignorance, assume a despotic form where the life of a human being is an item of little or no consideration, when it is in opposition to some fanciful whim of the monarch, and such a country can only make retrograde movements in the matter of civilization.

Considering that education better fits an individual for the pursuit of his occupation in life, there are different causes or systems of education marked out for the student, but reflecting a moment, we are compelled to say that our present systems of education do not fully bear out our idea of what they should be. In this country we lose all distinction of caste, and he who has been compelled to learn a trade is as worthy as the man who, by reason of his wealth, can spend his life in being what we formerly termed a gentleman, and now define to be—a gentleman of leisure. If a student who has arrived at that point in his education when he is ready to enter college, designs to follow some particular pursuit in life; he should be educated with a view to make him better fit for the business. Suppose a young man desires to enter the battle of life in the mercantile business, we deem it proper that he should receive such an education as will acquaint him with the line of duty that he will follow in commercial life. We have colleges designed for the fitting of a man for the profession of a physician, and to learn the technicalities of trade, he must learn in the rigid school of experience. However, the schools of the day are beginning to appreciate this necessity, and we are given the privilege of enrolling ourselves in what is termed the select course in our colleges. And as soon as any individual settles to his own satisfaction the particular business for which he is best fitted, we deem it his duty to direct all his energies in that direction, and if he perseveringly plods along, ever keeping his avocation in life as his headlight, he cannot fall short of being one of the leaders in that division of the duties of life. But to reach our goal we must remember the means by which we can reach the desired end, and it surely seems logical to assert that the sooner we start in the journey, the sooner we will pass through the heat of the travel. PAUL.