

They practiced hard and faithfully and have made a creditable showing for the College.

The future of these clubs should not be imperilled by reason of a debt of a very few hundred dollars which could be removed by a slight sacrifice on the part of the faculty and students.

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THE editors of the LANCE are desirous of introducing a new department of original college verse. In our most popular exchanges we find several pages given to terse bits of verse, smoothly written and as rule right to the point.

There is nothing more pleasant or stimulating to a tired mind than a nonsensical parody in verse. Without any effort many of our students could furnish us with readable verse. We publish several productions in this issue. See if you can't "go us one better."

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WHY can't we send a winning athletic team to the State inter-collegiate meet this year.

We can and will—if all our students who are able to qualify, will put themselves in the hands of our excellent trainer, Mr. Hoskins, and follow his systematic training conscientiously. Last year our boys realized the beneficial effects of steady training when Swathmore snowed them under so neatly on our own grounds.

Many think it useless to try as they feel sure they can never win. Some of our best athletes had but small opinion of their abilities until they *tried* to do something and discovered a hidden power. Let every healthy student in our institution come out and compete in our handicap meets this spring. A handicap meet is just the place for a novice to make his first attempts. Every man has equal chances of winning if the handicaps are arranged judiciously. Mr. Hoskins has displayed good judgment heretofore, in placing men in these meets, and every man may feel confident that he will be placed on equal footing with his competitors,

MOST heartily we agree with the sentiments expressed in the editorial columns of the last issue, regarding the desirability of an extension of the details of Lieutenants McCaskey and Kinkead, who have accomplished so much good work in their departments here. Whatever service we attempt is certainly better, more thoroughly and more successfully done after we have served a certain time in learning the best methods for doing just that work. The most successful professor is, as a rule, the one who has learned by experience (for it can be learned in no other way) the exact needs and difficulties of his students in a particular branch. Even more, we should judge, would such experience be required in successfully teaching so exact and practical a science as military manuals and movements. The praise received recently from several sources on the appearance of our battalion has been very gratifying—why may we not have a continuance of it? The FREE LANCE extends its heartiest congratulations to these gentlemen for their past success and with them a wish that they may remain longer with us.

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IT is certainly to be deeply regretted that State will not be represented at the contest of the Pennsylvania inter-collegiate oratorical union which is to be held at Lancaster on the 26th inst. Having failed to send a contestant last year we now forfeit our membership in the union, according to the constitution. This is scarcely encouraging to our friends who are earnestly hoping to see the College assume a higher literary standard than she has enjoyed heretofore, and deserves a careful investigation and the application of a proper remedy, at once. We are hardly willing to acknowledge that our students are totally without oratorical ability, for such a condition is neither flattering nor true. Every student is required to present and deliver orations during two years of his course, and with this training *should* have a fair knowledge of the art of public speak-