

independence and impartiality; and to advocate at all times whatever promised the true advancement of our Alma Mater. In so far as we have succeeded in keeping up to this standard are we satisfied;—wherein we have failed, we look gladly to our successors to execute more ably and successfully the plan which in our opinion is essential to the furtherance of the STUDENT'S usefulness and popularity.

We wish to express to our student patrons the opinion that they misconceive the extent of their duty to this paper. At the time of the regular HESPERIAN elections there is periodical interest enough exhibited to sustain three or four college journals, but when the editors and officers of the Board are once elected, the subscribers seem to think that they have discharged their entire obligation to the paper, and contributed the whole of their semi-annual assistance to its success. This disposition may be a very strong confidence in the newly chosen Board, or it may be simple laziness; but we are strongly inclined to think it is the latter. In either case it is asking too much of the editorial corps to compel them to furnish or hunt up articles for the Scrap Book department. Contributions should be brought in by the writers, and space for their insertion deemed a favor. The STUDENT would highly appreciate a livelier interest in this matter, and thinks that there is no good reason in this instance why the demand for copy should exceed the supply. Try the experiment for a while, and if your satisfaction in this paper does not increase as an early result, you may purchase our reputation as a prophet at your own rates.

The January number of the North American Review contains an article from the pen of Dr. Thomas, entitled "The Responsibilities of Progressive Thinkers," which is well worth a careful perusal by every fair-minded lover of the truth. He makes a reasonable and stirring appeal, not for free thought, but for freedom to think,—a liberty which, in the search after truth, shall not imply the thinker's desertion or ostracism by the teachers and believers of orthodoxy. He stands forth as an advocate of religion, not of theology,—of the spirit, not the letter, of the creed. In view of the author's personal history, the article in question is especially forcible and touching. A stainless private life, a nobly moulded character, a zealous pursuit of the truth and a fearless disregard of the consequences resulting from the performance of his duty, a boundless love and charity for his fellow-men and an abiding faith in their ultimate welfare and happiness;—these are the characteristics of the man who calls upon his fellow creatures to shake off the fetters of dogma, and fear not to believe and confess

that which accords with their reason. With purity of motive, earnestness of purpose and steadfastness of conviction, this grandly honest human being stretches out his hands to his vast brotherhood, humanity, and simply asks the tolerance and attention of his generation. Will they grant it? Will they adopt the following passage for their future guide? "Be true, true to facts and to the laws of thought; and with a confidence in truth that can know no doubt, follow where truth leads; and if the way be dark and uncertain for a time, wait for the morning."

The semi-annual election on the first instant was largely attended, and resulted in the election of one of the ablest editorial corps that it has ever been our pleasure to see take control of the STUDENT. That the election was entirely under Union control was very manifest, though quite unusual; but while the Palladians were evidently surprised, they exhibited the good grace to swallow the pill gracefully and without a murmur. Recollections of their past successes, no doubt, and dreams of the future, rendered them acquiescent in allowing every position on the Board to be filled by acclamation,—an event which we have never witnessed before. We are too well acquainted with the natural temper of the University to infer from this that our college millenium is at hand; but with the present friendly relations existing between the societies, there is no special object or advantage to be gained by a society majority on the Board. This journal is not and should never be a partisan of either society or of any university faction, and upon the management of the paper devolves the duty to see to it that no such partisanship characterizes our first and only venture in the line of college journalism.

CONSIDERABLE has already been said in these columns concerning the need of a chancellor in the University, and as this journal purports to be a mouth-piece of our students in general, we cannot as yet remain quiet on the subject. In the first place let it be understood that we do not consider that the principal aim and duty of a chancellor is to enforce discipline and maintain order. This can be and is done without such an officer. The STUDENT and its supporters do not place the head of this institution, past or future, on a par with the principal of a public school, the superintendent of a manufactory, or the warden of a penitentiary. Aside from the necessary and tolerably easy control of our students, there is a higher, more difficult and equally essential department of labor which can be properly carried on by but few men, and by men whose entire attention and energy are applied to the duties of that department. The true work of the president or chancellor in any college or university cannot be advantageously dis-