## OPPORTUNITY.

(The Southern Collegian.)

A king and a peasant, as legends say,

Reaped the grain in a broad wheat field, Through the morning and noon till the close of day, And the king's was the greater yield; But the peasant found in the evening-tide

A rare and a precious stone,

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And the king toiled on 'mid the golden grain, But the peasant went up to a throne.

For the jewel was called Opportunity; And find it perhaps you may,

And perhaps, like the king, you may toil and sigh,

Though you seek it forever and aye;

You may be a peasant and gain a crown,

Or perchance you may die unknown,

For there's many a king who gathers the grain, While a peasant is filling his throne.

## EXCHANGE NOTES.

We were not a little surprised and no less amused at an article, headed "Why should we annex Canada?" Which which appears in the February number of the Free Lance Pennsylvania State College. It is a splendid evidence of the entire the entire ignorance of the vast majority of Americans as to our history, our institutions, our resources, our phenomenal development and prosperity, and the position we Occupy among the nations of the world to-day. At first we were inclined to overlook the article as being devoid of since it does seem as if the sincerity, but on closer inspection it does seem as if the write-

Writer is quite conscientious and earnest in what he says. The article opens in this fashion: "During the past two or three years much has been said in an unofficial way concerning the plan of annexing Canada to the United States. The talk has been largely on our part, as it is generally known that Canadians are not very willing to give the matter consideration." Plan of annexation, What blissful assurance! We are very glad to see, however, that our American friends are aware that Canadians will be that our American friends are aware that Canadians Will not be a party to their plan. But the fact that Cana-dians d evidently does not dians do not fall in with their "scheme" evidently does not wotry transformer best merely a secondary conworry Uncle Sam. It is at best merely a secondary con-sideration. The chief and almost sole reason, according to our esteemed cotem., that we have not long ago been swalle swallowed up, is that the States has been too busy with domestic up, is that the states has been too busy with domestic affairs and has not had time to come over after us. The fairs and has not had time to come over after The "scheme" is quite feasible should they at any <sup>time</sup> desire it.

The whole tenor of the article is that Canada, although as large if not larger in extent than the United States, is in its north in its northern half an icebound, trackless, uninhabitable region for the pole while the southern, or region fringing on the North Pole; while the southern, or old Canada," portion is occupied by a few squatters, who fshermen All this looks so ridiculous to us that we might fishermen. All this looks so ridiculous to us that we might have name. All this looks so ridiculous to a article of this have passed it over had it not been that an article of this kind appearing in a journal of the *Lance's* status must sway no more induced within the radius of its circulation.

 $w_{ay}$  ho mean influence within the radius of its circulation. We are that this *plan* of annexation We can assure the Lance that this plan of annexation  $n_{\rm phi}$  assure the Lance that this plan of annexation  $h_{\rm phi}$  canadians.  $h_{as}$  never been for a moment entertained by Canadians. We feel a set on and prosper under the ægis We feel quite content to go on and prosper under the ægis of Britaguite content to go on and prosper under the ægis of Britain's power and glory, quite independent of our meighbors power and glory, quite independent of our ming and anxious for peaceful and heighbors. Although willing and anxious for peaceful and intendivious the will gladly sacrifice friendly relations with them, still we will gladly sacrifice these aye, not only these, but our all,—rather than lose

All true Canadians would scout the idea of our becoming a mere backyard to the United States, a place which hight backyard to the United States, a place which hight be used as a basis of operations by them in case of war with the used as a basis of operations by them in case of the save their better (?) territory war with England, and thus save their better (?) territory from the "devastating results of war." It is extremely

amusing to hear Americans thus talk as if the time has not yet come when they will have use for Canada, but when it does all Uncle Sam will have to do is to don his uniform, strut over into this little settlement, frown upon us, and we will all fall at his feet. Surely those who talk this way know little of the pride and spirit and loyalty of the Canadian people. We have only to remind them of how the Eagle has had his feathers badly ruffled every time he has yet attempted to prey upon our heritage.

The liberty and freedom and security which we enjoy under the protection of the Union Jack and blessed with the best system of governmental institutions in the world has fostered no servile spirit within our breasts. Wily politicians may reason as they will concerning more intimate relations with the great Republic, but no man dare advocate our absorption into the Union. Sam may give us all the nasal twang he likes on the subject, but let him make the slightest advance toward a trespass and he will soon realize how faithfully the British lion guards the entrance.

" The people of Canada have never been educated up to the ideas of a Republican form of Government" is another reason the Lance gives for not wanting to swoop down upon us and capture us. Presumably we would not be worth the trouble it would take to "educate us up." "Educate up." Indeed! What have Canadians to say to this? They simply smile long and loudly. Every Canadian knows the advantages and disadvantages of both countries; the merits and demerits of both constitutions, and is competent to discuss the main features of each. Can Americans say as much? After this sample from so learned a source, we are forced to doubt it. Contrast the position of the President with that of the Premier; compare the two judicial systems-the systems of local government; in short, look carefully and thoroughly into the constitution, laws and institutions of each and tell us which is the more representative; which means government by the people; which is the freer from despotism and tyranny. Will the *Lance* tell us? Can any one doubt?

But what surprises Canadians more than anything is that sixty-five millions, with all their resources, industries, wealth, prosperity, comforts and freedom, which they are so fond of parading before the world, should look with such covetous eyes upon this insignificant frozen, barren waste, which they have long been wont to consider as a mere break-water between them and the Arctic icebergs. Why this covetousness ? Can it be that they envy us our progress—our railways, canals and other shipping facilities; our timber and mineral supply; our magnificent agricul-tural resources? Surely not!

We confess everybody admires and wonders at the strides-not only strides, but leaps and bounds-we have made during the last twenty-five years. But why envy us and endeavor to humble us? Why should a big, strong man strike down a vigorous young child merely because he gives' promise of a healthier, more symmetrical and attractive development than himself? Jealousy, fear of the future or what is it ? Pshaw ! everybody knows as well as we do.

This much, in conclusion, as a sort of cud to save you lacerating your lip, Mr. Lance. If the Yankee will just keep the thin edge of his long nose out of our affairs until we get a few more years on our heads this country will give our chin-whiskered friends a pretty hot race for the commercial supremacy of this continent.

CANUCK.

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In a Calcutta college where English is taught, a student in a great rage complained to his professor that another student had called him a liar. Surprised at such unwonted sensitiveness, the professor said : "I thought you Bengalis did not care about being called liars." "No," said the student, "if he had called me a liar in Bengali, I would have laughed at him; but, sir, he called me a liar in English, and I won't stand it.