

very young man; and I sympathized deeply with the freshness of feeling, the enthusiasm, the eager hopes and the ardent ambition of this still younger man. During the two years he then remained in the University, I knew him well, and our relations were always cordial and friendly.

If he was sometimes rash and hasty in the formation and expression of opinion; if he sometimes amused and sometimes provoked me by his excessive self-reliance and over-confidence, I soon learned to recognize in these only the generous ebullitions of a large and quick brain, flushed with the triumphs of a successful student life, and grasping with eager desire at all forms of knowledge. Perhaps it is true that even amid the larger and riper treasures of scholarship of his mature life, Prof. Carpenter did not always distinguish quite as sharply as more cautious men would, between what he actually knew and what he only supposed; and naturally this characteristic was more striking in the warm blood of his immature youth. But no man capable of judging could know him well then without perceiving that his acquirements for so young a man were really remarkable, and justified him in a large opinion of his own powers.

Of his Latin scholarship at that period I cannot speak with confidence. It is rather an impression than an opinion—an impression largely derived from his own conversation—if I say that he had acquired a sufficient knowledge of it for his college purposes so easily that it had ceased to interest him, and his acquaintance with it, though superior to that of most graduates, was still rather superficial. But Greek was evidently his hobby; he was obviously a favorite student of his distinguished Greek professor, Dr. Kendrick, of Rochester, and he had delivered a Greek oration as his commencement performance. And I have never personally known any man of his years, any graduate fresh from an American college, who had so large an acquaintance with Greek literature, especially with the Greek poets. He had already read all the Homeric poems through several times, and was singularly familiar with several of the Greek dramatists, especially Aeschylus and Sophocles. I well remember the surprise with which I heard him propound to me, shortly after our acquaintance began, sev-