

Comparatively few respond, and often those who do respond do not lend their best effort; they take so little interest in the matter that much labor upon their productions is necessary in correcting gross errors caused by evident carelessness. "These things ought not so to be." Give free reins to youthful tendencies and tackle hard subjects if you will; be extravagant, be crude, only don't be careless. We will with pleasure encourage and assist any of our number, of any class, who will give their best effort, and we appeal to all for contributions. But a feature which the paper ought to present by way of contributions from Alumni is still more noticeably absent. Doubtless no part of the paper would be read with so much interest as articles from former students, written upon some timely topic, or letters written for publication. Such communications would be appreciated by all students here as well as by all who have ever had any personal relations with the writers, or who have ever been connected with the institution. Beside this, we believe that Alumni can aid their *Alma Mater* by suggestions. The strength of a college lies largely in her Alumni. If they have no aid, encouragement, or suggestions to offer, an important source of strength is lacking. If Alumni can give their aid, encouragement, or suggestions in a more material form let them do so, but meanwhile let us hear from them. The FREE LANCE was dedicated to the joint interests of *Alma Mater*, Alumni, and undergraduates, and accordingly we wish all to be represented.

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UP to this time about the only opportunity for the expression of college loyalty by return visits on the part of students who have

gone out from here has been the society reunions and occasional class reunions of commencement week. These society reunions seem to awaken warm feelings in the hearts of Alumni; they seem to draw by the strongest ties which were knit during college life here. From the present onward, fraternity associations will be more and more potent to call back old students. And indeed it is desirable that all such influences be employed to kindle an enthusiasm for their *Alma Mater* in the hearts of former students. Such an enthusiasm will keep finding opportunities to serve the interests of *Alma Mater* abroad. There ought to be such a love of *Alma Mater* bred in the hearts of students that they would always be mindful of her. Judging from the measure of such love and enthusiasm which finds expression in reunions and revisits here, we doubt whether Alumni are always active as advocates of the interests of their college. The fact is that reunions here, left to Alumni organization, are sure to fall through. It is argued in some colleges that the "elective go-as-you-please system" adopted in courses of study is responsible for the lack of the spirit and enthusiasm spoken of above, which would otherwise exist among old students. If this be true it may be that with us the diversity of our courses produces a like effect. However this may be we appeal to Alumni to make the reunions of next June unprecedented at this place for enthusiasm and interest on their part.

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THING which is being agitated among the students is a desire to have the regulations relating to absence from recitations in the college departments changed or at least slightly modified. As it now is it is difficult