

"save their rinds." Failing to fully realize this, or realizing, and then failing to act, we may find as some one has wittily remarked, that,—“It is a condition and not a theory, which confronts us!”

"Honor and fame from no condition rise!
Act well your part: there all the honor lies."

* * *

WE take pride in directing the attention of all to the program for the 22nd of February, at the Pennsylvania State College. May we not say that it speaks for itself? In the brightness of a new era in the history of this institution, our visitors will behold one of the grandest and finest buildings that has ever been erected in Pennsylvania for educational purposes. They will also hear the inspiring words of men of affairs, and national reputation, upon an inspiring occasion. Let every one make the fullest use of this day, for it will afford an unusual opportunity to gather thoughts and impressions of such vitality that they must go ringing through all the years of life.

* * *

LISTEN to the following chirp from an alumnus:

McKeesport, Pa., Dec. 28, '92.

FREE LANCE—

You will find enclosed two dollars and one half (\$2.50.)

Whenever the FREE LANCE amounts to that much stop the paper. It is of little interest to me. I am interested in news from the different members of the alumni and not the little personal jokes at College.

Very truly,

J. C. B.

The above refrain was elicited by the presentation of a bill for a FREE LANCE subscription running in its third year; and as we so seldom hear from the alumni, we hasten to give any of those who feel that they have had a surfeit of "college jokes" the benefit of this wail from one of their number.

If Mr. B. and the rest of the alumni will cast their eyes up to the head of the editorial column they will see there a standing request for "news from the alumni," which it would pay the alumni to take more notice of in the future than they have in the past.

We hold that we have a right to expect contributions from the alumnus, because it is his proud privilege to keep in touch with, and help mould the life and spirit of his *alma mater*. All the interest he takes in her will pay him double profit. The honor and the growth of the college from which he graduates is all his own.

* * *

WE wish editorially to apologize to sundry contributors for various typographical errors. Month after month we think we will surely succeed in eliminating these errors. We promise to not cease our efforts. If any one thing makes one feel profane, it is to have his finest efforts marred by double negatives, singular predicates with plural nouns and vice versa, together with other nameless incongruities which were not to be found in the original manuscript. We can clear typographical errors from the FREE LANCE, and we are going to do it.

CHINA.

[Introduction to an illustrated lecture on China delivered before the Friday Club by Prof. Romya Hitchcock.]

The traveller in the far East meets with many strange experiences, and he can scarcely set foot upon the Asiatic continent without feeling that he is in almost a new world. He is in truth, so far as the people are concerned, as much in a new world as he could be among the dwellers on the planet Mars. It is a world in which the entire course of human life seems to be reversed. Manners, customs, dress, the habits of life, everything, is changed. This is strangely true of China, and we all enjoy an opportunity to hear about the Chinese: and indeed we do hear more or less concerning them which is by no means entirely true. But to those who are imbued with the spirit of an explorer, and at the same time devoted to the study of mankind, the truth becomes more and more impressed upon the mind, that to know and understand the peculiarities of any people, we must delve into the records of their earliest tradition