sufficiently well known to us, we may find it interesting to note in such connection the actions of students in others. Crossing over to the mother country, we find their status too much like our own to be interesting. The English collegiate, more generally addicted to sports than his American cousin, and having usually more money to spend, finds sufficient diversion and occupation for his energies without dabbling in a pool from which the conservative prejudices of his countrymen naturally preclude all but men of mature years. Compared with the results of the boat race between Oxford and Cambridge, or the standing of his college on the University cricket-field and the river, political contests are simply side-shows, convenient for betting, because he is sure neither party will “throw” the race. If wealthy and ambitious, he may look forward with some interest to the day when a constituency of whom he scarcely knows anything may choose him to represent a borough of which he knows still less. But his political influence is all in the future.

Across the channel, however, his vivacious French neighbor is his very opposite in that respect. A Parisian student is a fair type of a French student; or, rather, all French students are cheap and feeble imitations of Parisian students, and every Parisian student is a politician. Untrammeled by any restraint from his parents, who may live almost anywhere in the provinces, he makes the affairs of the nation his sport and diversion. Under the first Empire, a writer who studied law at the University of Paris at that time, says that “out of fifteen hundred young men who nominally followed the lectures, scarcely fifty studied seriously. The others gave themselves up to pleasure, or sought amusement in miscellaneous reading. They generally contented themselves with going to the school to answer to the calling over of the muster-roll, after which they disappeared.” Sometimes they would not even take that trouble, but arrange with comrades to answer to their names, and even to pass examinations for them. A man who made a paying business of the latter arrangement was once arrested by the authorities, but eventually discharged, on account of lack of penalty provided by law. Professors generally winked at these practices, which are not yet entirely things of the past. Part of the leisure thus obtained is spent in coffee-houses and club-rooms, where the students imbibe those extreme liberal ideas for which, as a class, they are distinguished. When he goes back to his father’s vineyards, the student may and commonly does settle down into a staid, common-place, conservative old agriculturist, but while at Paris he is simply and wholly a student, possessing those opinions characteristic of his class, and holding them with a temporary intensity and sincerity which may make him a factor of great revolutions or of a hopeless and rash uprising, a political leader or a mark for bullets behind a barricade. In times of peace he makes himself felt in continuous gibes and slurs at any government which does not suit his notions. Under the second Napoleon a statue of that ruler was installed with great solemnity and adulation in the amphitheatre of the Law School at Paris, only to have its nose knocked off the next day. Although the event was immediately magnified into a conspiracy, and hundreds of students were taken before the police and examined, no clue to the perpetrator could be found.

In his neglect of study, at least for the first year or two, the German student bears considerable resemblance to his French aversion. He, however, is on better terms, as a general thing, with the authorities. If “pulled in” for any offense he is simply called upon to hand his student’s card, a sort of certificate of identity, to the magistrates, and permitted to depart. In a few days he receives a notice of the number of days he must spend in a special student’s prison, to expiate his offense, and is, unless guilty of some grave misdemeanor, permitted to arrange the date of his time of confinement to suit himself, which he does with probably similar feelings to those of an American student making up a condition. He delights in playing innocent little tricks on the police; as, for example, two students will procure a plank, and, each tak-