

not want to seem in my old age to belong to that class of people who can see no virtue in the present in comparison with the past; I wish merely to give you my most candid opinion, which I trust will seem to be a just and fair one. I have spent my life among college men, and have seen the long lines of college classes come and go around me, and so I believe I can claim to have had a very good chance to judge them accurately. With this little remark permit me to answer your question.

“ I must say, then, that I do not think our boys have so high ideals in going to college as of old. There are many evidences of this. No one who comes in contact with our college boys closely but must feel that somehow they need too often a spur to accomplish the noblest results. They are too ready to take advantage of the privilege of ‘cuts’ that are now granted in many of our colleges. This privilege was unknown in the old days, and if it had been then one of the college rules I feel pretty certain our boys would have been too much in earnest to learn the things they had come to get at college to take advantage of them. There needs to-day a much higher responsibility on this point than at present exists. Another evidence of lower standards among our boys to-day, I cannot help thinking, is to be found in this remarkable multiplication of technical schools that is a marked feature of our last decades. Mind, I do not say these schools are not all right, and that they do not meet a long felt want in our times. They have come to stay, for they are doing a most noble and important work.

“ But now mind also that we are talking about a comparison in ideals between the boys past and present. Can it be true that our young men in these schools have so high an ideal of all-round culture, so to speak, as those who of old came to college to pursue the regulation career of study that we were then all expected to follow? Somehow I cannot help thinking that too many of our boys are going to these technical schools merely to settle the question of board and clothes. As one of my friends used to put it in quaint phrase “ the problem of fodder is the burning question of history ” with too many of these men.

“ Now I don't say that the question of “ fodder ” is not an all-important one to settle. It is a burning question and we all have to wrestle with it some day, and woe to the fellow who can't solve it. I am only wishing to say that there are higher questions than this, and when a young man comes to college to find out the short