

# The Free Lance.

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

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### TERMS :

One Volume (9 months) . . . \$1.00 | Single Copies . . . . . 15 cents.  
Payable in advance.

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*Entered at State College Post Office as Second Class Matter.*

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APRIL, 1896.

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“ Like a maiden shy and fearful,  
Hidden now by turns, and seen  
Frownest now, and now art cheerful,  
Spring—creation's fickle queen.

Winter's wither'd clutches hold thee,  
Doting on thy youthful charms,  
Summer, longing to infold thee,  
Pulls thee to his ardent arms.”

To SPRING under whose favorable patronage was propagated the idea of founding this medium, by which walls of the outside world were to be pierced or “ lanced,” so to speak, by the life and