

“Possibly,” replied Adams, smiling somewhat sadly.

“In a town in the eastern part of the State,” he began, “there lived a young fellow (whom I shall call Brown) who had had a hard row to hoe ever since he was a youngster. His parents died when he was about ten years of age leaving him to the care of an aunt who put the boy to work as soon as he was old enough. Consequently, the only time he had for study (for the boy was ambitious) was in the evening, after his day’s labor. He determined, nevertheless, that he would go to college.

“In the same town there lived another young fellow, by the name of White. His father was rich and allowed his son enough money to ruin himself if he so chose. And when Brown saw White spinning through the streets on his bicycle, or perhaps taking a gallop on his pony, a bitter feeling surged up within him and he exclaimed: ‘Why is it that fellow has so much money to throw away when a half of what he spends would take me through college? It isn’t fair!’

“Bye and bye White’s father sent his son to college and Brown did not see him, except at short intervals, for nearly a year.

“One evening during the Summer, as Brown was starting home from his work, he met White who evidently had been waiting for him:

“‘Brown,’ he said abruptly, ‘would you like to go to college?’ Brown was thunderstruck for an instant; then recovering somewhat, he said that he would like it above everything else, but that he could not go for a long time to come.

“‘Brown, I want you to do me a favor. My father allows me a thousand a year. Will you go to college along with me? I think that if we economize, the thousand will be enough for both of us.’

“The proposition nearly took Brown’s breath. Here at last was the opportunity for which he had longed for years. He had the chance to go to college! But could he take it? Could he lay himself under such obligations to any one? His dreams had been of the time when he would have enough money of his own to pay his expenses. These were the thoughts that raced through his brain. But would he be justified in putting aside this offer which seemed as if Providence were concerned in his career?

“‘All right, White, I’ll go,’ he said in a broken voice. They