perhaps destined to act conspicuous parts in the theatre of life. Some of you, when your honoured ancestors shall return to their primitive dust, will by the irresistible command of your country be forced to assume the mantles which they dropped at their final departure, and grasp the slippery reins of government. It is therefore a duty incumbent on you, both for your own interest, and that of your country, to prepare for the important stations which will be assigned to you, and the awful responsibility that will devolve upon you in your political capacity. I shall point out to you as perspicuously as I can, such studies as occur to me the most prominent, in advantage towards the formation of a statesman, professional character or man of learning. The studies of college are of primitive importance to those situated as we are at present and expect to be at some future period of life. They are adapted to the purposes of public and private life and for this reason alone demand our most serious attention. But when we consider that a knowledge of the studies is an essential prerequisite to association with the polished circles of society, and a just claim to respectability, it ought to be, to us, a grand incentive to application. From the study of the languages Edmund Burke derived his most noble sentiments, beautiful imagery and solid instruction, because he studied them like a philosopher not like a pedant. The study of the mathematics by the frequent exercise of reason—