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THE FREE LANCE.

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A N apology is perhaps due our readers for the tardy appearance of our last issue. The delay was caused by the publishing house, and was no fault of the staff.

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THE intermission in society work this term caused by the condition of the building has been rather enjoyed than regretted. The odd hours and surplus energy have been consumed by outdoor amusements. Now that the season is about closing we suggest that a series of public debates similar to the recent tariff debate be arranged. As soon as our society halls are completed we will settle down to the

old routine work; at present we have nothing of this character; between these two seasons could we not occupy the indoor hours, necessarily longer from now on, with something we cannot have when the societies are in session, namely: debates of general college interest upon subjects which appeal to the student, or to popular discussion. In case such a movement is inaugurated we solicit the hearty coöperation of all the students in its behalf as a thing for which we may not again have opportunity.

IN many of our institutions where there is a variety of courses of instruction there might be a better distribution of these courses among the different branches of learning, by adopting the courses in those branches which directly benefit the masses. While the technical courses which are the chief feature in so many of our colleges are directly beneficial, they often do not reach the practical side which the great mass of our people seek. A few of our leading colleges endeavor to bridge this difficulty by adopting courses which tend neither to the Sciences nor the Classics, but aim to give a short, complete course in some popular branch of learning. Among these is a course in journalism lately adopted by some of our colleges. Perhaps none of the shorter courses will better fit men for useful and profitable occupations than this one. The demand for college men in the world of journalism is shown by the number of graduates employed upon the staffs of our leading papers, those upon a leading periodical numbering as high as thirty. If there is a demand for College men with an ordinary collegiate education, there would necessarily be a much greater demand for those who have this education combined with a good, practical knowledge of