

THE FREE LANCE.

*Published Monthly during the College Year by the Students of
The Pennsylvania State College.*

Vol. IX.

MARCH, 1896.

No. 9.

CHRISTIANITY AND OUR COLLEGES.

Sermon delivered by John M. Grégory, LL. D., February 23rd, 1896.

I come first, to some certain facts in regard to our higher institutions of learning. In the report of the Commissioner of Education for the year 1892 (the later reports are not yet in print) we are told that there are 451 colleges and universities in the United States. Four hundred and fifty-one colleges and universities! Of these 310 were for men and women both. This is an increase of thirty colleges over those of previous reports. and an increase of three per cent. over those that admitted women to their classes. Besides these, there are 143 colleges for women alone.

Turning to the first number, 451. In these colleges there were 5,679 instructors and professors, the first men of the land in learning and intelligence, in the college departments. Taking in all the departments, college, preparatory and professional, there were 10,247 teachers, men and women, pledged to this great work. They are the staff and officers of the regiments and brigades in this great army that marches forward to conquer knowledge and scatter intelligence. In these colleges there were 44,054 preparatory students, but there were in the college classes 55,553 students, mostly young men. I speak this, not with a feeling that it is better thus, for I long ago came to the belief that woman has the same right to education, the same need for education, and that in the hands of woman education is of equal importance and value to the country itself and to mankind at large; so that I, for one, am glad with every college that throws open its doors to the daughters as well as the sons of the people. Counting both preparatory and college students, we have a grand total of 140,053. What an army of young men