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THE FREE LANCE.

VOL. I.

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No. 1.

THE FREE LANCE.

Published monthly during the college year by the Students of The Pennsylvania State College.

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Contributions of matter and other information are requested from all members and ex-members of the College. Literary matter should be addressed to the Editor. Subscriptions, and other business communications, should be addressed to the Business Manager.

THIS issue is delayed beyond the time set for its appearing, owing to inconvenience in procuring the services of a publisher. Hereafter the publication will be issued near the middle of each month.

IF there be anything in the history of this institution that admits of reproach, it is the lamentable fact that the students, notwithstanding their creditable rank in so many other respects, have never exhibited sufficient enterprise to publish a journal. We shall offer no apology for unintentional conservatism. The case illustrates the force, the inertia of precedent—a thing particularly noticeable in groups of isolated society.

Some of our students of journalistic proclivities have more than once agitated the question of printing a monthly, but, being loath to disturb the easy monotony of daily study, were content with the notion to push the project at "some future time." It was not until the two literary societies by a joint committee proposed a definite plan that substantial steps were taken, followed by the election of an *editorial staff* from the college classes, and now it devolves upon this body

"To give to airy nothing
 A local habitation and a name."

With this our first issue we are not altogether free from embarrassment lest we be found wanting in the proper discharge of the duties assigned us. Nevertheless, it shall be our aim to sedulously represent to our readers the *status* of our College, an institution which enjoys, against a sometimes faulted past, a prosperous present and the assurance of a most successful future.

To our Contemporaries we say we are glad to join the ranks. We say ranks, because Student Journalism is surely a fixture of the American university. From the portals of our institutions step editors, as well as lawyers, physicians and technicians, prepared to face the competing world. If the graduated student be not a compendium of both principles and practice it is no fault