

treated in a brief paper. However, if we can gain an insight into the possible significance of the work of a college editor, if we can have our conception of the mission of the college paper elevated and broadened, the consideration of the subject, however brief, will not have been in vain. Requisite to any consideration of the theme is an appreciation of three points, viz.: The true function of a college paper, its influence as it now exists, and its possible influence; and the greatest of these is the last.

In exposition of the first of these points, viz.: the function or sphere of the college paper, pardon may be granted perhaps for a repetition more or less verbatim of some thoughts expressed not long since on this subject in the columns of the *Campus*. The college journal is certainly something more than a mere newspaper, for most of the news has ceased to be new by the time the paper is published. It is not merely a means for the development and exhibition of latent literary talent. That is the function of the Department of English in the university. It is something more than a critic on the faults of the college—a sort of Cynic's wash-tub in which the board of Editorial Diogeneses sit and amuse themselves by pointing out the spots on the garments of faculty, students, alumni, and the college in general, excepting when lantern in hand they are searching for the honest college man who always pays his subscription to the paper, the teams and the Y. M. C. A.

It is also something more than a means of entertainment to its subscribers. If it is such only, it succeeds as often by its blunders as by its efforts in that direction. It is not simply a commentator on passing events, neither can its sphere be limited to that of the reformer, the moralist or the scold. What is it then? It is all of these in one—news-gatherer, garden of genius, critic, entertainer, commentator, reformer, moralist, and sometimes scold. But it is more than any or all these combined. In the highest sense it should be the interpreter, the mouth-piece of college spirit and life in all their varied manifestations. It should be the *organ* of the college, not merely of the students, but of faculty, trustees and alumni also. It should be in touch, actively and vitally with every side of college administration, and ready to sound the note of progress and improvement wherever possible. It occupies a place which nothing else can fill in college to-day; neither faculty, societies, nor recitations. The next question is, how is it filling its place?

No statistics are at hand from which an estimate can be made as to just how much endowment has been added to any college through the influence