

# THE FREE LANCE.

VOL. VI.

STATE COLLEGE, PA., OCTOBER, 1892.

No. 4.

## THE FREE LANCE.

*Published monthly during the college year by the Students  
of the Pennsylvania State College.*

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*Single Copies, . . . . . .15*  
*Payable in advance.*

Contributions of matter and other information are requested from all members and ex-members of the College.

Literary matter should be addressed to the Editor.

Subscriptions, and all business communications, should be addressed to the Business Manager.

*Entered at State College Post Office as second class matter.*

TO the old class of students resuming work in college we have no word of caution or advice; you have been through the fire and know the test. But to the new men just entering college we would offer one word of gratuitous advice. The first term of a college course is a season of habit-forming; you are seeking your level, which should not be as the inanimate pebble tossed to the brook's stony bed, but as rational man seeking the means conducive to the best end. The first term is the *great factor* in every college

man's career. In that time is laid the foundation on which is most probable to repose all your subsequent work. So be very sure of your bearings before fixing the basis of so important and lasting a calculation.

\* \* \*

IN regard to the foregoing we shall say relative to a certain class of our LOYAL alumni, you have been tolerated in your tardiness of paying subscriptions (rather not paying) quite long enough. Matters have come to such a strait that we cannot support a subscription list of college alumni with four and five years for which we have received nothing.

We here take occasion to mention to such as have received repeated statements of such accounts and pay no attention to them, that you will get your names in print.

"There comes a time when patience ceases to be a virtue."

\* \* \*

WE owe to our subscribers a brief explanation of the reason of the delay in our getting the issue to their hand.

The FREE LANCE's exchequer is at the present in a most deplorable condition. To cut a long story short, avoid details, and make a very plain, but entirely accurate, statement conceiving the financial status of the paper; the last staff left us in the sink for about two hundred dollars; for which amount our printer made demand before allowing further publication to proceed. We were unable to provide for such an enormous demand, but did secure, from a friend of the paper, personal security for cost of this issue; for which however no provision was made till late.

This is doubtless a startling and most unsatisfactory revelation to a number of the supporters of the college paper; to whom the question will pre-