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That delightful break in the routine of school work known as the Christmas recess is now almost upon us, and more than one tired and overworked student is looking forward with eager longing to the day when the portals of Boynton Hall are closed for the year 1889. A respite from anxiety and toil never seemed half so welcome before to some of our number. The Senior class has experienced three months of the most trying kind of work. Mechanics, draughting, practice and like branches have filled about sixteen hours out of the twenty-four of every day and "Polly Con" has filled the best part of the nights with dreams of seaweed, paper money and rent. Night after night the members of '91 have wasted kerosene in a vain attempt to put the Holden fox in his hole by going out into Paxton to search for a trail that had no existence outside of their own vivid imaginations. Day after day they have carried up analyt solutions with a reckless disregard for the market price of shoe leather. They have watched with quaking hearts their own blank square on the score-sheet while the "other fellows" have been pounding out three-baggers and home runs.

Well, '92, you have had your first experience with the machine shop and you have been introduced to mathematics. How many bolts have you ruined and what do you think of "originals"? You are having an easy time now, it is true, but next half the work begins in earnest and you will appreciate the Christmas vacation of 1890 much more than you do this one.

To the poor unfortunates who are awed by the bugbear of 168 hours extra practice into spending their vacation in Ichabod Washburn's precincts, the W P I extends its heart-felt sympathy. A sorry vacation it will be to them but they have their laugh when the summer months come and they are at liberty to joyfully flee to the seashore and mountains.

When school begins again we shall be on the eve of semi-annual examinations. It is poor policy to worry during vacation over a probable failure to pass.
Throw aside the text-books. Let the future take care of itself.

To all its local readers and to the loyal alumni scattered in all parts of the country who follow the fortunes of their Alma Mater as outlined from month to month in these columns, the WPI extends its wishes for a Merry Christmas and a most happy and prosperous New Year.

THE PAST YEAR.

The year 1889 has been an eventful period in the history of the Institute. Within this time the Salisbury Laboratories have been taken possession of and Boynton Hall has undergone improvements which have resulted in what is practically a new building. A radical change has been made in the assignment of scholarships which entirely eliminates the "free tuition" idea that had always been such a prominent feature of the school. A new and rational system of marking has gone into effect. A course in electrical engineering has been added to the curriculum and additions have been made to the list of instructors. New and costly apparatus has been purchased abroad and in this country for the use of the departments of physics and chemistry, especially physics. The Washburn Shops have been materially strengthened by the addition of new machinery. Substantial progress has been made in every department.

From the standpoint of the students the past year has been eventful in many ways. An athletic spirit which bid fair to greatly increase in intensity and power was beginning to be shown when a rebuff from an unlooked-for source considerably dampened its ardor. The new marking system, while it has done away with many of the objectional features of the old, has had no effect upon the amount and character of study demanded. The work has been just as hard and has required an application just as intense as in the palmiest days of the ranking method. But nearly all the personal jealousy and dissatisfaction with marks that was characteristic of the old régime has disappeared,—a most praiseworthy result.

January was ushered in without any special demonstration. Semi-annual examinations began on the 10th. Thirty-two apprentices were admitted to the class of '92 at the entrance examinations. Jan. 22 a party of 52 Techs attended a local theatrical performance and the "star" of the show imagined that he was insulted. Four students signed an apology and the affair was aired in the next morning's newspapers. The Middle class held its customary "half-way through" supper on the evening of Jan. 23. It was the class of Ninety this year and all previous records for fun and a general good time were broken. February 7, the Athletic Association held its regular semi-annual meeting. Officers were elected and delegates chosen to the N. E. I. A. A. convention. This convened Feb. 9, at the Quincy House, Boston. Worcester was decided upon as the place for the inter-collegiate meet of that year. The sensation of March was the unsuccessful attempt of the Worcester Elevator Company to influence legislation in order that the Institute should be open
to taxation. On the 28th of the month the Athletic Association held a special meeting and adopted a new constitution. April 6, Frederick William Fiske, a member of '91, died after a short illness. The duty of recording this, the only death of the year among our number, is rendered doubly sad by the fact that Fiske was one of the brightest, most talented and best liked fellows in the school. May was a great month for athletics. Class ball-nines were organized, '90 winning the school championship. Spring Field-day was held May 11. The weather was perfect, the attendance good and four records were broken. May 15, the Gazette "scooped" its contemporaries by announcing the important action of the Board of Trustees with reference to Worcester County scholarships. The intercollegiate meet, May 23, resulted in Dartmouth winning the championship for the second time in the history of the association. The school catalogue appeared changed for 1889 in its typographical and literary features. Examinations began June 9. Thirty-four men, forming the class of '89, received their diplomas June 26. During the summer months Boynton Hall was completely renovated. On Monday, July 8, the summer industrial school began its sixth annual session in the wood-room of the Washburn Shops and closed Aug. 3. Regular school work began Sept. 11. Twenty-two successful applicants for admission swelled the ranks of '92. The fifth annual tournament of the Tennis Association began Sept. 28 and proved to be the most successful in its history. A decree of "no foot-ball out of town" went forth from the Faculty. The fall Field-day was held Oct. 12 and again four Tech records were broken. On the evening of Oct. 25 a certain buggy acted in a mysterious manner and caused considerable talk for a few days. Nothing of special importance happened in November and in December up to date.

These are a few of the important happenings of 1889. The outlook for the coming year is exceptionally bright and the Institute can make a record of which it may well be proud. It has an equipment now that is well-nigh perfect. If this equipment is used to its best advantage and a determination to push energetically along all lines of progress is carried out, the Worcester Tech can reach a high standard of efficiency and its importance and influence will be correspondingly increased.

A NEGLECTED DUTY.

Only sixty-five men in the school now belong to the Athletic Association. Twenty-seven of this number are from '90, twenty-three from '91 and fifteen from '92. What is the reason that the other half of the school refuses its financial support to such an important feature of the Tech?

If there is any one organization where the students can meet on common ground, throwing aside all class and personal considerations and striving only for the advancement of a common interest, it is the Athletic Association. Its semi-annual field-days are enjoyed, if not participated in, by every member of the different classes. The encouragement which it gives to athletics is strongly
felt throughout every department of the school. The Tech has long been famed throughout the city of Worcester for its lively athletic contests. This state of things should be kept up but it certainly looks discouraging when only sixty-five men are willing to take hold and help. "In union there is strength" is a trite saying, but it fits this case exactly. The A. A. is going to increase in influence and power just in proportion as its membership increases. With every man in the school a member and taking an active interest, there will come an improvement in athletics for which there is still much room.

From the figures given above it is plain that half the students have neglected to perform a duty which justice demands of them. If they are loyal Techs they will support such a commendable institution as the Athletic Association not only with their mouths, but with their pocket-books.

**REMONSTRANCES VS. FACTS.**

Foot-ball May Be Dead but a Live, Healthy Ghost Goes Marching On.

During the past month there has come, from a source for which the W P I has only the greatest respect, a protest against the attitude of the paper on the foot-ball question. It is rather presumptuous, it has been claimed, for young men who are enjoying the benefits which the Institute confers, to criticise the actions of their elders, who are actuated only by the best interests of the boys under their protection and care. It has been said that writers whose eyes are blinded by prejudice and whose minds are biased by narrow partisanship have filled our editorial and news columns with statements wholly one-sided and characterized by petty jealousies and personalities; that the Faculty's side of the case has been misrepresented and that wrong motives have been attributed to them for the restrictions which, after most careful consideration, they decided to place upon foot-ball this year. The editor of the W P I, it has been alleged, has even gone so far as to solicit contributions which only express opinions in favor of the students' side of the subject; judging from all appearances, not the slightest effort has been made to give the matter a fair hearing; in short, the real facts have been suppressed and distorted,—all expressions of opinion which have not coincided with the anti-Faculty view have been most carefully muzzled. Why don't you give the other side a fair show? has been asked. You gain nothing by continually criticising this action of the Tech board of government. Better take things as you find them and confine your writing to other and more important subjects.

These, briefly, are the remonstrances that have been made against the course of the school paper. What are the facts?

A year ago, foot-ball in our colleges was on the top wave of popularity. Thousands flocked to the great contests of the intercollegiate leagues. The public prints were full of accounts of the players and the game. Our own Institute had a strong eleven and hundreds of its friends followed its varying fortunes as set forth in the local papers with the greatest interest. The athletic field was the scene, every afternoon, of exciting practice games. Every student in the school was more or less interested in the eleven and an esprit de corps was slowly being developed which boded the brightest future for the Institute in every line of effort.

This fall, with the certain prospect that foot-ball would increase in popularity and that our own team, if properly encouraged, would perhaps surpass its record of the previous year, the foot-ball management, only too confident that every encouragement would be given the game, applied for permission to join a league of sister institutions, a move which, we assert, if successful, would have placed the Worcester Tech on what might be called a social footing, which, in a great measure, it now lacks. This permission was not given. Indeed, the eleven was forbidden to go out of town to play its games. Of course, it was now wholly out of the question to continue to support a school team. Everything was
given up. It is not necessary to rehearse the circumstances attending this action. The whole story has already been told.

That this action of the Faculty in restricting to such an extent the privileges of the students was considerable of a surprise, is putting it mildly. With all branches of athletics and especially foot-ball rising into a prominence in our American colleges that had never been exceeded before, this decree was considered to be an expression of conservatism without a parallel outside of kindergarten and primary schools. A howl, more or less smothered, went up in opposition and in the October issue of this paper there was mirrored, as faithfully and accurately as it was in our power so to do, the plain, unvarnished news aspect of the situation. We claim, without fear of contradiction, that there was nothing in the five-column article in which the WPI then printed which went to prove that both sides were not given a fair hearing. In fact, a special effort was made to get at both sides of the question. The Athletic Association held a special meeting for the express purpose of hearing an authoritative statement from headquarters. A member of the Faculty addressed a meeting of the football men and his remarks were reproduced in type. When it came to obtaining opinions from outside the students, the interviewer went about his work specially instructed to make a thoroughly impartial report. Some friends of the school were met who, while it was known that they favored the stand that had been taken, refused to say anything for publication. Others declined to express an opinion until they had investigated the whole matter. Without regard to what they might say, these men were most cordially invited to send in their opinions by mail. Solicitation was made, also, by mail, of past members of the school who, it was thought, might be interested in this new departure at their Alma Mater. There was no attempt to direct these opinions in any narrow channel, for personal or other gratification. It is not so hard as some imagine to get opinions which conflict with the Faculty's ideas on the subject of foot-ball. The woods are full of them and a club thrown at random will bring down whole baskets-full.

The claim that the anti-foot-ball side of the story has not been given a fair show is absurd. When the WPI gets so bad that it is obliged to distort its facts and prostitute its news columns to bolster up a position that it has taken or would like to take on any subject, then, indeed, it will be time to call a halt.

How has it been in the editorial columns? Here, it is quite true, no half-way statements have been made. The action of the Faculty has been characterized as a "mistake," a "stamp of condemnation," showing "a deplorable tendency." In other columns of the paper, many short paragraphs have launched shafts of sarcasm and satire at this same action, but, by the way, the men back of it have been given the respect which is their due. The WPI has nothing to regret and nothing to take back with regard to what it has said on this foot-ball question. This paper is a paper of the students, by the students, and it is bought and paid for by the students. It is not the organ of the Board of Trustees. It is not run for the purpose of booming the products of the Washburn Shops. It is not a puppet to jump when the Faculty pull the string. It is for the boys first, last and all the time and in that position it is going to stay for all eternity, or until a non-paid-up subscription list drags it down into the black, gloomy depths of despair.

The statement has been made, also, that no arguments have been advanced which sustain the students' view of the matter. "It advertises the school" has been the burden of all the objectors to the Faculty decree, it is claimed.

This reason, "it advertises the school," has been given, it is true, but has nothing been said about the need of exercise and relaxation from studies? We have not thought it necessary to set forth in convincing a long string of pro's and con's and wherefore's to explain why foot-ball has any excuse for living. That is entirely unnecessary. Foot-ball needs no defence. Fifteen thousand people, the very flower of New England's sons and daughters, at the Yale-Harvard game at Springfield, twenty-five thousand at the Princeton-Yale contest, column after column of illustration and description of the game in the best monthly, weekly and daily prints, these are facts which are eloquent enough in their silence.
Nobody objects, now, because athletics "take time from studies." Nobody? Well, yes, a few. The Worcester Tech is one of the few.

Most of the reasons which the Faculty have advanced for their action have, one by one, been given a knock-out blow. The "expense" argument, the "brutal and demoralizing" argument, the "out-of-town" argument, all these have been proved to be merely side issues raised to obscure the real question at stake. The real reason, which looms up above the other insignificant objections like the tower of Boynton Hall above the gravestones in Rural cemetery, is, that lessons suffer when the boys play foot-ball; students are hindered in their studies by their devotion to the game; some natures can't hold more than one thing at a time,—these men can't play foot-ball and keep their minds on their lessons. Therefore, the Faculty say, we will shut down on football and all branches of athletics that take time from study hours.

Now we are quite willing to admit that foot-ball takes time from studies. We think that the carrying-out of an irresistible desire to play foot-ball all the time has greatly handicapped certain students in their studies. We can recall the name of one man who really was compelled to leave school because he neglected mathematics for foot-ball. This is, unquestionably, a sound argument. The Faculty have used it most skilfully in justifying their action. But they have overshot the mark in their eagerness. Mark you, here is the remedy. Instead of blindly punishing the innocent with the guilty, get down to individuals and, if any one student spends too much time on athletics, make him drop everything but his studies. This is the plan pursued at Harvard. It is the only fair solution of the problem. Don't, please, restrict the privileges of the whole school because a few irresponsible students abuse theirs.

With the deepest humility and meekness of spirit we bow to a decree of the Faculty which, we fear, has given a blow to athletics that will be felt for a long time. Asserting our prerogative to criticise this decree, however, we must say, recognizing of course, as we do, our own fallibility of judgment, but supremely confident in the judgment of hundreds fully competent to criticise, that this is an expression of conservatism that is not characteristic of the best modern methods of college government.

It remains to be seen what action will be taken in the future with respect to athletics by the authorities of the Tech. The students are waiting anxiously to see if a majority of the board of government are in favor of encouraging and fostering and giving substantial aid to our present abortive attempts at the attainment of a sound mind in a sound body. They know already that the Faculty have only the best interests of the school at heart. They know that the teachers will do everything in their power to promote the comfort and well-being of their pupils. They hope the Faculty will do nothing that future developments and riper judgment may condemn as hasty, unwarranted and uncalled for.

ATHLETIC NOTES.

Items of Interest in the Local and Intercollegiate Fields of Sport.

With the close of the foot-ball season, out-door athletic work ceases for the year and until spring the gymnasium is the only place where one can exercise himself, except in the case of those who find recreation in skating. The season just past has been quite a successful one so far as our own association is concerned. In the spring the most important event was the intercollegiate field-day and at that meeting our position as fourth in the league of seven prominent New England colleges, though not bettered, was successfully maintained.

This fall our association held a successful meeting of its own and is at the present time, though still somewhat in debt, in quite as good circumstances financially as it has been for several years. Had it not been for the bad weather of a year ago, the association would be out of debt at the present time, but even in its present condition, with the fine foot-ball weather which we have had the past fall, if we had had an eleven in the field the debt would have been wholly wiped out and there would be a near little surplus to start with, the coming year. But our foot-ball history this fall has been a blank.

Besides the field-day, the only other
event in the athletic line was the tennis tournament. The Tennis Association, though wholly independent of the Athletic Association, yet with the same purpose in view, gave the most successful tournament which it has ever held, the number of entries being greater than ever before and the interest in the tournament unprecedented. Not much athletic work has been done heretofore, during the winter months, but this year gives promise of being an exception to the general rule. Last night the Tech sent quite a representation of its athletes to participate in the tournament of the Worcester Boat Club. Among the events was a tug-of-war between the Tech team and a team from the Club. In the beanpot race the Tech was also represented by its best runners and besides this several prominent Tech athletes took part in the open events. The participation by Tech athletes in events of this kind is of great benefit to those who intend to compete in the intercollegiate contests next spring as they get just the experience needed to give them confidence in the more important contests.

The Boston Athletic Association has arranged for a set of handicap games to take place in Boston February 15, to which all the prominent eastern colleges and clubs have been invited to send competitors. If all the preliminary arrangements are successfully carried out it will undoubtedly be the biggest indoor meeting of the year. The Tech ought to be able to show up well at this meeting. In handicap contests it could reasonably expect to win prizes, as some of its representatives have by no means done their best work yet and, with the aid of the handicapper, have a good show to win. At any rate the meeting would give our men a chance to meet some of the cracks in their different events, an experience of great benefit to any athlete.

During the last two or three years Tech athletic records have improved greatly and at the present time all of them compare very favorably with those of the colleges in our class.

Of records made recently, Taylor's half mile at this fall's field-day is undoubtedly the most prominent. His time, 2.05 4-5, was better than a majority of the college records and was really an excellent performance. It was 1-5 of a second faster than the half mile which won the championship of America at Traver's Island last September. The time in the latter case was 2.06, but as the track was in miserable condition at the time, Taylor's half cannot be compared to it on its merits, though it goes to show that he is running in excellent form. Had he been running as he is now at last spring's sports he would have had an easy win and such running next spring will bring the intercollegiate half-mile to Worcester.

Amherst and Williams have voted to allow only those members of the college who belong to one of their intercollegiate athletic teams to wear the college A or W upon their sweaters. This rule was not adopted without deliberation but was considered for quite a while before its adoption. The arguments advanced in its favor were, that it increased the honor of membership on the various teams and gave the members a certain distinction which they would not otherwise have, thus making a place on one of the teams more desirable than it formerly was and therefore causing a greater interest in the athletic work of the college and increasing the number of applicants for positions on the teams. By this means new material is brought out and there are a greater number of men for the captains of the various teams to select from. At Amherst 35 men are given this honor, including the members of the base-ball nine, the New England Intercollegiate Athletic team, the foot-ball eleven and the members of the college who represent it at the intercollegiate tennis tournament. At Williams the number is nearly the same. This is a good idea and might work well at the Tech. Of course we would have to modify the principle somewhat so that we could apply it under our own circumstances. We have no base-ball team in the intercollegiate league but the principle might be applied and the honor given to the class team winning the interclass series. In the same way the honor could also be given to the team winning the class foot-ball championship. Of course, if we had a school eleven, the honor would go to its members. The distinction should also be given the
members of the school who compete at the intercollegiate games, and as we send no representatives to the intercollegiate tennis tournament it could be granted to winners of first and second places in singles and doubles in our own tournament. The principle is a good one and would without doubt, if properly applied, be of benefit to our athletic interests.

* * * * *

The cheering of the Tech delegation at the Chatham tournament was a feature of the evening. Every member of the Institute who appeared upon the floor was greeted with a hearty cheer. The presence of one's classmates is always very gratifying to any competitor and with the cheering added the contestants from the Tech were given a good deal of aid in their work. Conneff and Lange were given a very cordial reception in which the Tech cheer was also quite prominent. The two champions are sure of a hearty reception should they visit Worcester again.

* * * * *

Quite a number of Tech men went to the Harvard-Yale game at Springfield the 23rd of last month and were well repaid for their visit. It was indeed a great game and the vast number of people present only emphasized the popularity of the sport. Harvard and Yale men were about equally divided as far as students were concerned, each college being represented by from twelve to fifteen hundred men. Amherst sent down about two hundred of its students on a special train. Dartmouth had a large delegation present accompanying the team which played Williams in the forenoon, the Williams men being also quite numerous. Among the other colleges represented were Wesleyan and Lehigh. The crowd was enormous, numbering surely 15,000 people. Every point of observation was taken and the best people of all New England watched the game. The excitement was very great. Yale's cheer was always followed by Harvard's. The 200 Amherst men cheered Yale from the beginning to the end of the contest and their cheer was, as a matter of course, always followed by a cheer for Harvard from Dartmouth. The whole game was close and exciting from beginning to end, and when it was over expressions of satisfaction were heard on all sides.

Hardly had the news of the Yale-Harvard contest ceased to be the topic of conversation when the news of Yale's defeat by Princeton on Thanksgiving day was received. This contest excited even more interest than that of Yale and Harvard. Fully 15,000 tickets had been sold before the game and it is estimated that 25,000 people were in attendance. Berkeley Oval was filled to overflowing and still people applied for admission. When we see and read of two such games as these within a week, attended by fully 40,000 persons including the best people of all this section of the country, men of wealth and of learning, governors of States, mayors of cities, people prominent in every department of life, the game supported and heartily enjoyed by old and young alike, and the newspapers containing column after column of news relating to the different elevens and graphic descriptions of the game,—is it a wonder that we should desire to spend a few hours a week in the pursuit of such a pastime? Even if we are not allowed to give any time whatever to the game, we surely cannot be blamed for having the desire to do so.

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THE INSTITUTE LIBRARY.

A Want of Twenty Years' Standing Now Generously Supplied.

Not the least pleasing feature attending the erection of the Salisbury Laboratories and the remodeling of Boynton Hall is the fact that room has at last been made available for library purposes. For twenty years the Institute has maintained an existence without a suitable place about its premises where books of reference could be consulted and periodicals kept on file. In any other city than Worcester it would hardly have been possible to have maintained an institution of learning of the nature of the Tech so long without facilities of this kind. It would be hard to find in any city better advantages than are offered by the Free Public Library with its seventy-five thousand volumes, the library of the Mechanics Association and the library of ninety thousand volumes of the American Antiquarian society. Through the kindness and liberality of the directors of these institutions, Tech students have always had
free access to these exceptional collections of technical and general literature.

And so it has been that the Institute has not felt pressingly the need of providing a library of its own. Money which might have been devoted to the purchase of books has been applied where it has been needed most,—to the building up of the thoroughly technical departments. Room which was at first set apart for literary purposes was speedily taken up to relieve various overcrowded branches of regular work.

Now, at the beginning of the third decade of the school's being, with a magnificent new building added to the equipment and an unusually bright outlook in every direction, it is time to perfect every detail of school work and so lead up to the attainment of the best possible results. With this end in view an effort is now being made to provide a library which shall in every way be worthy of the Institute and large enough to make it of substantial assistance in every branch of the school's training. There is room enough now at disposal and books can come pouring in for a long time without appreciably crowding the shelves. A glance at contemporary institutions shows to what extent a college library may grow. The libraries (collectively) of Harvard University contain 340,000 bound volumes. Yale has 140,000 volumes and 70,000 pamphlets; Cornell, 100,000 volumes and 30,000 pamphlets; Dartmouth, 70,000; Amherst, 50,000; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 14,000 volumes and several thousand pamphlets. These colleges make additions of from 1000 to 3000 volumes yearly.

Our own library has a small but solid nucleus with which to start. There are about 2000 books and the pamphlets number several hundred. These do not make a very imposing array, but Pres. Fuller has taken the matter in charge and is striving hard to build up the library in a way that will make it of great practical value to the students. He has already received much help from outside sources and hopes soon to interest others, particularly the alumni, in giving him substantial encouragement in the work he has undertaken.

The general reading-room in Boynton Hall includes two large rooms, formerly used by Prof. Kimball for laboratory purposes, just beyond the office. They can be thrown into one by sliding doors and thus made especially appropriate for reading-room and library purposes. The idea is, to make the books belonging to the Institute available for daily use to the largest possible number of students, but to make no attempt at a circulating library. It is unnecessary to give in this article a list of the books already obtained or ordered but a general plan of the library will show the seeker after knowledge what he may expect to find.

The larger room next the office will be devoted to books of reference on general scientific subjects, including cyclopedias, dictionaries of English, French and German, bound volumes of scientific periodicals, works on inventions and patents, and books on mathematics, drawing, metallurgy, geology, mineralogy, botany, and zoology. The adjoining room will be devoted to history, language, and political science. Thus reading matter on a great variety of subjects will be brought within easy reach. Pres. Fuller has in mind about 1000 volumes that he hopes to add at once. After that the shelves will be filled more gradually, with books that are not so immediately necessary.

One work in particular, presented to the school by Judge Aldrich, president of the Board of Trustees, is worthy of special mention. It is the "Century Dictionary" and is being sent on in parts as fast as published. Only seven of the twenty-four parts necessary for its completion have been thus far published but, when complete it will form the most comprehensive English dictionary ever issued, containing as it will over 200,000 words. A single word taken at random will show the elaborate character of the work. Such a seemingly barren word as the word "dry" is dilated upon to the extent of half a page. It is through just such gifts as this that the increase in our library will come, and the help must come in a great measure from outside sources.

The shelves in the general reading-room will hold about 2000 volumes and have been constructed with the plan of adding gallery cases later by which the capacity of the room will be nearly doubled. In addition to these shelves, a case for special books
of reference in civil engineering has been put in the drawing room of that department and several recitation rooms either have or will have cases for books on subjects taught in these rooms. In the Salisbury Laboratories will be found two more reading rooms, one at the left of the stairway on the second floor, devoted to mechanical engineering literature, and one at the right, on the third floor, where are already some standard volumes to which others will soon be added and where all the best current electrical and chemical periodicals are kept on file. Each has a shelf capacity of 1500 volumes and will not be neglected in the appointment of the libraries. All the books will soon be re-arranged, labeled, and catalogued, and placed in divisions according to subjects.

It will be seen from the plan that the scheme of the library, while not attempting to fill at once the remaining empty shelves, is sufficiently generous and aims at getting the most recent and valuable editions of popular works. It now remains to interest the friends of the school in the undertaking and to such a degree that their interest will be expressed in terms of donations to the funds, or by gifts of books. There has been for a long time at the school no enterprise that has so needed tangible encouragement and certainly none where such help would give more immediate or satisfactory results.

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**LIFE BECOMING MONOTONOUS.**

**One Fault of the Institute and How it Might be Partly Remedied.**

Some of the Middlers have recently been doing a bit of thinking about the desirability of maintaining some sort of a social organization through the winter, and if there are as many as two men left in the class, after the next semi-annuals, to make such a thing possible, the scheme will doubtless be the objective point of an energetic boom. It has occurred to the writer that a Tech Social Club, without any limitations as to classes, would be a pious idea. There are some excellent reasons why the attempt to do something in a social way should receive encouragement from both the students and the Faculty.

Perhaps the best reason just at present is that, for various causes, school has seemed less attractive than usual this fall, and this is a mild way of saying it. If what the boys in all the classes have to say on the subject is any criterion. It is all very well to tell our friends outside that there is no place like the Tech, for there isn’t, but right here at home we might as well admit that school life is becoming a trifle monotonous. The excuse that we have no time to be social is not true, because we do have an evening off once in a while. The fact is that as a body of students we have nowhere to go, and many of us, especially those from out of town who are not so well acquainted, spend practically all our time either at school or in our rooms. This is a good thing for our “personal” but is not a good thing for our health. Besides, it is not the way to enjoy our school course.

Another reason for fostering such an organization, is the benefit it will be to us after we have graduated. This is our Alma Mater—the only one most of us will ever have, and when we leave the school we want to go away full of pride in everything connected with the Institute. The routine work of most any college is at times hard and uninteresting, and we have no right to expect our school to be an exception. When we have graduated, however, we shall soon forget the hard knocks and the disappointments, and it will be the good times we had with the boys that we shall remember longest. Our course is at best a short one and we ought to make the most of our opportunities for forming lasting friendships.

There is a third reason that ought to be instrumental in securing the aid of the Faculty, and that is, that the healthy life of the Alumni Association depends on the interest shown by the graduates. Every year more importance is being attached by colleges to their alumni associations because they are capable of being of great benefit to their respective colleges. Anything that will bind us more closely together in school will naturally help strengthen the Alumni Association. In order, then, to graduate men who are enthusiastic for the glory of the Institute, ought we not to get something besides irregular verbs and hyperbolic paraboloids, something that will draw us back once in a while to the school, and make us
feel that our Tech days were the happiest as well as the hardest of our life.

There is one more reason that is so evident as to need few words. It is that it is our duty to our fellow students to share with them whatever capacity we have for enjoying school life. Because we can't go in for that sort of thing as is done in college, is no excuse for doing nothing. Students have doubtless given up again and again when a good time with the boys would have pulled them through, and for the time, at least, made life seem worth living.

It is easy enough to tell what might be done. What would be practical here is of more importance. Two things would be necessary,—substantial encouragement from the Faculty and a personal interest and feeling of responsibility among the students. The offer of a room for a social once a month or so, without any restrictions, would go a long way toward proving "substantial" encouragement and if the boys could not do the rest, the capacity of the average Tech for generating a cyclone has sadly declined.

We don't care to go about all night collecting blinds, gates, and clothes-line foliage for bonfires,—it is too expensive—but we would like a little fun in a legitimate way. Within a short time the Thompson Club and the Q. T. V., for certain reasons, have disbanded. The attempt to organize a glee club was given up because very little could be expected this year, and the lower classes did not present enough musical talent to make the outlook for next year very promising.

With these diversions gone, is there a better way to escape the dullness of the coming winter than to make some effort in a social way? If there is a better way the W P I would be glad to lend its columns to the support of the scheme, whatever it may be. Only let us do something so that next spring we shall have enough vitality left to crawl over to the Park and watch the other colleges compete for the pennant.

IN A PERSONAL WAY.

Information of General Interest Concerning Tech People, Past and Present.

Joseph Beals, '85, spent Thanksgiving in this city.

George W. Patterson, '88, visited the school last week.

F. R. Dawson and C. S. Dunphie, both of '91, have left school.

E. H. Carroll has returned to the drafting room of the shop.

P. W. Southgate, '89, is draughting for Wells Bros., Greenfield, Mass.

F. H. Metcalf, formerly of '91, has a position in a large alkali mill at Holyoke.

R. W. Smyth, '89, has a position in an electric light station at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Geo. K. Clark is an addition to the clerical force in the office of the Washburn Shops.

W. J. Duncan, '88, at East Saginaw, Mich., supervises the bridge work of the Flint and Pere Marquette railroad.

Samuel E. Mann, '72, of Apopka, Florida, has a two-column article in the Southern Congregationalist of Nov. 14, on the subject of Hebrew Poetry.

Ernest H. Fairbanks, '87, has been appointed to the position of fourth assistant examiner in the United States patent office at Washington, and entered upon his duties Dec. 1st. The appointment was made from the results of a competitive examination and Mr. Fairbanks headed a long list of applicants from all parts of the country.

J. Brace Chittenden, '88, has a Shattuck scholarship in mathematics at Harvard and will be a candidate for the degree of A. M. He is taking courses as follows: Modern Methods in Analytical Geometry (Salmon's Conic Sections); Force, Velocity, and Potential Functions (Wolstenholme and Pierce's Newtonian Potential Functions); Trigonometric Functions and Spherical Harmonics; Calculus of Quaternions (Tait and Hamilton); Advanced Rigid Dynamics; Fine Arts under Chas. Eliot Norton.

From the Rockville (Conn.) Journal, Nov. 29: "Miss Nellie Sparks, one of our popular Rockville teachers, was married Monday, at her home in Vernon, to Jang Landsing of Cleveland. Mr. Landsing came to Hartford in 1872 as a pupil of the Chinese mission and at the time of the recall of the mission in 1881 returned to China, where he was employed in the military ser-
vice for two years as sub-lieutenant. He returned to this country in 1883 and entered the Worcester Polytechnic school, from which he graduated in 1887. Since his graduation he has been in the employment of the Pratt & Whitney Company of Hartford until recently, when he accepted a position with the Brush Electric Light Company, Cleveland. Rev. J. H. Twitchell of Hartford performed the ceremony, which was witnessed only by the immediate relatives. Among other guests was the Hon. Yung Wing. The presents were numerous and valuable. In losing Miss Sparks the East District loses one of its best teachers. Mr. Landsing formerly attended school in the East District."

Chas. F. Bailey, '88, writes from Tacoma, Wash. Ter.: "This is a broad country and there are many good locations and openings for Tech boys. This Puget Sound country is developing rapidly. Before many years I believe we shall see great ship building enterprise here and steel cruisers built for the navy on these waters. The climate certainly is most favorable to such enterprises, and rich coal and iron mines are being developed which will put this country on a footing with the East, and has already given it the name 'Pennsylvania of the West.' This country is bound to develop with its rich deposits of coal, magnetic iron ore and lime, the three essential elements in the manufacture of iron and steel. As one of our citizens says, 'the smoke-stacks and cupolas of iron foundries, rolling mills and steel works will rise on Puget Sound as surely as the coal bunkers, wheat elevators, smelting furnaces and saw-mills have risen.' Within a year Tacoma has nearly doubled in population, which is now estimated at thirty-five thousand people. Many enterprising eastern people are here. In fact the city is more eastern than western in character. Young men of energy who strike this country are usually pleased and do well."

"DIRECTOR" OBJECTS.

Wires Did Not Run Under Proper Conditions to Claim a Record.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WPI:

The last issue of the WPI contained an article addressed particularly to the directors of the Athletic Association concerning records made by Stearns and Wires at the handicap meet October 12, '89, and also the record made by Fish, '92, at the intercollegiate meet held May 29, '89.

As a director of the W. P. I. A. A., I will here state in justice to the men whose records are the subject of discussion as well as to ourselves and all concerned, that Wires did not run under proper conditions to be allowed a record. At a meeting of the directors, held sometime before the date set for the sports, it was voted that no records would be allowed unless made by men who started at the scratch with the scratch man. Furthermore, it would be the privilege of any contestant to start as above stated by notifying the directors before the event was called. A notice to this effect was posted by the secretary several days before the sports, and no objections were heard.

Although Wires may have run the two miles some seconds faster than any other man, he accepted his handicap and started thirty seconds before Stearns, who was scratch man, and therefore did not run under the conditions as set forth by the directors. It is possible and quite probable that had the two men started at the scratch their respective times might have been quite different. Wires's pace might have quickened that of Stearns or Stearns might have induced Wires to be less hasty. These are possibilities. We are not able to state which man would have covered his distance the faster. The fact is as already stated. Wires did not run under proper conditions to claim a record.

Whereas the directors wish to give every encouragement to athletics and especially to those men who strive for better records than those which the Tech now enjoys, all will agree that no records should be allowed which are not absolutely indisputable and official. However, both runners are improving and when they meet next spring a record may be expected which will discount everything that has heretofore been made here, and settle the question to the satisfaction of all.

As regards the record made by Fish in the high jump we know but little, though we have heard it said that he cleared 5ft. 4in. As none of the directors can vouch for that fact, and as no official report was
ever presented to them concerning it, it was therefore not considered advisable to allow it as a new record. Had Fish presented a statement from the judges certifying that he had jumped over 5ft. 2in., he would have been given credit for the same, but records cannot be allowed on hearsay.

We have great confidence in Fish’s ability as a jumper and if he keeps on improving at the present rate, we feel sure that it will be our pleasant privilege and duty to credit him with something better than 5ft. 4in. before many months have passed.

A Director.

FOUR NEW “YELLS.”

Suggestions Made with a View to Improving the School Cheering.

Complaint is sometimes made by outsiders that the Tech “yells” are slow and tame and that they do not compare favorably with those of Dartmouth, Amherst and other colleges. At the present time, the school is in possession of three cheers which are used indiscriminately whenever a celebration is demanded. The first of these is the old shout that has done duty from way back in the seventies. Its age alone makes it respected, for it lacks that enthusiastic buoyancy which is characteristic of modern college cheering. The “polly-wolly” yell was invented by a member of the class of ’89 at the time when the name of the school was changed. It is a good enough cheer for most purposes but a deep, majestic rhythm is not one of its strong features. The “P. I., P. I.,” shout is a product of the inventive genius of two ’90 men. It is an excellent combination of vowels and consonants, but it sounds something like sawing wood.

The “yell” editor of the W P I has worked long and earnestly on the problem of a new school cheer and respectfully submits the following humble suggestions with the faint hope that somebody may be spurred to better exertions in this comparatively unexplored field of scientific inquiry:

Short and Pithy.
Brek, kek, kek!
It’s the Tech!!
‘Rah, ‘rah, ‘rah! Worcester!!
What’s the Matter with This?
Whoop la!

Polly, wolly, ‘rah!!
Worcester!!!

A Joyful Pean.

Hoory, loory, W. P. I.!
We are the stuff, we blacked their eye!
Where is —? It’s in the soup!!

To Be Used Only in Case of Fire.
Hurrah, hurroo! Hurrah, hurrah!!
P. I., P. I.!
Oh my, oh my!!
‘Rah, ‘rah, ‘rah! Hurroo, hurrah!!
Boynton Hall!
Stephen Sal.!!
Ichabod Washburn!!
‘Rah, ‘rah, ‘rah!!!

A GILT-EDGED TOOL-ROOM.

New Life Infused into an Important Department of the Shop.

The students in the mechanical engineering department have watched with considerable interest the radical changes that have been made, this fall, in the tool-room. The management of this department of the shop has changed hands. The cage has been completely renovated. Now, if you have any checks, or credit, or check, you can get a tool in about one-half the time that you had to waste under the old régime. In one way this is not so pleasant as before, for now students cannot, with any reasonable excuse, tarry at the counter and talk over topics of interest.

System and order have been reduced to a science. A large gong on the wall now gives the signal for stopping work and “washing up.” This is to prevent a deplorable tendency on the part of the students to work during the five minutes of rest that are allotted at the close of every four hours and fifty-five minutes of work.

The machine for grinding reamers, cutters and thread tools is now in perfect order and has almost as much sparkling brilliancy as its near neighbor, the precision lathe. A new set of twist drills looks very nice on the shelf, but we fear that when the Juniors have had their checks on them the array will not be so harmonious as at present. A full assortment of emery bricks has been added to the outfit. A monument to Ichabod Washburn has been erected on the east side of the room and we might
suggest that if that worthy gentleman's bust were placed on it it would have more significance.

All the boxes, cases, shelves and drawers have been relabeled and renumbered so that now most of the tools have a number. A wholesale repairing of the tools has commenced but it will be some time before everything is in perfect order.

Sibley H. Keyes is now in charge and is responsible for the great improvements that have been made. One of the shop’s journeymen who has worked in many of the best machine shops of Worcester was heard to remark that our tool-room is surpassed for neatness and order by none in the city.

**BY ELECTRICITY.**

**Details of the Proposed Plan for Illuminating the Washburn Shops.**

For some time past there have been rumors of a plan for lighting the Washburn Shops by electricity. This plan seems in a fair way of realization at present, but it should be said, however, that no definite action has been taken as yet by the shop committee, who have such matters under their jurisdiction.

The post-graduate electrical engineers, in anticipation of such a move, have completed all the calculations and measurements for a dynamo, of sufficient capacity for a plant of 120 incandescent lamps, most of which are intended for the shop. A few lamps may be utilized in lighting the Salisbury Laboratories wherever it may be deemed necessary. The dynamo of this intended plant is one of 110 volts capacity.

The plan is one worthy of consideration and it is hoped that it will be favorably entertained by the members of the shop committee.

The storage battery which has been under way for some time is now nearly completed and will soon be in working order. This battery, which is to be of one horse power capacity, possesses some features peculiar to itself and results obtained from its use in laboratory work will be watched with considerable interest, since the subject of storage batteries has been one which has caused a large amount of discussion as well as experimental research.

Besides the dynamo first mentioned, another is in process of construction, being now about half completed. This possesses the peculiar feature of having its exciting coil in sections so that any electro motive force from sixty volts down can be obtained at the will of the operator. Besides this one of the Seniors has completely rewound and tested a two-horse power dynamo which was made some years ago by some of the students, and this will also soon be available.

**SKATING ON SALISBURY’S.**

**Some Lively Games of Polo Promised for the Coming Winter.**

Do you skate?

If you do, the Tech Skating Club is waiting with open arms to receive you as one of its members. During the coming winter this organization is to hold daily meetings on the ice of Salisbury’s pond, provided said ice is thick enough and the weather favorable. Techs desiring to qualify as members must exhibit proofs of ownership of a polo stick and a “shinny” block. Meetings will be held daily, when the skating is good, between the hours of noon and 1:30 P. M., until 6. Special meetings will be called as often as it seems advisable to cut practice or “Dutch.”

If you can’t skate, and don’t want to learn, you can at least go down and mingle with the rabble on the shores of the pond. Then you can encourage the active participants with lusty, boyish shouts. And perhaps, also, the girls will let you put on their skates.

It is possible to form strong polo teams in each of the classes and if that is done some very interesting interclass contests would result. It might pay the directors of the Athletic Association to offer suitable prizes to the victorious team, thus keeping in active training the men who are to contest in the intercollegiate games next spring. Last winter a scrub team was hastily formed one Saturday afternoon and met an easy defeat at the hands of an organization of High School boys. This ought not to be possible this year if the Tech fellows practice a little.

Whether polo teams are organized or not, there is much sport promised for the coming winter and everybody is advised to come down to Salisbury’s pond and join in the fun.
AN EXCITING GAME.

Tech Foot-ball News Comes High this Fall, but We Must Have It: Fill Out the Blanks and It is Almost as Good as if We Really Had an Eleven.

The foot-ball season closed Nov. 26, when an eleven representing the Tech defeated — in a highly interesting game on the — grounds in —. The weather was — and —; the field was in — shape. About — spectators witnessed the contest. The teams lined up as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W. P. I.</th>
<th>Positions.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full-back.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Right half-back.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Left half-back.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quarter-back.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Right end.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Right tackle.</td>
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<td>Right guard.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Centre.</td>
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<td>Left guard.</td>
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<td>Left tackle.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Left end.</td>
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</tbody>
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Just at the close of the first half, after forty minutes of the most desperate playing, — of the Techs made a phenomenal run half the length of the field, scoring a touchdown, and — kicked the goal. In the second half, —, the Tech full-back, kicked a goal from the field, making the score 10 to 0 in favor of the W. P. I.

The features of the game were the tackling of —, —, and —. The blocking of — was especially fine. The umpire, Mr. — of —, disqualified — and — of the eleven, for unnecessary roughness.

Several members of the Faculty witnessed the contest.

PLENTY OF WORK.

The Busy Hum of Industry Pervades Every Corner of the Washburn Shops.

A glance at the shop just now reveals great activity and plenty of work. Business is so absorbing that a fair maiden might traverse the entire length of the room without exciting the least interest or comment. One freight elevator is being put in for a Worcester firm and four more, two passenger and two freight, are going to Pawtucket, R. I. Orders for elevators keep pace with the capacity of the shop in that direction.

At present there are orders for seven twist-drill and ordinary grinders. A special attachment for the Slate grinder has been devised which will really make this machine a universal grinder. Another truing machine has been built for the Norton Emery Wheel Co., and some twin valves for Washburn and Moen. A mercury column and also a water column are being made for the new laboratories. The woodworkers are busily engaged on a lot of drawing stands to be sent to one of the high schools at Washington, D. C. One lot of drawing stands having foot-rests on the supporting standard is in process of manufacture. This convenience is calculated to preserve the fine appearance of the more elaborately finished stands, as less paint will be knocked off in endeavors to rest the feet.

THE BANJO AND GUITAR CLUB.

All Signs Point to a Successful Season; Many Engagements Probable.

We are pleased to note the stability and success of our banjo and guitar club, and rejoice with the artists at the bright outlook for the coming season.

The organization of this club three seasons ago was merely an experiment to draw out a little talent in that direction if possible, and thus expel in some degree the characteristic monotony of Tech life. Under their efficient leader, C. K. Prince, this club has, during the past two seasons, gained a reputation throughout Worcester County of which it may well be proud. Its record during the past assures for it a successful future.

Through the graduation of '89 several fine players were lost, but experienced men were found in the lower classes who are now doing skillful work. Several engagements have already been filled this season and other engagements are on the list for future dates. Of course the club is not run on a financial basis, and no one expects much pecuniary remuneration, although the boys reserve the right to make enough out of it to pay for travelling expenses, and the general wear and tear on the machinery. If however, a stray dollar occasionally finds its way into the treasury, it is properly cared for and nobody is heard to complain. So much toward the next chemistry fee.
A JOYFUL THANKSGIVING.

Ex-Janitor John Hurley Received the Usual Testimonial of Esteem.

Year after year, as Thanksgiving draws nigh, a kind testimonial of appreciation and esteem is given by Tech students to one of their most loyal friends. John Hurley, in his capacity as janitor of the school, received for many years Thanksgiving offerings from the boys, who were only too glad to show their feelings of regard. When he was compelled, because of old age and increasing infirmities, to retire from his past last spring, there was a universal sigh of regret. If anybody entertained doubts at that time that the old janitor would be quickly forgotten, he was greatly mistaken. On Nov. 27 last, the usual contribution of turkey, etc., went over to John's house. Members of all the classes signed the subscription paper, the Senior class contributing most and its treasurer having charge of the details.

It is a happy little custom that ought to be kept up as long as John Hurley, our mascot, is with us. If any Senior class neglects this important duty at Thanksgiving, it is trifling with fate and will be afflicted ever afterwards with ill-luck of the direst description.

FROM 21 APPLICANTS.

A Member of the Class of '89 Obtains the West Point Appointment.

The many friends of R. F. Gardner, of the class of '89, were pleased to hear of his success in passing the preliminary West Point examination which was held in this city the past month under the direction of Representative Walker. Mr. Gardner was selected from a field of twenty-one applicants representing Holy Cross College, the Highland Military Academy and the High School. Several, also, were from out of town. The final examination takes place at West Point, June 17th, 1890. The duties of the freshman class begin immediately after that date. During the summer months it is in encampment, the regular academic duties beginning in September.

It is a long time since this district has had a man at West Point who has succeeded in graduating. Most of the applicants have failed to pass the entrance examination, or, if successful in that, have been unable to keep up the hot pace that the government sets in its military training school. "Rod's" former schoolmates know that he will "get there" and they wish him all sorts of good-luck and happiness in his new field of study.

A POL. ECON. CLUB.

Important Problems of Social and Economic Science to be Thoroughly Investigated.

The interest exhibited in Dr. Smith's political economy classes has given rise to the formation of a club for the purpose of investigating important social and economic subjects as they are brought up in the class-room. The plans of the new organization are not fully matured and nothing definite has as yet been done. If enough men in the Senior class show a willingness to join and support such a club, it is probable that a formal organization will be attempted and a name adopted. The idea is, to discuss earnestly and thoroughly, avoiding the superficial methods of the average debating society, a few of the most important topics of the day.

This is an excellent idea and, if time enough can be found without encroaching upon the other branches of work, there is no reason why the new club should not prosper.

POLITICAL NOTE.

A Sponge Saturated with Chloroform goes with This Atrocity.

It is nothing unusual that our professors attend political meetings at the Bay State House and exhibit such an interest in the license question, the school board and other municipal matters. They have always taken an active interest in Polytechs.

TECHNICALITIES.

Good-bye! See you in 1890.

Wonder who'll make the bonfire this New Year's eve?

The latest fad with Tech Seniors—a rubber teething ring.

Vacation begins next Thursday night and ends Thursday, Jan. 2.

Ask a member of '92 how much the big steel square in the tool-room cost.
The exercise in mechanical drawing is the social event of the week with Seniors.

Lines of shafting are rapidly being put into place in the mechanical laboratory at Salisbury.

Ninety's class pins have arrived and they proved to be quite as tasty as the designs indicated.

All our foot-ball regrets vanish with the old year. Now for base-ball, when 1890 gets here.

One of the professors varies the monotony of a German recitation by translating, "Are you 'in it'?"

Hymn forty-four hasn't been sung in the chapel for over a month. This is the unkindest cut of all.

The Juniors are now enjoying concerts which are given every week under the guise of physics lectures.

One man has already made his appearance in town and is preparing for the entrance examinations in January.

Some of the Middlers have been making bad breaks lately in translating the passionate poetry of Schiller and Heine.

Prof. and Mrs. Alden are entertaining the Senior class in small sections and very enjoyable evenings are reported.

A good rule to follow in answering questions in physics: Take the opposite of what you think to be the reasonable answer.

The suggestion in the thermodynamics recitation to put the "full" cylinder of steam in the "cooler" was readily comprehended.

New excuse for tardiness: Ran into a man coming up Highland street and stopped to beg his pardon and explain the circumstances.

"Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones," nor light either, it would seem. Tell this to the gas lamp on the drive-way.

Harry L. Dadmun, '91, succumbs to the pressure of school duties and resigns from the Board of Editors, much to the regret of his associates.

Personal: If Thomas McCann and Charles, alias "The Stone-cutter," will return to the Washburn Shops, everything will be forgiven.

"Mrs. Grundy," in the Times, occasionally discourses on Tech topics from the students' standpoint. Good for you, Dan. We are with you.

Are you going to spend the Christmas vacation in the city? If you are, keep your eyes open for skating parties at the Lake and Salisbury's.

Perhaps students would be interested to know that good mineral water can be obtained in the draughting room at Salisbury, at least it tastes like mineral water.

The distribution of hymn books is often so unequal in the chapel that those students who desire to sing carry a copy in their coat-tail pocket where they are reasonably sure of finding it when wanted.

The trade in the new brand of soap at the shop is fitful and uncertain. Every man waits for somebody else to buy a package in order that he himself may be spared an unnecessary expense.

Don't get discouraged, '91, if you are not very successful in your investigations of the phenomena connected with descriptive and analytical geometry. Get a new tap on your shoes and keep moving.

Our professors should be chary about attending Bay State House conferences and supporting "citizens'" tickets. They will get the Telegram down on them and then they will have to move out of town.

When the electric light plant is in full operation at the school it will perhaps be possible to look down into the bottom of the hole and see how McGinty is getting along in his unpleasant resting-place.

A number of Tech students spent Thanksgiving day walking up and down Washington street, Boston, trying to get inside the fire lines. They didn't get very near the burning buildings but they saw great chunks of smoke.

Amendments to the marking system average the thesis and drawing marks with those of the last term of Senior year; any student who, at the beginning of any school year, has three conditions ceases to be a member of the Institute.

Glass has been put in the doors at the bottom of the stairway leading to the blacksmith shop, so that now impetuous Juniors will know when they have arrived at the
bottom without impairing the functions of their nasal organ.

That was an ingenious topical song at the Senior supper. Let the good work of composing go on and sometime we shall have quite a variety of Tech songs. "Where, oh! where" is pretty good but it is being worked to death.

When a student coming from a late exercise at the new building attempts to step off the stairs on to a section of the prevailing Egyptian darkness, he should be pardoned for any involuntary remarks he may drop while readjusting his dislocated vertebrae.

When the elevator gallantly soars from the first floor to the second with a cargo of Juniors but refuses to move after receiving a Senior at the second floor, is the head above too large or the head below too small? Let us hear from the elevator men on this question.

If it had been known generally among the members of '90 that letters were to be read from Professors Ricardo and Jevons, there would have been no occasion, at the little supper which was indulged in just before Thanksgiving, for the toast, "The Fellows Who Aren't Here."

The report has been circulated in the various scientific circles at the school that a new mechanical wonder has been accidentally discovered. It is nothing less than an engine which won't budge when the steam is turned on, but which can't be stopped when the steam is again turned off.

Are Seniors studious? Look in the hallway on the second floor of Boynton Hall just after chapel exercises and the long row of wall-flowers each with a book will be a sufficient answer. Are Seniors studious? Look in their deserted rooms during study hours and the answer is conclusive.

Everybody is wondering for what reason the stone steps at the side entrance of Salisbury were juggled so as to make an unpleasantly large hole in one's path as he enters or leaves the building. As a hidden snare and cause for thinking that your ankle is broken and your thigh dislocated, it is a big success.

The executive committee of '91 is actively at work arranging for the half-way supper which will take place just after the semi-annual examinations. Contrary to the usual custom, the committee has selected the Bay State House for the banquet in preference to Insurance and Ideal Halls. Sumner A. Kinsley will act as toastmaster.

An '87 man who is teaching manual training in the Washington, D. C., High School had each of his boy scholars write a list of the tools on his bench. The word chisels was spelled schizzels, scigels, chigels, csigells, chisles, chissels, chicles, chizels, chiles, chilles and chieles. "Szure" and "soure" did duty for the word screw. One boy said that his name was John Horner; that his father was named Jack Horner and was a "sloon-keeper."

Ninety-One is rushing things in the skating line. A polo team was organized and a challenge to the other classes posted on the bulletin board while the thermometer was way up and everybody was still wearing linen dusters and straw hats. The team consists of Warren (captain), Taylor, Alley, Bigelow and Whittemore. Ninety's

[Continued on page 172.]
Barnard, Sumner & Co.

We must tell you.
Do you remember last year, about this time, what a remarkable exhibition we had in the Handkerchief department?

Of course you have a lively recollection of it, because it was so far and beyond anything ever before reached in any city of double the size of Worcester, that the fame of our extraordinary sales during the Christmas weeks reached over a large extent of country, outside our own natural limits.

There was but one cause for that remarkable result, and that cause, simply stated, was that we knew to a certainty what "our" ladies liked and wanted, and we had the very identical things for them.

The past year has added many welcome hundreds to our regular customers, causing us to provide still more extensively for the rapidly increasing demands upon us.

Ladies, we are ready for you in all our lines of Christmas work. You will be delighted with what we have for you. Not a worthless article can be found here, and not an ugly thing—except, possibly, one—can be found anywhere with us.

We believe in beautiful things and in their power for good, and we exhaust the markets of the world in finding what's beautiful, allied to that which is useful, and then securing it at the least possible cost with safety to the good qualities that all our goods must possess.

Now, please sit down by us, and let us talk it over,

For we must tell you all we can to-day.

HANDKERCHIEFS.

Yes, we have them and no mistake. Words can hardly tell what a difference there is this year from last in the matter of quality at a given price.

50c buys ever so much better quality than 50c bought last year, and besides, the improvement along the whole line of artistic work in Handkerchiefs is something wonderful.

Let's begin at the bottom price in Ladies' Handkerchiefs.

You never thought a 5c 'Kerchief of much account, did you.

Look at these, and tell us if they are not well worth anyone's purchase at 5c.

Then these at 12½c, some of them in neat embroidery, some in the attractive Mexican work, and some revered in pretty fashion, and yet 12½c buys them.

Pure Linen, plain hemstitched, 12½c.

And a specially good handkerchief, beautifully embroidered in hand work, all linen, all styles, white and colors, 25c.

Others in fine embroidery, 37½c.

And here is another that we are positive will prove to be the handsomest 'Kerchief for 50c to be seen this year, in the very nicest of Mexican work, in the nicest embroidery, in scroll or flowered effects, others in the new Mitered designs, particularly nice.

Of these at 50c we have such a collection! Such a variety! that you are sure to be delighted with the unusual bargain.

We have them at 75c, $1, $1.25, but the 50c quality is the greatest for the price.

If a gentleman wants to give an elegant Handkerchief present, we have a special line that we do not think can be seen outside our establishment.

In the first place, there is an elegant box, inside which is an elegant embroidered 'Kerchief of the most delicate character. They can be had from $1.75 to $5, and are a ladies' gift surely.

"Mouchoirs" of Duchesse lace, in so many beautiful styles, as to bewilder one. $1.50 to $6, with the best choice between $2.50 and $3.50. The boxes are an art gift in themselves.

The Japanese step forward with their offering for you.

Stand Covers with all the weird beauty of color for which they are famed, the embroidery all done by hand, alike on both sides, fringed and tasselled, full yard square, a delightful ornament to any parlor, in colors or white.

The same embroidered in Chinchilla and same in all white, all lovely and at quite reasonable prices.

Tidies to fit in with all wants and all tastes, ready to give expression in color to whatever your wish demands.

Tidies of Japanese Silk, 75c to $1.

Pongee Silk, $1 to $1.25.

Turkish, 37c to $1. Antique, 64c to $2.

In every conceivable shape and style of ornamentation.

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polo players have not yet been heard from but it is generally understood that they will be around if any championships are waiting to be carried off.

Again the festive flames have leaped forth from a bonfire on Tech hill. But no night patrol has been rudely awakened from his purloined nap by the ruddy glare of the conflagration. Not even the willing alarm has sent forth its dismal wail. What meaneth this? Do the guardian divinities slumber? Ach nein! The Jo Bill has been turned from its sluggish course and the unkempt growth of bushes along its ragged edges have been offered on the altar of progress. (This inspiration from the "Song of the Bell").

As the weather-vanes on the tower of Boynton Hall have maintained such a diversity of opinions regarding the direction of the wind, and as they could not be coerced into acknowledging the correct direction but have continued in their perversity,—so be it known to all Techs, past and present, that three of the aforesaid vanes have been removed and will be detained in durance vile till they shall agree to agree with the fourth one which is now the sole indicator of old Boreas's eccentricities.

A towel, small in size but exceedingly aristocratic in appearance, being fine as silk and having wavy fringes on its edges, was kindly donated to the school by some kind, benevolent person and placed in a conspicuous position in the lavatory in Boynton Hall basement. Somebody stole it before it was hardly a week old and is now using it exclusively. It would be well for him to bring it back for he is known. The remaining 124 students own just as much of that useful toilet article as he does and intend to assert their rights.

Some one, very likely the agent of some amateur art gallery which has become surfeited with signs, placards and other similar troppies of midnight escapades, has had the kindness to remove the frontispieces from all the photographic magazines in the library. If they had been removed in a scientific manner, as would be befitting a scientific student, so as not to disfigure the books, the owners would not feel so hurt. However, as we have so few illustrations of art in our library, would not the light-fingered gentleman have an easier conscience if he visited the Free Public Library for his spoils?

A very interesting exhibit and Christmas sale of sketches and bric-a-brac in water colors, oil and India ink was opened Saturday in room 15, Burnside block, by Prof. George E. Gladwin. The exhibit contains many dainty and finely executed things suitable for Christmas gifts and souvenirs. The sketches shown are all reproduced from Prof. Gladwin's sketch books, and cover a great variety of scenes at home and abroad. There are sketches from Worcester, southern, western, marine and English views, all of which are mounted and ready for framing. Besides the views, there are many pretty calendars, blotters, etc., done in India ink, and a number of plaques in oil and water colors. It is a collection of work well worth seeing. The sale will continue until Christmas, every day except Mondays, from 10 A. M. to 6 P. M., and on each Saturday evening from 7 till 10 P. M.—Spy, Dec. 10.

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Fig 1

Fig 2

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