

professions? And how few ever accomplish more than to accumulate a moderate fortune by a diligent attention to their profession! And ought a man who has enjoyed so many advantages, and held converse with so many of the master minds of former times, — ought he to catch none of their spirit, and to be willing to abandon the noble pursuits of knowledge, and to be satisfied with the mere ordinary routine of a profession, useful, indeed, but requiring scarcely any of the acquisitions which he has made during his education — especially when the continued pursuit of some branch of literature or science would make him more eminent and successful in that profession? But the difficulty seems to be that this continued devotion to literary pursuits would make his profession less profitable in a pecuniary point of view. Money, indeed, is not to be despised by any man; and, after all, very few of our professional men are burdened with it. If it comes into a man's hands as the fruit of his intellectual labors and his economy, he ought to be thankful, and to make a wise improvement of it. But I complain that so many should consider its acquisition as the chief object of an education, and abandon the prosecution of science and literature, because the two objects are thought to be incompatible. And the fact is that, so well understood is this incongruity, a large proportion of the youth in our colleges, even though not compelled to it by poverty, are in the habit, after going through them, of selling off the standard works which they study there, and which they are taught to regard as next to the Bible in value, just as if they should have no further use for them. This appears to me to be the same almost as if the mechanic should dispose of his tools after he had learned the use of them by a seven years' apprenticeship. How many men, also, who have become attached to some branch