

work; but this is not true. The training he gets adds incalculably to his ability to express himself. Nowhere else in his college work can a man secure, if he will, so much and so good practice in writing as on the staff of his college paper. Then too, if he takes a proper pride in his work, and does it well, he gets not only the approbation of the student body, but of all connected with, or interested in his college. Thorough and honest effort in any sphere deserve the plaudits of the observer. This is especially true of our public servant, the college editor. He works not so much for himself as for the body of students. The success he achieves goes to their credit, so I say that he deserves and should receive nothing but encouragement from them.

It is necessary that with our rapid advancement in rank and numbers, our successes in athletics, and our increased facilities, of which we are so justly proud, should come a correspondingly higher literary standard for the LANCE. By it we are judged, as we daily judge of our neighbors by their periodicals. Do you think the LANCE justly and fully represents us, and is keeping pace? If not, remember that in your hands lies her future; you elect the staff and you, alumni included, are supposed to encourage them with items of interest and by paying your subscription. If you can't do this, don't discourage by depreciatory remarks or letters. Above all, the students need to be careful in selecting the coming staff. It should be composed of not only the oldest men but also of the most energetic men,—men who can and will do the work. Too often is the honor of membership given to the popular man, or along fraternity lines resulting in a staff which cares nothing for its work, and does not do us justice. Such foolishness cannot be too deeply deplored.

Would you sacrifice in any degree the standing of your *alma mater* for personal motives, or a petty fraternity feeling? You say nay, yet we fear this is too often done. If you would not, be careful in the selection of men to represent you on the LANCE. Get talent, but above all get energy. I have nothing but praise for those members of the present staff who do their work. Some do it well indeed, but the sluggard deserves our contempt. CASTOR.

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THE greatest source of regret to a man after spending four years at college is in the fact that he has not made the most of his time and his abilities. So many of the students idle away the greater part of every evening, and never give it more than a passing thought until it is too late, and they have no way of changing their course. Then comes the remorse from a sense of opportunities neglected which so much displeases the man who tries to review his college career. If every one would stop to think, and decide for himself whether he is coming up to his convictions of what is right, and what is due to himself from himself, there would be less of displeasing reflection on

a college life of dissipation and senseless indulgences. Cowper says:

How readily we wish time spent revoked,  
That we might try the ground again, where once,  
(Through inexperience as we now perceive)  
We missed that happiness we might have found.

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FOR the benefit of our successors we shall take the liberty of paraphrasing the oft quoted utterance of a well known man in his day—

Dr. Samuel Johnson.

Catch on! Oh catch on,—  
Grab the fleeting thought  
Before it dies!

Pin down your inspirations as fast as they come, and at the close of the month you will be ready to afflict a "suffering public" with a volubility not equalled by your predecessors. Although this policy has been in the main adhered to by the present editors, a slight neglect of it has cost the readers of the LANCE some of the choicest of literary products.

It has seemed advisable, too, to drop several of the subjects that were noted; namely;—a brief review of Herbert Spencer's *Philosophy of Style*,—a book every one who has found rhetoric a dull subject ought to read and study; and, a review of Gladstone's scheme for "Irish Autonomy." "See"!

However, if we have learned anything from FREE LANCE work, it is, that it is necessary to take notes instantly when any subject presents itself.

It was because of failure to do this that the otherwise lugubrious pens of the assistant editors failed to let down ink.

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AS will be seen in the local columns, the State College has become one of the affiliated institutions for the spread of University Extension in America. The system originated in England some twenty years since, but only after several failures has it been successfully started here within the past two years. Indeed, as yet, one may question whether it will pass as a "fad," or will take its place as a permanent educational movement as it has in England. However, there are in