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THE FREE LANCE.

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THIS being the last issue of the FREE LANCE under the guidance and management of the present staff, we take the opportunity to express our satisfaction at the support we have received from our students and friends.

As the college organ, we have endeavored to deal fairly and squarely with every question brought to our notice and at the same time to furnish news of their *Alma Mater* to those who have graduated from or left the institution for the varied pursuits of life.

Recognizing the position held by the LANCE in college journalistic circles, it has been our desire to advance it, rather than merely to keep up the old-time form. As to how well we have succeeded, we leave our

readers to decide for themselves. Thanking all for kind suggestions and help in the work, we retire with the hope that our successors will push the LANCE to the front of representative college journals and that they receive the hearty co-operation of every student and alumnus of the institution in their effort.

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IT is with sincere regret that we feel called upon to notice the recent disturbance between the two lower classes and the consequent action of the Faculty. That such disturbances and conflicts between the Sophomore and Freshmen classes in our colleges have occurred almost from time immemorial and will continue to occur for some time yet to come, is a well-known fact. That the problems arising therefrom are very delicate ones, and as such to be very gingerly though firmly dealt with by Faculties is also a well-known, though by no means a universally appreciated, fact.

The question of the relations existing between college classes is a rather formidable one. As regards the two higher classes, it rather adjusts itself to a sufficient extent to prevent collision; but with respect to the two lower, it frequently results in open warfare. The term college and class spirit is not applied to a mere wild, unreasonable, boyish effusion of animal feelings to be regarded with contempt and overcome by the will. It is infinitely higher than this, and is the first out-croppings of that after-spirit which leads a merchant to compete with his neighbors, a lawyer to prosecute his case to its utmost limit, a general to harass his enemy and drive them into their inmost breach. Of course, when class spirit over-