104 Wisconsin Historical Collections [vol. viii

vigorous mind and retentive memory, whose leading trait was the clear perception of the bearing of things, would gather from an extensive field of reading and study. No doubt his varied experience had served to enlarge the range of his scholarship, where a man of inferior grasp would merely have been rendered superficial.

As I came to know him better, this quality of breadth of knowledge was thrown in the shade by a far more valuable one—solidity and soundness of judgment. This, too, mainly derived from the logical habit of his mind, was greatly assisted by an experience in practical affairs, such as rarely falls to the lot of a scholar by profession. It gave his judgment an unusual degree of firmness and poise, that he was able to bring to bear upon every question not only the powers of a mind which was in the highest degree acute and logical, but also the intuitive sagacity which can come only from long dealing, at first hand, with the affairs of life. I cannot say that I always agreed with his conclusions; but I can say that, as his colleague, I always listened for his opinions and arguments with especial expectancy, and rarely made up my mind upon any question until I heard what he had to say upon the subject.

So it was in matters which were not connected with the University. Being not far from the same age, and having the same general tastes and interests, we became intimate; and I almost always talked over with him the subjects in which I was interested. Whenever I had any practical question to decide, in matters outside of the University, or was in doubt with regard to the organization and conduct of my department, or desired counsel in any literary work, I went spontaneously to him, and always got helpful suggestions.

With these qualities he could not fail to exert a strong influence upon the students of his classes; his counsel was very often sought by them, and, I know, was valued highly. There was a frankness and friendliness in his intercourse with the students which secured him an influence which the weight of his opinions by itself might perhaps have failed to establish. This personal influence, joined with his remarkable powers as a teacher,