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SALUTATORY.

It is customary for a college journal at the beginning of each year's work to make out a sort of political menu, which, during the rest of the year, it talks about, refers to, offers to die for, in fact, does everything but follow. Desiring to honor all the hallowed traditions of journalism, we proceed to follow this time-honored custom, and demand for our statement as much credulity as the public usually has for a paper's statement of its own policy.

Daring the coming year, we intend to do just three things, so far as lies within our power, and we may as well state them in

plain, unornamented language which anyone can interpret without the aid of a hand-book of mythology or a dictionary of similes. We mean to attack whatever appears to us to injure college spirit and activity, to defend whatever appears to promote and strengthen it, and to most scrupulously let alone what appears harmless and inoffensive.

Undoubtedly, the most pleasant position in journalism is that of the dilettante. The habitual and professional unbeliever at least has the satisfaction of knowing that he never wastes his enthusiasm on things that are not worth it. Indeed, after a restful summer, the temptation is strong to take a balcony seat on the wall with the elders and watch the contest on the plain through a glass. But such has never been the policy of the HESPERIAN. For whatever else the paper may have been noted or notorious, its pugilistic tendencies have been universally admitted. It can say, as a certain French soldier once said, that he had been in every kind of fight, from a duel with a crown prince to a street scuffle with his butcher, and we hope it can add, for this year at least, the rest of the soldier's boast, that he considered himself a gentleman nevertheless, for he had always fought by the code and never lost his temper. If there is any fighting to be done, we will be down in the line fighting on one side or the other, striking out from the shoulder. If we err, we will err through bad judgment, not through lack of enthusiasm.

Last semester, the HESPERIAN completed its twenty-second year, so far as we know the most serene and peaceful year of its existence. In its day, it has blacked a good many eyes, and blacked them creditably,