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contending with training—an essentially narrowing process, Ursinus College takes the

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DR. EDGAR FAHS SMITH

Ex-Provost of the University of Pennsylvania and connected with that institution for forty-four years as instructor and adviser.

Sends This Message Through the Public Ledger to young men and women seeking a school to prepare for life's work.

The Public Ledger, through numerous channels, is striving to assist all young people desirous of entering upon a college career. Its aims are deserving of the gratitude of every one

directly or indirectly affected.

To the boys and girls who read the PUBLIC LEDGER let me say that such an opportunity is not to be lightly regarded, and as the writer is familiar with college life and all that is embraced therein, he ventures to express himself briefly on the subject.

There is not the slightest doubt but that the ventures of the slightest doubt but that the ventures of the slightest doubt but that the ventures of the slightest doubt but that the venture of the slightest doubt but the sligh

There is not the slightest doubt but that the young man or woman, coming out of a high school of first grade, possesses a good foundation for the work of life. In the days when high schools were in their infancy, or even before they existed, there were many young men with meager training who boldly entered the schools of medicine, or law, or theology, or engaged in business and succeeded. So successful were they that, not infrequently, they were cited as examples of the uselessness of a college course before entering upon the serious duties of life. Take as an example, from among the very distinguished men of our city, Joseph Leidy, the eminent scientist, whose name was favorably known to the greatest European savants before he had attained the age of thirty. His knowledge in several of the sciences was astounding, yet he himself advocated the broadest fundamental training for all who intended entering upon the career of physician or investigator in medical science. Another career of physician or investigator in medical science. Another equally striking example was the late John G. Johnson—famous throughout this country as a most astute lawyer. It may be advanced that these men were unusual and exceptions to the generality of the youth of the land who seek to go forward in the professions and business.

Representatives might also be drawn from the financial and industrial world, but all these—no matter in what lines they succeeded—were, in their youthful days, individuals of purpose, possessing unconquerable determination and a genuine interest in

the work which claimed their attention.

Coming, then, to the real object of these lines, viz.: Shall the boy and girl graduate of the high school seek for further learning by embarking on a college career? the writer would answer: If they are alive to the fact that life is a most serious thing and that it behooves them to take advantage of every

opportunity to improve themselves, then by all means go to

college.

Going to college means much and it means little. Today there is such a vast field opened up to the young collegian that if he be in real earnest he must almost tremble in contemplation of the great and glorious things which he will meet in literature. In the companie political and social sciences, in history, ancient in the economic, political and social sciences, in history, ancient and modern, and in the histories of those lands and peoples with whom we have only recently been brought into closer relations; think, too, of the natural and physical sciences, the problems of engineering, architecture and art. The college opens the doors to these broad fields and surely humanizes one in a most remarkable way. It is not only the fact that after graduation one is ready to earn a living, but in this collegiate training there come also the power to think and a spiritual uplift which are better than

But all these grand opportunities will remain as a terra incognita if the persons to whom they are presented prove unre-sponsive and indifferent, because of lack of earnest purpose and cause of devotion to nonessentials.

If those who look college-ward really mean to acquire that for which the college stands, namely, education, then go to college, even if the going means a sacrifice, if the way through college must be made by one's own individual efforts. Education college must be made by one's own individual efforts. Education is desired. Get it. Pay the penalty. It is worth all the effort expended for it. But sad, indeed, is the picture presented by the young collegian who geins admission by "aids," by "cribs," advances by the same methods from year to year, and passes the finals in a similar dishonest way. Vastly better would it have been for him had he turned away from college doors and given himself to the humdrum of life with a mental horizon far from that which every normal individual should desire for himself.

As the writer ponders on the opportunities offered to young collegians of the present he is filled with real envy. He would love to live over again his own college days. While he worked hard then, he would work harder now. But don't think of college unless it is with an honest, sincere purpose to profit from its opportunities.

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