

love with college when I was a lad. That love has never weakened. I was a college boy early, I am a college boy now, and I hope to remain at heart a college boy until I die. I never feel so happy, so much at home, I never feel it so easy to break down the barriers between us and the outside world, and to forget differences of occupation, of position, of wealth, of politics; and to feel in touch with all around us, as when I am in a college audience where we are all thinking of college education and what it is doing and may do for the people, and the enormous importance to all of us that this cause of higher education shall be strengthened and promoted in our midst.

Many of us, Mr. President, remember that marvelous oration of Pericles over the dead who had fallen in the Peloponnesian war. According to the custom a public funeral was awarded to them and Pericles was appointed to pronounce the oration. He spoke of the life of Athens and the way Athens was different from and higher than other countries. Through it all ran that thought of higher education, of how the whole city of Athens was a school for Greece; that she knew nothing that was not free to anyone who would come and share it; that she spent her public funds freely on everything that would elevate and beautify the city and the lives of the citizens; that by thus rendering life richer and more precious, a just pride was raised in all for the maintenance and protection of the city. Strangers from all parts of the world were drawn there to share in the enlightening life. The philosopher heard his open classes in her porticos, and his classes were thronged with those who sought to learn the lesson, of philosophy and the lofty purposes which life might hold. The Athenian lived cheerfully, and would not refuse to battle and to die willingly, if need be, for this country because he died a citizen of a free and glorious republic. These words of Pericles have rung in my ears ever since I first read them. It taught what the life of a republic may be when that life is raised to its highest level, and when all labor for the diffusion

of knowledge and truth and for the enlightenment of all classes, believing that in so doing they lay deeper and stronger the foundations of the Republic,—stronger against foes without, stronger against dissensions within, stronger in every way through that free and liberal course than in any other way that were possible.

Is this the time to advocate, in this audience of thoughtful men and women who know how hard it is to create taxable value—is this the proper time to advocate larger—far larger—appropriations by the State of Pennsylvania to the cause of higher education? My friends, it is the most fitting moment in the history of this Republic to advocate that. I have lived through the time when there was hostility to college education; when it seemed useless to try to advance the claims of college graduates; when business men said they did not want college-bred lads and girls in their offices, because they had been spoiled for any use and had been taught only that which was idle and profitless. That time has gone by never to return. I say it has gone never to return, because if there is one thing that is coming to be recognized in this state, and in every state in this union, it is the truth that higher and broader education, and this as free and general as it can be made, is the very best thing for our young men and young women. This truth is indisputable, confirmed by the success of our college men and college women in every department of life. It seems to me a further and more convincing proof when we note the fatally erroneous doctrines that are being diffused through this country; when we see the masses led to their loss and their ruin; when we see the very fabric of our government menaced by the prevalence of anarchical and communistic doctrines. Unless we can educate a great body of men and women in the methods of sober sound thinking, and teach them to be true teachers of the people upon the great questions of socialism, how can we stem the flood of ignorance and the tides of passion, which will sweep over this country as its population increases, with