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THANKS, AND A CALL FOR MORE.

As this, the last number of volume five, is about to go to press, we wish to thank, especially, those of the alumni who have responded so generously to the appeal for contributions which appeared in the November, 1889, issue. Since that time, MSS. from graduates' pens have found their way into the W P I's columns with a frequency that was, to say the least, highly gratifying. In this issue alone there are presented voluntary contributions to the number of three from the Institute's alumni. If this state of things is to continue [and it is to be hoped that the next issue of the paper will make even a better showing in this respect], it means that the W P I is to become so much the better for it and that the men who run the paper will receive some substantial encouragement in their labor of love. The experiences of the school's graduates and the criticisms and suggestions concerning the Institute's course of training which they might offer, would be of immense value. Once a year the Alumni Association meets and makes these criticisms and suggestions, which, however, are never heard of after they have left the speakers' lips. How much better to put these criticisms and suggestions where they can make their influence felt!
out wishing to disparage the work of former boards, it can be said that the W P I, at that time, and, indeed, for some time previous, was not published on the 15th of each month, during the school year. Neither did it seem to make any attempt to print news, or anything except compositions and essays, the product of the class-room and the encyclopedia. The scissors and paste-pot sat enthroned in the sanctum and the pen was a sort of curious antiquity handed down from volume one, in the pages of which Editor Chittenenden set a pace which was apparently thought to be too hot for constant use. The one idea seemed to be, to "fill up" the columns of each issue. On no other grounds could be justified the use of such articles as "The Territorial Development of the United States," the printing of several pages of college and scientific matter alleged to be "news," and a resort to leaded small pica type. If a college paper is worth anything whatever to its readers, it is worth the output of a little time and energy. When the college writer "writes"

With a Pair of Scissors

and drowns his thoughts in the mucilage bottle, then it is time he was sawing wood or doing something better suited to his muscular tastes. Whatever might be said of volume five of the paper, it was determined at the start to make it a monument to its writer, in charge of, say, the column headed "Technicalities," prepared not one single page of copy. What could the editor-in-chief do in such a case? Obviously, nothing but make up the deficiency. And he did it, too, on numerous occasions, much to his credit. In true business life, that shirker would have been summarily kicked off his paper. He was safe on the W P I board and he knew it. He only smiled when reminded of his duty undone and his smile grew and increased in amplitude as he thought of the division of the profits at the end of the year. Such was the rottenness of the department plan.

With department methods relegated to the rear, there was but one system left: the assignment system. For one year, without a hitch or a break, this system has been rigidly followed. It has been most thoroughly tested and the results have surpassed all expectation. There was no doubt at the start that assignment methods were the best in some cases. Would they prove to be the best in this particular case, a monthly school paper? The answer is, yes. It was a success at the start and it is a success at the finish.

The retiring management has only

Words of Praise

for the loyal band of co-workers, who have backed up the school paper in the most substantial manner. It is a pleasure to know that most of these writers are to continue their work in the editorial room. In their hands the paper will be safe and their influence as workers will affect every new accession to their ranks. The Board of Editors has been small in numbers, but what it has lacked in that respect, the sub-editors have more than made up in quantity and quality of the work which they have done. The W P I has printed, during the past year and including this March issue, 419 columns of reading matter. Of this, 46 columns have been contributed from outside sources and 10 have been clipped, a total of 56 columns. The heading at the top of the editorial page and the publishers' notice have filled 11 columns. Every line of the 352 columns remaining has been written by the Board of Editors, to fill special assignments. The sub-editors have written 159 columns, or 45 per cent. of the total edi-
torial work, an efficiency which, it is believed, has been attained by no previous Board. It is a splendid achievement and a record to be proud of.

Every paper is supposed to have a policy of some kind, and the

Policy of the WPI.

the year past, has been, to print not only the news, but fresh news and as much of it as possible. With this end in view, typographical changes have been made which have completely changed the aspect of the paper, but which have been imperatively demanded and could not very well be avoided. The old cover, very clever in its way, but, like all clever things, rather chestnut because of repeated use, was dropped with the June number and a design, engraved by Kyes & Woodbury of this city, adopted, which makes it possible to change the outward appearance of the paper with every month's issue. The idea has been, to print matter of interest concerning the Institute, of which, by which and for which the paper is. It may be very well to write on general topics and formulate rules for the guidance of things in general, but if the college paper intends to succeed it must stick to home affairs and to topics of home interest. There is a mine of news at the Tech which it is the province of its paper to work. There is no lack of material. A weekly paper could be run at the Institute just as well as at Williams or the University of Pennsylvania, so far as getting news is concerned.

The WPI has been troubled during the past year by a practice of the city newspapers from the effects of which previous volumes of the paper have been, for the most part, free.

The Hustling Reporters

of the Telegram, Gazette and Spy have made life a burden for the modest and unassuming Tech item. Columns upon columns of Tech news have been printed by our daily contemporaries. Every move in the field of athletics, every class election or class banquet, every public action of the Faculty, every change, either of personal or public interest, has been recorded in downtown newspaper offices to an extent hitherto unknown in Tech annals. Of course there was but one line of action open to the WPI. It would be manifest absurd to print a mere collection of clippings, even if the news which they contained did pertain to the Tech. So special thoughts were worked out along new lines and the clippings either consigned to the wicker crypt or severely condensed. It may have seemed queer to our out-of-town subscribers to see short accounts in these columns of our field-days and other stock events, but this explains the matter. The coming of the city newspaper men to Boynton Hall has been taken as an evil [in a news sense!] not to be avoided. The WPI has received them cordially and has helped them all it possibly could. It forgives them for the yards of nice, fresh news which they have spoiled for all future use and freely admits that it wouldn't have anything different if it could. Surrounded by all these difficulties, the paper could not obtain very many "scoops" but a few, nevertheless, escaped from the fold, and their achievement is looked back to with a feeling of considerable pride.

In one quarter the retiring management has a

Debt of Gratitude

to repay which cannot be repaid wholly by words. The printing office of Charles Hamilton has done its part in a most masterly way and with rare courtesy. When special news features have demanded prompt treatment, the office force has rushed things for all they were worth and has rendered possible the realization of conceptions which would be wholly out of the question in the ordinary printing establishment. In the latter part of June, when a forty-eight column account of commencement was put into type at newspaper speed before the six o'clock whistles of the Saturday night of commencement week had blown, an example of quick and accurate work was given which is not often surpassed in Worcester job offices. The scribe reluctantly parts company with a band of earnest workers whose sympathetic co-labor, though enjoyed only for a week's duration, once a month, is enough, of itself, to inculcate life-long habits of industry and integrity.

To the authorities at Boynton Hall and the Washburn Shops, the retiring management desires to express thanks. The seeker for news has found a hearty welcome and courteous treatment on all sides. President Fuller, especially, has been

Very Kind and Obliging

and has given the school paper every
assistance in his power. Discouragements from the Faculty have been few and these few have been quite unworthy of notice.

To the many friends of the paper who have sent or said hearty words of encouragement, thanks are rendered. It is a pleasure to think that one’s work is regarded with feelings of interest by others.

Well, ’91, the W P I is turned over to your hands and we are confident that you will till the Tech field of newspaper work to its best advantage.

To the Board of Editors under its new management, we have but little advice to offer.

Editor Griffin, at the close of volume three, wrote: “Do not expect to edit the W P I without sacrificing something for it. Be sure that this sacrifice is distributed amongst you. Then, do not hesitate to make that sacrifice and you will not fail to reap your reward.”

That is the whole matter in a nutshell.

To this we would only add, as a

Sort of Revised Version

of the saying, “Be sure you are right, then go ahead.”

Be sure of your facts, then spread yourself.

IN TECH FIELDS OF SPORT.

Past Events and Events to Come of Interest to Our Athletes.

During the last six months a new form of athletic work has developed among Tech athletes. It is the so-called bean-pot racing which has been such a popular feature of the recent tournaments at the Rink. The first tournament in which the Tech was ever represented was at the one given by the Worcester Boat Club on the evening of December 13, 1889. At this meeting four teams contested and the race was therefore run in heats. The Tech competed against the Worcester Boat Club team in the first heat and won by a very small margin in 8 minutes and 40 seconds, this time, of course, being for two laps less than the full two miles, in order to obviate the change of men at different ends of the Rink. The second heat resulted in a victory for the Worcester Y. M. C. A. team over a four from the Boston Y. M. C. A., thus bringing the Techs against the Worcesters in the final heat, which was won by our men after a comparatively easy race.

On the same evening the Worcester Boat Club tug-of-war team defeated the Tech team under circumstances which were wholly unfavorable to the Techs and which greatly handicapped them in their work. This defeat resulted in considerable newspaper discussion at the time. The victory of the Tech team in the bean-pot race was, however, as complete as any victory could be and no excuses could be made to explain the result, which naturally made the Boat Club team anxious for another chance to compete with the Techs. This was brought about at the tournament given under the auspices of the Lakeside Boat Club on the evening of February 11 and, much to the surprise of the Tech team and its supporters, was as complete a victory for the Boat Club boys as the former race had been for the Techs, the time being 8 minutes and 28 seconds, 12 seconds faster than the first race. The Tech must admit defeat but it seems as if the Spy, in commenting on the race and its results, has gone a little beyond itself and, in defence of the Tech team, some exceptions must be taken to its statements. In the account of the evening’s sport which appeared in the Spy of February 12, the following is seen: “Among those present was the Worcester Boat Club, which attended in a body and occupied a prominent position on the north side of the east gallery. During the progress of the bean-pot race every man was on his feet doing his best to cheer the Worcester champion team on its way to victory against the Techs.” A little later, the description of the race closes with: “Thus securing a second victory against the W. P. I. this season.” At first sight it would seem as if the latter statement referred to the second bean-pot defeat this season. As that could not possibly be, the Tech is gracious enough to believe that the defeat referred to was that of the tug-of-war team last December. As to the reference of the article to the Worcester Boat Club team as the “Worcester champion team”, the Tech has every reason to object. Its team has met the Boat Club men in the Rink twice. The first race was a victory for the Techs, the second, a victory for the Boat Club. Both these races have been held in the Rink, where everything is to the advantage of the Boat Club runners and honors are now even. If there is any “champion team”, the Tech surely has as much claim to the title as the Boat Club. But as each has won one race it seems as if neither can justly claim the title of champion until a third and deciding race has been run. Since both of the preceding races have been run in the Rink, where the Tech team runs under a great disadvantage and is heavily handicapped, it seems as if it is only justice to the Techs to run the deciding race at the Park, where our men are just as much at home as the Boat Club men are in the Rink. All four members of the Boat Club team are experienced Rink runners and find it a comparatively easy task to turn the sharp corners without using up their strength. This is not so with two of the Tech team and outdoor work would show a decided improvement in their running. At Agricultural Park, Taylor, as everyone will grant, is the fastest half-mile runner within a radius of a good many miles of the little red City Hall, and though it is with much difficulty that he holds his own on the
Rink track, his half at the Park would give the Tech a nice, fat margin over the running of any one of the Boat Club runners. The other man referred to who would be aided by the half-mile track is White. Although quite at sea when attempting the sharp turns of the Rink oval, and in an atmosphere thick with tobacco smoke, that it is perceptible to the eye, as was the case when he ran, White is surely equal to, if not better than, any one of the Boat Club runners, when running at the Park in the open air. In the Rink the Techs are at a disadvantage. Out of doors they can run on their merits and, before the Spy can bestow any title of "Champion Bean-Pot Team of Worcester", the Boat Club is in duty bound to run the deciding race at the Park and give the Techs a chance on their own grounds in one race out of three at least. Although it would be out of place to make any boasts, the Tech has great confidence in what one man calls her "baked-bean team" and is of the opinion that the Boat Club men would find entirely different opponents when racing at the Park.

The Chatham Athletic Club is making rapid strides in athletics and has been admitted to membership in the Amateur Athletic Union. As spring approaches, the field-days of both the Tech and the Chatham Club are topics of conversation among many interested in athletics. Last fall both the Tech and Chatham Club held fall meetings, neither of which were great successes from a social or financial point of view and not as great as they might have been athletically. The attendance at both meetings was small and there was not that enthusiasm over the sports which can be attained by proper advertising and management of such games. It has been suggested by one or two members of the Tech that it would be a good plan for the Tech Athletic Association and the Chatham Athletic Club to unite this spring in giving their spring meetings and devote their combined energies to a joint field meeting. This would be of mutual benefit, socially, athletically and financially. The plan would surely be a success from an athletic point of view as it would bring all of the many excellent Worcester amateurs into actual competition. The two associations could offer a banner to the club winning the most points. Of course, in such a case, the Tech men who belong to the Chatham Club would have to compete for the Tech. Since the members of the former Worcester Boat Club bean pot team were all members of the Chatham Club and are now known as the Chatham Athletic Club bean pot team, it would be an excellent opportunity to run the deciding race. This would be an excellent drawing card and, with the other competitions, the meetings could not fail of being a success. Bradford, Devlin and Clancy could have a chance to race Lloyd and Speirs in the mile walk. The Tech sprinters would have an opportunity to see what they could do with Quackenbush and Joss of the Rink. Peck would find some good racing with Taylor and White in the half-mile. Fish vs. Brennan would make an even contest in the high jump.

The meeting would give the Chatham Club a chance to develop some hurdlers, shot putters and hammer throwers, departments in which they are very weak. Farnum and Fish could get plenty of practice when competing in the pole-vault with Kinsley and Brennan. Wires and Stearns could fight their second battle in the two-mile run, if Wires should not decide to confine himself to the half-mile, in which he has done such good work this winter. The other events would find plenty of competitors. With such a programme the sports would be an undoubted success, and would lessen the expense for each association. The plan is worthy the consideration of the directors and should be carried out to a successful end if possible.

If the Tech Association should, however, hold its own meeting independent of the Chatham Club, a somewhat novel feature might be introduced into the programme in the shape of a beautiful race for the order of the three-mile and two-mile run. Such a race would create just enough class rivalry to make it interesting and could be run for a banner or some similar trophy offered by the Athletic Association. The idea is surely a novel one and, besides making an interesting contest for competitors and spectators alike, would be an excellent manner to develop half-mile and mile runners.

The non-success of the Tech men who competed in the games of the Boston Athletic Association a month ago, at Mechanics Hall, Boston, is no discredit to their abilities. The track was of such a nature that it was almost impossible to keep one's stride and the success of one man and defeat of another had more of the elements of good luck than good running. Amherst, Brown and Worcester were the only colleges of the New England Intercollegiate Athletic Association which had prominent competitors in the games, and none of their representatives won a prize. Bradford, Devlin and Clancy finished in the mile walk and, besides being wholly out of form, was so heavily handicapped that he never had a chance to win. Taylor finished fourth in his heat in the half-mile but was unable to stand the punishment of the sharp corners in the final heat and did not win a prize. White was running splendidly in second place in his 440 trial heat and would surely have finished where he was had he not run a little wide of the pole at the last turn but one, when he was immediately passed on the inside by several runners and crowded out of any possible chance to get a place in the final heat. But Amherst was with the Tech as far as winning was concerned and, as the W. P. L. men had everything to win and nothing to lose, its representatives can feel satisfied with their showing.

For the last eight months, Tech athletes have been assisted in all their work by Mr. John J. Donahue, and the excellent showing which the Techs have made in all the events undertaken has been due in a large part to his excellent care and advice. The great running of Mills last spring at the intercollegiate sports, the
victory of the bean-pot team last December, and
the creditable showing of the Tech men at the
Boston games, are all events in which Donahue's
work was a very important factor. It is
understood that the directors are to secure his
services for the care of the intercollegiate team
this spring, and that the team will be under his
instruction at least four weeks before the sports.
If the directors carry out their intentions and do
secure his services, they will get just the man
they need. John has made himself very popular
with everyone with whom he has come in con-
tact the past season, and is surely capable of
getting the team into just the condition it should
be to compete at the sports next May.

**

The access which Tech students have to Dewey's
field and its proximity to the school suggest
a plan which might be carried out with
benefit to our athletic team. Why could we not
use the field as a sort of practice ground for the
athletic team as a means of preliminary training
previous to the work at the Park? If a running
and pole vault standards set up, and a proper place
provided for the shot putters and hammer throwers,
it might be the means of developing some
valuable men. Many would practice on Dewey's
field who would not go over to the Park once a
week, the interest in the work would be increased
and there would be more competition than there
has been in seasons past. Such arrangements could
easily be made without interfering with the base-
ball diamond, and might be the means of win-
n ing an event next May.

**

The rules governing the winning of the champi-
onship cup of the larger intercollegiate athletic
association have been changed and this year the
champion college team will be decided by points,
a first prize counting 5, a second 3, and a third 1.
The New England Association has never recog-
nized third place in an event and awards the
championship to the college winning the largest
number of first places, seconds counting only in
case of a tie, the system which the larger asso-
ciation has used for several years but has dropped
this year for the change mentioned above. The
New England Association is improving in ath-
letic strength every year, the number of com-
petitors in the annual games is increasing and if
the interest in the association continues to in-
crease as much as it has in the last two years it
will be warranted in offering a prize for third
place. Whether it is for the best interests of the
New England Association to follow the example
of the larger league and decide its championship
by points, is a question for discussion. It would
hardly seem wise to make the change for a year
or two at least.

Alton L. Smith was elected valedictorian at
a meeting of the Senior class held last Wed-
nesday.

BASE-BALL PROSPECTS.

Is it Advisable to Have an Institute Team?—
Hot Interclass Contests Promised.

The April vacation is down on the pro-
gramme to arrive in about two weeks, and at
its close the base-ball season, weather per-
mitting, is expected to be formally opened.
Already the base-ball men in the several
classes are looking forward in joyous anti-
pation to the hot interclass contests which
are promised, and many are the conjectures
and surmises concerning the probable out-
come of the struggle for the championship.
The set-back which the athletic interests of
the school received last fall by the Faculty's
action concerning football seems to have
caused a reaction this spring and, with more
force than ever, a determined effort will be
made to arouse the Tech athletic spirit from
its state of lethargy.

The outlook for the coming season is about
on a par with that of the past few years.
The chances for an Institute team which will
do credit to itself in games with the colleges
are poor, yet there are plenty of men in the
Institute at present from among whom a
creditable team could be formed to play the
various amateur and academy teams in this
vicinity. The question is, however, whether,
in view of the position which we hold in
general athletics and foot-ball, we can afford
to put a nine in the field against such teams,
or whether, under the circumstances, we had
better confine ourselves merely to the
series of class games such as was played last
year. Without a better battery than now
exists in school, it would be useless to put a
team in the field. With regard to the Preps,
however, little or nothing is known; perhaps
they have such a battery among them but,
if they have, they are using strenuous means
to conceal the fact, which possibly is ac-
counted for by their innate modesty.

With regard to class teams there is a
brighter prospect. The plan of playing a
series of two games between the respective
classes, which proved so successful last year,
will probably be adopted for this season's
class games, with the customary badges to
the champion team.

None of the teams has begun practice as
yet, though Ninety, with its usual push, has
elected its captain, E. C. Rice, and has most
of its men at work in the gymnasium, es-
especially its pitching strength. During the past two years Ninety has won the championship each time and has lost but one game during the two seasons, the first game of 1888, with '91, being that exception. The team ought to secure the ribbons once again this spring as a clincher to the brightest record ever left behind by a graduating class.

With the return of White this year they will be able to place in the field the same team as two years ago, which was, perhaps, a better team than last year's. With his return to his old position, third base, Rockwell will be able to go to short field, a position which was Ninety's weakest point last year. Barnard's nimble capers in left field will be missed, but F. W. Treadway will probably try to equal his time in getting over the fence, this spring. Morgan's work in centre last year was somewhat of a disappointment to his many admirers in view of his excellent fielding and timely batting of the season before. Last year was probably an off year for him and a return to his old form may be expected in this season's work. The team will probably be made up thus: Crosby, catcher; C. F. Treadway, pitcher; Cook, first base; Rice [Capt.], second base; White, third base; Rockwell, short stop; Lake, right field; Morgan, centre field; F. W. Treadway, left field. In case of accident, or other misfortune, Lake makes a good substitute catcher, and Rockwell, White or F. W. Treadway can be called upon to fill the pitcher's box, while Anderson, A. L. Smith, Reinbold, Bugbee, Perry, Larchar, Clancy and Sherman, go to make up the list of general substitutes.

Ninety-One's team,—well, where is it? Of last year's team we look in vain for Dawson, captain, Follett, Hastings and McGowan, leaving at present only Kimball, Whittaker, Dadmun, Phelps and Booth in school. No captain has as yet been elected for this year, and whomsoever the lot falls upon will have a herculean task upon his hands to gather together as good a team as last year's. One of the first upon whom his eye will light, however, will be Jimmy McLane, formerly of Ninety, who so kindly captured a sky-scraper at a critical moment in the famous 7 to 5 game between '89 and '90, two years ago.

The team will probably be composed somewhat as follows: Whittaker, catcher; Phelps, pitcher; Kimball, first base; Dadmun, second base; Bradford, third base; McLane, short stop; Kinsley, right field; Davis, centre field; Booth, left field; with O'Regan and the rest of the class as substitutes. Of these, Kimball, Whittaker and Phelps have reputations as stars, but of the rest it would be difficult to express an opinion at present writing.

When we turn to Ninety-Two, though, a brighter prospect greets the eye. They have already re-elected last year's captain, C. A. Tucker, to fill that position on this year's team and, if we may believe their stories, there is nothing alive that '92 does not intend to defeat this season. They are already out with a search warrant for the championship, upon which, it seems, they claim to hold a first mortgage. In fact they say they intend from now on to imitate Ninety's past successes and, as a starter, are talking of adopting a black uniform with red-and-black caps and a red "92" on the breast. Of last year's team, six men are still in the Institute and these were the very flower of the nine. In addition to these six, several good men are understood to have entered last fall as civils and chemists, among them being a pitcher who will try to razzle the other teams to defeat. The following is a possible make-up of the team: Freed, catcher; Wallace, pitcher; Southgate, first base; Tucker [Capt.], second base; Culley, short stop; Needham, third base; Yates, left field; Parks, centre field; Nelson, right field, unless some new men develop in division C. Such a team ought to show up well in the series.

Tis too early as yet to express much of an opinion in regard to the Prep team. While '93 can boast the largest Prep class that ever entered the school and is stronger numerically than either '90 or '91, there seems but little chance of its doing any more in a baseball line than its predecessors. No "phenomenals" are boasted of and it must be said that '93 has done less talking so far than the usual run of Prep classes. Tatum is occasionally heard of as an aspirant for pitching honors and we hope he may develop into a success.

In looking over the probable class teams this year, although neglecting '93, it is seen that a comparatively strong team could be selected to represent the school against local teams, should such a plan be decided advisable. For catchers, there are Crosby, '90,
and Kimball, '91. Both are good men in their positions and, while neither show up strongly at the bat, are good waiters and generally reach first base. Of last year's pitchers C. F. Treadway, '90, is the most promising, but something is looked for in Wallace, '92, and Tatman, '93. Of Ninety's team last year Treadway showed up second at the bat. For the bases and outfield positions several candidates are thought of. Rice, '90, would be strong at the bat besides fielding his position well. Last year he led '90 at the bat and was fifth in fielding. Cook, '90, is a good man in the field but his batting would probably preclude his playing on a school nine. Phelps, '91, is a good fielder and timely batter, in which latter respect he led his class last year. Whittaker, '91, is also a promising man. Tucker, '92, has the making of a good player in him, but his playing last year was marked by too much careless work besides appearing over-confident in himself. Needham, '92, and Southgate, '92, are good men, both playing to win from beginning to end of a game. Culley, '92, is also spoken of very highly and, although he has never yet appeared in a game at the Tech, the Fitchburger is claimed to have a way of scooping in grounders and banging out home-runs that is startling to an audience. Morse, '92, and Hammond, '93, are promising players.

From among those named, with allowance for the unknown men of '93, a good team could be gotten together by a competent captain, which, with Chester Howe as mascot, could successfully compete with any or all local teams.

THE U. S. PATENT OFFICE.

History of a Government Institution of Great Interest to Many Techs.

In April of this year the United States Patent Office will celebrate its centennial: this most unique and important governmental agency will be one hundred years old. The Patent Office is a place of interest to every American citizen and especially to that progressive class, American inventors, of which Tech graduates are already forming a part. Within its walls is represented a century of thought and of study and of wonderful progress. There is an atmosphere of invention all about its wide halls and busy rooms. All over the building can be felt the very pulse of the American inventor beating and throbbing as the never-ceasing tide of ideas, formed in many minds all over the continent, pours in like an overwhelming torrent.

The property created by the inventor is exalted in point of dignity by no other property right whatever, and the inventor, above all men, is the one who confers the greatest benefit on mankind by his labors, and in proportion to his compensation.

Lord Bacon gave the weight of his opinion to these views when he said, "The introduction of great inventors appears one of the most distinguished of human actions, and the ancients so considered it: for they assigned divine honors to the authors of inventions, but only heroic honors to those who displayed civil merit [such as the founders of cities and empires, legislators, the deliverers of their country from lasting misfortune, the quellers of tyrants and the like]. And if any one rightly compare them, he will find the judgment of antiquity to be correct; for the benefits derived from inventions may extend to mankind in general, but civil benefits to particular lands alone; the latter, moreover, last but for a time,—the former, forever. Civil reformation is seldom carried on without violence and confusion; while inventions are a blessing and a benefit without injuring or afflicting any."

This idea must have been with the wise framers of our constitution, when, moved by the eloquence and reason of Thomas Jefferson, they added the clause, "The Congress shall have power to promote the progress of science and the useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries." Upon this clause of the constitution the whole patent system is based, and all laws passed by Congress in this particular depend upon it.

The first act protecting patent rights was passed in 1790. By this act the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War and the Attorney General were constituted a board to pass upon patents, but in reality Thomas Jefferson, the Secretary of State, was the supervisor and head of this branch, the function of the others being merely to sign the patents.

In 1793, the Secretary of War was omitted from this board. This was the practice for more than forty years. No examination as now understood was made. The only question raised was whether the alleged invention was important enough to warrant a patent and, if decided affirmatively, the inventor was left to the mercies of the courts as regards all other matters. During nearly all this period of forty years, the entire business was transacted by a single clerk, who had a desk in the office of the Secretary of State. With this arrangement, the duties of the Secretary in this respect were only a little more than nominal, and the Attorney General acted only as legal adviser.

In those early days this clerk was not kept very busy. The first year there were but three patents granted out of five applications, so the clerk, Dr. Thornton, had plenty of time for diversion a day, when the doctor had nothing to do, he used to get out his fishing tackle and take a turn with the black bass and perch in the upper
Potomac, for he was a disciple of Isaac Walton. A queer character this good old doctor must have been. For over a quarter of a century he ruled the inventors of the country with almost autocratic power. His superior officers had the most implicit confidence in him and would sign every paper which he submitted without question. So he granted patents to whom he pleased and refused those that did not suit him. From some he took fees and from others not, and when he died his accounts were found to be in an extremely bad condition. But no one blamed the good doctor or suspected him of wrong, for he died as he had lived: a government clerk. He lacked practical business knowledge like many another man of science, that was all. A good story has been recently published concerning him, and if not true it is certainly characteristic of his mode of acting. During the War of 1812 the English entered the city of Washington. They had set the Capitol on fire as well as the White House, and the cannon were turned on the Patent Office and other buildings. The guns were trained on the building and the order to fire was just to be given, when the. doctor rushed out in a frenzy, shouting, 'Are you Englishmen or only Goths and Vandals? This is the Patent Office, a depository of the ingenuity of the American nation, in which the whole civilized world is interested! Would you destroy it? If so, fire away and let the charge pass through my body!' Whether or not this actually happened, the office was not destroyed. In fact, it never came to pass so as to put any building called the Patent Office which was built for Dr. Thornton on the site of the building now occupied by the general Post-Office, and to which he had moved his precious records, from the old State building. Even here the office was of small pretensions, and up to 1823, a period of thirty-three years, had allowed but 1879 patents just about the number now issued every month.

The office was, however, commencing to make itself felt in the world and in July, 1836, Congress passed the foundation law, declaring that there shall be established and attached to the Department of State, an office to be known as the Patent Office, the chief officer of which shall be called to Commissioner of Patents, and further directed that the Commissioner shall examine each application in detail concerning novelty, invention, utility, etc., almost exactly as the examination is made at the present day.

This was the real establishment of the Patent Office. As early as the same year, the Patent Office received nearly a life blow by a disastrous fire in December. All the models were destroyed and many records which never could be restored.

In 1837, the magnificent building now the Patent Office was commenced and when completed a fresh start was made. The Patent Office was then constituted one of the branches of the new Department of the Interior when the latter was established in 1849. But again was fire to work havoc with the repository of the inventors, and in 1877 many thousands of models were destroyed and the upper story of the main building burned out. This fire, however, was not as disastrous as the one in 1836, as none of the records were permanently destroyed.

The building has been restored and is one of the finest buildings, both from an architectural point of view and in size, in Washington. The building is Doric in architecture and covers two whole squares. It is of sandstone and granite, containing about 200 large rooms, about three-fifths of which are occupied by the Patent Office.

The Patent Office was built entirely by money paid by inventors as fees, but Congress has seen fit to place the General Land Office in the building and shamefully crowd the owner. It is hoped that Congress will soon have the equity of the case strongly put before it.

This brief sketch may help to convey to the reader’s mind what the Patent Office. From 8 patents in 1790 to 28,360 in 1889 is quite a step and is one which fairly represents the growth of invented property. From a single clerk to thirty examining divisions and upwards of two hundred examiners, not to speak of appeal, interference, record, model, etc. clerks, illustrates the progress.

The finest scientific library in the country is in the Patent Office and is the resort of inventors and experts to see "what has been done before." A walk through the magnificent model halls and a glance at the hundreds of thousands of models is enough to impress a stranger with the immensity of the system; but, when told that all the models on exhibition represent but a fraction of the patents granted, he is almost awed.

The fire of 1877 showed to the authorities the danger of constituting a model part of the record, and since that time a model is demanded in a very small number of cases.

A very interesting study may be made of the records. Out of 430,000 patents granted up to date, 3,500 have been granted to women inventors. But if the curious Tech should look a little deeper into the matter, he would find that these patents are mostly on corsets and like articles of which he is presumed to know nothing. His scientific education has not fitted him to compete in these lines.

Cranks? Isn’t every inventor more or less of a crank? Washington is the crankiest city in this universe, and the Patent Office gets its share. Coupling cranks, flying-machine cranks, electrical cranks, perpetual-motion cranks all make the Patent Office their headquarters, and only want to interest a few men of capital, a la Col. Sellers, to revolutionize the world in some particular. And, by the bye, the Office has a very efficient way of disposing of this latter class, the perpetual motion cranks. When they file their applications [and I wouldn’t dare to say how many are filed in a year], the Office simply requests a working model and a demonstration of its abilities. Thus in nine cases out of ten, Mr. Keely is heard of no more.

The thirty examining divisions are busy places and in them is the real work done, all other being auxiliary to the examination. This procedure is very interesting, both from a legal point of view, as well as a mechanical, and will
be discussed at length in a future paper, as it can not fail to be of interest to the Techs.

It is my ardent belief and expectation that when the next century shall have rolled by, the records will contain the story of how many a Tech has done honor to his Alma Mater and has made his name famous by the agency of the Patent Office.

LOUIS W. SOUTHGATE, '85.
Washington, D. C., March 4, 1890.

A SCRAP AT THE SHOP.
Stonecutter and McCann Fight for the Diamond Belt and the Title of Mascot.

One week ago last Saturday the Senior mechanics at the shop were treated to a circus the like of which has never occurred in those precincts before and which will, in all probability, never occur again. It was nothing less than a yard-wide, dyed-in-the-wool scrapping match between Charlie "Stonecutter" and Tom McCann, the two mascots of the Washburn Shops. Although the match was brought about rather prematurely and no conditions were stipulated, it was generally conceded by the sports present that upon the outcome of the contest depended the priority of claim to the title of mascot and the general good-will of the Senior class. It was a blood contest from start to finish and the referee, although he decided the affair a draw, stated that he had never seen a livelier contest or one showing a better display of science and skill.

The trouble began when Tom McCann made up his mind to visit his old acquaintances at the shop that morning and, acting under the impulse of the moment, left Lincoln Square and started for the Institute. When he reached the Boynton street entrance and gaily tripped up the path to the shop, a glad cry of joy from one of the Seniors announced his coming and the excitement spread even to the wood-room. Everybody rushed to the windows and, sure enough, there was Tom, in all his pristine magnificence. But he was not alone. He was accompanied by a large and healthy specimen of jag and the combination was simply glorious. It was hard to tell which was Tom and which was the jag, but they both were there, that was plainly evident, and slowly but surely the twain mounted the hilly path to the shop.

Once within the shop, Tom got a rousing reception from all hands. He was looking well, never better in his life, in fact. The seamy lines of care which the responsibility of putting an elevator inside the Coney Island wooden elephant had worn in his brow had totally disappeared and his face was a sunburst of smiles. He received the congratulations heaped upon him with characteristic modesty and in return talked entertainingly about his jag and other current topics.

The reception had lasted about an hour when the door opened and Charlie Stonecutter put in an appearance. If the engine had blown out its cylinder head, it would not have produced more excitement than this second distinguished arrival. Charlie was welcomed royally and shook hands with everybody. He was looking well, too. He wore jauntily poised on his head a tile of immaculate stiffness and exhibited the latest spring style in neckties. His pants were recognized as Plymouth Rocks and, barring slight fringes of whiskers around the bottom, completed a beautiful picture of elegant ease.

Charlie talked interestingly of his recent visit to Washington, the Harrison administration and other things. As he walked, in his charmingly nonchalant manner, across the shop, his eye fell on innocent Tom McCann and his jag. Tom recognized them immediately and offered Charlie a hearty greeting. The latter's whole manner changed, however, and in a haughty, overbearing tone he repudiated the former's friendly advances. It was quickly seen that the disputed possession of the title of mascot had caused a coldness between them, but little was thought by the onlookers that this frigidity would develop into a hot scrapping match before the morning had waned.

Friends distracted the attention of each for a short half hour. Then the two met again and trouble with a big T began right away.

Charlie was telling about a little social chat which he had with James G. Blaine when Tom sauntered by and casually remarked that Charlie Stonecutter was a blinkety blank liar. Thereupon Charlie spat on his hands, pulled his Dunlap firmly down over his ears, to hide his face, and, without even removing his topcoat or his coonskin gloves, jumped into the open space around the merrily revolving grindstone and
allowed that he was going to knock the everlasting, eternal spots out of anything that bore the name of McCann. Tom was on deck if anything in that line was going on and confidently replied that he would now give the coroner a beautiful subject.

The spectators hastily formed a ring and agreed to see the matter decided fairly and squarely. "Sealskin" was chosen second for Tom McCann, while "Scratchy" and "Sweeney" did the honors for Charlie.

As the great scrap was about to begin, the condition of each contestant was quickly noted. Tom was apparently overtrained and his jag made him groggy in his legs. Charlie, on the other hand, was in the pink of condition and the muscles and the chew of tobacco in his face were set in one hard look of determination. Amid the shouts of the partisans of each scrapper, the contest began.

**First Round.**

Tom got in a beautiful upper cut on Charlie's Dunlap and, following up his advantage, put his fist through a large hole in the same and tore out large samples of hair. Charlie retaliated with a left-arm body blow but it fell short and Tom, grabbing his opponent's necktie, tore it out and trampled it under foot.

**Second Round.**

Charlie opened up with a rush and closed Tom's left peeper with a swinging counter. Tom played foxy and tried for a half-Nelson hip-lock, but was unsuccessful. Just at the close of the round he annihilated Charlie's quid of tobacco with a terrific smash straight from the shoulder.

**Third Round.**

Honors were easy when the third round opened and amid intense excitement both contestants sparred for an opening. Charlie succeeded in a splendid drive and cross-counter and, following it up with a rush, grabbed Tom around the neck and tried for a chancery hold. As both scrappers wildly groped around the room, they struck the grindstone with a crash and Charlie, Tom and the jag fell to the floor with a dull, sickening thud. Charlie was on top and the jag underneath. Friends separated the contestants at this point. Each acknowledged satisfaction and the affair was declared a draw.

After the scrap there was general regret expressed that one or both of the parties had not been permanently laid out. A claim of first blood on the part of Charlie Stonecutter was not allowed, it being proved that Tom cut his face on the grindstone while going down.

Now friends of each talk of raising a purse and having a genuine mill on the outskirts of the city.

**PRESS NOTICES OF THE W P I.**

*What the Worcester Newspapers Think of the Polytechnic's Representative.*

It is a questionable proceeding for a publication to print commendatory notices of itself and on general principles the practice, although universal, is not in good taste. In the case of the W P I, however, the offense may be condoned on the ground that the alumni, especially those who have been on the staff of the paper in years past, are interested in everything concerning its welfare and general standing in the community. For this reason, most decidedly not to gratify its own inclinations, the W P I, at the close of volume five, prints the following press notices that have been received during the year. All are clipped from the local papers. The exchanges have said many complimentary things which have caused the office cat to blush, but the opinions of the local laborers in the field of newspaper work, who understand the difficulties under which the Tech writer publishes his thoughts, are valued much more highly than those which come hundreds of miles by mail.

* * * The paper handles the actual news at the Institute in commendable style and has none of the encyclopedia features too common in school journals. * * * [Telegram, Nov. 15, 1889.]

The December number of the W P I of the Polytechnic Institute is out and the editors are evidently keenly alive to the fact that the Christmas holidays are close at hand. From the first editorial to the last note of the volume, a genuine ring of joy can be heard, felt and seen. * * * [Gazette, Dec. 17, 1889.]

The June number of the W P I is issued from the Polytechnic Institute to-day and contains a large amount of matter, all of which is gotten up in clear, forcible English and in more of the newspaper style than nine in ten of all school papers. * * * There are bright verses, "Technicalities" and other articles, and the whole number is a fine one. * * * [Telegram, June 15, 1889.]

Four extra pages are necessary for the February W P I, which will come out to-day,
THE WPI.

bright and fresh as usual. The marking system is given a thorough ventilation by means of several letters and the personal mark is made the subject of an editorial. All the latest Tech news is also served up in readable shape. [Spy, Feb. 15, 1890.

The May number of the WPI appeared yesterday from the Polytechnic Institute and has all the “snap” and interest that characterized the preceding number. ** * * Considerable space is given to athletics. A careful and lengthy review of the “probabilities” in the different colleges, as regards the intercollegiate sports, occupies something over two pages and an account of the spring field sports also appears. ** * * [Telegram, May 16, 1889.

The current issue of the WPI is extremely readable and the Board of Editors ** * * are to be congratulated. The paper editorially laments the action of the Polytechnic Faculty in forbidding games with out-of-town foot-ball elevens and in its news columns publishes communications from several alumni in support of its position. The paper also gives attention to the various organizations of the school and among other interesting information gives the whereabouts of last year’s graduates. ** * * [Gazette, Oct. 16, 1889.

Under its present editorial management, the WPI, issued from the Polytechnic Institute, has become the brightest school periodical ever printed in Worcester and the October number, which was issued yesterday, contains all the effervescing thought which the editors have had to bottle up since the commencement number was issued in June. ** * * There is much interesting miscellaneous matter and life is infused into every column, whatever the subject may be. It is a model paper. ** * * [Telegram, Oct. 16, 1889.

The April issue of the WPI, containing 24 pages of reading matter, appears at the Polytechnic Institute to-day and is one of the best numbers sent out since the paper was founded. ** * * There is not a dull line in the paper. The editorial pages are filled with thoughtul work and the paper throughout gives evidence of having been written by its editors, rather than made up with paste-pot and shears, as college papers too frequently are. ** * * Altogether, the paper is an unusually creditable representative of college journalism. [Telegram, April 15, 1889.

The January number of the WPI gives no indication that the editorial force has been crippled by the grippe. ** * * The current issue of the paper is as bright as ever. There is a strong leading editorial advocating the taking of the Thompson fund, within two or three years, for the building of a gymnasium. It is suggested that it would be a good idea for graduating classes to leave behind them mementoes in the way of busts or pictures to adorn Boynton Hall. ** * * There is something about the coming exams and the coming Freps, with some very funny sample questions for the candidates to ponder over, and the current news of the Institute is served up in a newsy way. [Telegram, Jan. 21, 1890.

Last year the graduating class of the Polytechnic Institute issued an elaborate volume known as the “Log of ’88.” This year no log was printed, but the regular school paper, the “WPI,” has just made its appearance with special features and will be an attractive souvenir for the departing scholars. ** * * The number contains complete reports of the commencement exercises, opening with a pleasant editorial, “Vale, Eighty-Nine.” The class oration is given in full and the alumni dinner at the Bay State, with the speeches by President Fuller, Prof. Rogers of Colby, Prof. Kinnicut and others, is fully reported. The farewell banquet at the Bay State is described in commendable reportorial style, notwithstanding the fact that the editors of the WPI were refused admittance to enjoy the good things; but they obtained the particulars just the same. The paper, besides the above, is crammed with matter of interest to the Techs and does its editor great credit. [Gazette, July 3, 1889.

** * * It is strictly a “commencement number” and contains 24 pages of reading matter concerning the Polytechnic Institute’s commencement. It appears in a new cover of attractive design, and with an engraved head. The paper contains four extra pages, exclusive of advertisements. ** * * The editors of the paper deserve no ordinary praise for their handling of the events of commencement. The story starts off with a nine-line heading: “Out Into the Wide World,” and in the sub-heads, the arrangement of articles, etc., the newspaper style is followed in a way that would do credit to any professional daily. The class-day exercises, the alumni reunion, the commencement exercises proper, the farewell banquet and the class reunions, are reported in full, with the speeches, and two pages of very amusing card-playing are devoted to statistics of the graduating class. The athletic history of the class is fully written and there is other matter of interest about the school. ** A model school paper, bright, readable and enterprising at all times. [Telegram, July 3, 1889.

THE ALUMNI AND THE WPI.

How the Former Can be Made to Give Aid and Encouragement to the Latter.

To the Editor of the WPI:

The date of the last number reminds me that with next month the labors of yourself and colleagues of Ninety in behalf of our school journal will be over, and I write to congratulate you on the success that has been yours.

Naturally my interest in the paper is great and yet I feel sure that with all the alumni who peruse its columns there is a real appre-
cation of its power in binding us together with Alma Mater in closer union and a realization of our indebtedness to those who are making it a success. You have struck the key note of college journalism by striving in every way to edit a representative paper, one that is printed to inform and interest the students and alumni of the school rather than the exchange editor and would-be literary critic in some other college. You have discussed live questions whose right solution is a matter of great import to us all, and if a literary finish has been lacking at times it has been more than compensated for by vigor, evident honesty, and live interest. All that the editors could do has been done and it is evident that, to insure a further advance, help must be forthcoming from outside.

Such an advance would, in my judgment, be attained if the pages of the paper reflected to a greater extent the lives and views of our graduates. Every college editor can speak from experience and recall how warmly a letter, or even an item of news or an expression of opinion, was welcomed in the sanctum, and, mayhap, he will remember also the oft-recorded vow that when he assumed the dignity of an alumnus he would banish modesty, or shyness, or whatever it is that keeps the graduate candle under a bushel, and win the eternal gratitude of some unhappy editor.

So close is the bond between all good Techs that facts relating to the thought, occupation, prosperity or adversity of any one are of interest to all, and, what is of greater importance, if in some way they could be brought to write, the standard of the paper would necessarily be improved, bearing the impress of a widening experience.

This being true, who should be the pioneers among the alumni and be the first to do unto others as we wish we had been done by, if not those of us who have served as editors ourselves. It is primarily with this idea in mind that I am, perhaps, filling up a column or so for you, trusting that some good may come of it. I suggest that those of us who have been on the staff in former years form a club, every four years to hold a meeting and, with a rousing good dinner as a send-off, talk over old times and rehearse the ancient sanctum jokes; and finally, when our brains are cleared and our spirits tran-

quil, lay plans for the success and improvement of our college paper.

Let there be one solemn oath upon initiation, namely: a promise to send every year an item, or an article, or a letter of some sort to our college paper on pain of incurring the righteous contempt of all true members. If this plan were lived up to, in a short time other Techs would follow suit. We have a goodly set of members to begin with. Come, Aldrich, Risteen, Pierpont, Burr, Chamberlain, Murray, Burke, Russell, Tucker, Griffin, Goodell, H. E. Rice, McFadden, Speirs, Bartlett, Sessions, Penniman, Allen, Baldwin, Stowe, Farnum, Rockwell, Smith, Daman, Kinsley, Savage, Dunbar, and my dear Editor-in-Chief, what say you? If you have not forgotten how to swear, send a postal that you will join the club or, if you owe me a letter, send that instead to

Yours faithfully,
J. BRACE CHITTENDEN,
Harvard University, 140 Mt. Auburn St.
February 27, 1890. Cambridge, Mass.

A STEP FORWARD.

Promise of Opportunities for Broader Culture
Now Opening to Tech Students.

On the occasion of a recent visit to the Institute the writer noted with great pleasure and satisfaction the development of the course in history and politics. It has been a matter of regret to many of the alumni that their training at the Institute left them entirely deficient in many directions. Industrial power means political and social power. The Institute aims to fit its men to attain industrial power, but what has it done to fit them to exercise the political and social functions that are inseparable from industrial power? The great problem of our day is unquestionably the problem of the modern industrial city. Upon this social reformers are concentrating their forces. Every thoughtful man realizes that the crucial test of our civilization is at hand. Pessimism is as foolish and vain as optimism, but even while we have faith to believe that the march of civilization is irresistible, we must awake to the fact that we are to smooth and not block the way. As a nation we must work out our own salvation. The great cities, these truly marvellous creations of the modern industrial age, are the strategic
points which must be held if our present

 civilization is to stand the strain of present

 conditions. The cities are in the hands of

 the industrial classes. The leaders of

 industry, controlling as they do the industrial

 forces, are to shape the nation's destiny.

 The graduates of the Institute are going out

 into the world to play an important part in

 industrial development and to acquire

 influence in that field. If these men are

 imbued with the spirit of intelligent, rational

 reform, they may do a work in impressing

 correct convictions and in restraining unwise

 action which no professional reformer can

 hope to do. In the midst of such wide-

 spread and such dense ignorance it is most

 important that the leaders in an industrial

 community should be men of right ideas.

 The mass of ignorance and vice must be

 healed if we are to preserve our social

 system. Are the graduates of the Institute

 fitted by their training to meet the political

 and social duties of the industrial position

 which they may reasonably hope to occupy?

 Let those who have taken Senior work with

 Prof. Smith and have noted the amount of

 general knowledge displayed by the class

 answer. Is it not a lamentable fact that

 men who are stuffed with mathematical

 formulae and crammed with a varied assort-

 ment of scientific facts are unformed boys

 with regard to the questions which they

 must face as men and citizens? Without

 attempting to fix responsibility, is there a

 thinking man who does not regret that the

 graduates of the Institute are so poorly

 prepared to influence an enlightened public

 sentiment?

 The development of a course in history

 and politics, brief though it be, is surely a

 step in the right direction. History has been

 called "the know thyself of humanity." We

 cannot understand the present without a

 knowledge of the past. An historic back-

 ground is essential to present speculation.

 The consideration of live economic questions

 will appeal to even the most extreme

 advocate of a strictly practical training.

 We who have completed our course and in

 contact with the realities of life find cause to

 regret the absence of more liberal culture,

 may well congratulate the students of the

 present upon the promise of larger opportuni-

 ties now opening up to them.

 F. W. Speirs, '88.

 CAMERA CLUB EXHIBITION.

 The Institute's Amateur Photographers Show
 Samples of their Work to their Friends.

 Never before has the free-hand drawing room

 worn such a cheery aspect, nor been filled with

 such an interested assemblage of visitors, as on

 the occasion of the last birthday anniversary of

 the glorious father of his country, when the

 Camera Club gave its exhibition of prints for

 the benefit of Techs and their friends. We say

 Techs and their friends, but perhaps it would be

 more appropriate to say simply friends, for the

 number of Techs who found their way to the top

 of the hill on that day, between the hours of

 three and ten, was very limited. The Faculty,

 we are quite happy to say, were, with few excep-

 tions, present at some time during the exhibition.

 As this was the first event of the kind which

 has ever occurred at the Tech, there was some

 interest among the members of the club concern-

 ing its success, and regarding this question there

 can be doubt, for the large attendance and the

 occasional remarks dropped by visitors show

 how the work of the members of the club was

 appreciated.

 About four hundred photographs were exhib-

 ited and these included albumen prints, blue

 prints, bromides, aristotypes and platinotypes.

 The pictures varied in size from 8 in. by 10 in. to

 4 by 5 and in Mr. Phelon's exhibit were a few

 kodaks. The subjects treated covered nearly the

 entire field of photography and the manner of

 treatment was decidedly creditable in most cases.

 Young ladies in hammocks seemed to be one of

 the favorite methods of combining the ideal with

 the real, and it might be said that in these pic-

 tures the effect was interesting and would have

 been pleasing only for the fact that most of the

 subjects looked too conscious.

 Although portraits were not numerous, yet

 enough of them were exhibited to show that

 amateurs are not afraid to grasp this department

 of the art and that much may be expected in the

 future in work of this kind. The work in

 landscapes and water scenes was something to look

 at and, after you had looked, to look again.

 Many charming nooks and byways were revealed

 which incited the imagination to a considerable

 degree. Broad fields, distant hills, roadside scenes,

 pastures dotted with cattle and rustic localities

 were presented to the eye in varying aspects so

 that the beauties of New England were forcibly

 impressed on the mind. These, interspersed

 with more detailed pictures of cattle, studies in

 foliage and historic buildings and places, served

 to keep up the interest of the visitor.

 Many of the water scenes were gems and the

 sharp delineation of waves and breaking surf

 made one almost hear their rush and roar. The

 instantaneous pictures and flash lights were

 good although some of the groups were more

 amusing than graceful. Among these were sev-

 eral taken at Agricultural Park during field

 sports, and one of these, the finish of a hundred

 yards dash, held the attention for some minutes

 because of the intense vivacity depicted on the
faces of the participants. One of the most interesting was a picture of a moose taken just before it was shot. A cloud effect, the only one exhibited, attracted considerable notice as did also the moonlight scenes taken in the daytime when there was a large halo around the moon. A photograph of a photographer who is focussing his camera on himself sitting several feet distant excited the wonder of many who were not acquainted with the tricks of the trade.

Much praise is due the officers and members of the Camera Club for the manner in which they carried out their plans and it is safe to conclude that the success of this first exhibition will be the inspiration for many succeeding ones.

After the exhibition several pictures were selected for an album to be sent to the Camera Club at the Rose Polytechnic Institute of Terre Haute, Indiana. That club is to send to its local namesake, in exchange, a similar album containing selections of their work.

The club now seems to be firmly established and, as the members are deeply interested in their art, we may look for some good results of the spring field meetings.

SUNDAY STUDY.

"Junior" Desires an Opportunity to Drop School Work One Day in the Week.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE W P I:—

Studying on Sunday is a practice which is indulged in by a large majority of the Techs and which, instead of diminishing as it should, is becoming more and more general.

This Sunday studying is a thing which, I think, not one of our professors would wish to promote, but it is caused indirectly, yes, directly, by them. Sunday is a day which, for everyone and especially a Tech student, should be a day of rest, free from all of the studies of the rest of the week. It is a day on which our brains should be entirely at rest. By having Sunday a day of rest, we can work at great deal harder during the rest of the week. On Saturday most every student in the school works up to twelve o'clock and this work has been continued steadily from the time he arose the morning before. All through the week, day and evening, our time is entirely taken up with our work and study. If we apply ourselves diligently, as most of us do, we get no time during the week for recreation and all the exercise we get is in walking to and from the school.

Now when Saturday noon does come, you would like to feel that you were free until Monday morning. Perhaps you wish to take a nice, long walk and get some good, fresh air during the afternoon—it is the first chance you have had during the week. Perhaps you want to get a hair-cut. Perhaps you have to go to the tailor's to see about some clothes. Or, perhaps, you want to go and get a new pair of shoes. There are a hundred other little duties of life that you must attend to. Saturday afternoon is the only time you have to attend to them, and so it is taken up in the ways mentioned. For myself I could mention another way I should like to spend some of my Saturday afternoons. I should like to visit some of the large foundries and shops, both for pleasure and for the practical good to be thus obtained.

Saturday evening, after supper, you have your weekly letter to write home and perhaps one to your best girl, if she does not live in Worcester. When this is done you may have some papers that have been sent to you from home which you wish to look over, and by the time you have finished that task the hands of the clock are fast approaching nine. Now it is time to take your good, old-fashioned, Saturday-night bath and go to bed.

When is the time coming in to study Monday's lessons? If you have thought of them at all you have probably said, "Oh, well, I will get them Sunday. I shall have plenty of time then." The result is, you stay home from church and spend the whole morning on Monday's lessons. This is done by a large majority of the students. The lessons for Monday are always as long, and generally longer, than for other days, though we don't quite see where the time is coming in to get all of them. For this reason there is a great deal of work done on Sunday that might be avoided if Monday's lessons were not quite so lengthy.

JUNIOR.

THE LANDSING CUP WINNER.

A Suggestion Concerning His Playing in the Annual Fall Tennis Tournament.

In one important feature connected with the annual tennis tournament held in the fall of each year by the Tech association, the management, in the opinion of many tennis players in the school, has fallen into an error which ought to be rectified before the tournament this year is under way. Under the provisions of the rules which have usually governed the association's tournaments, the champion of the previous year has been compelled to enter the lists and meet all comers, without taking into consideration the fact that he is already the possessor of the Landsing cup. To compel him to enter his name as a common player and again prove his superiority, in a series of several matches, is manifestly an injustice. The fact that he holds the championship entitles him to a different place in the tournament than if he had never won the cup. It is the universal custom at tournaments elsewhere for the winner of the previous year to play only the man who proves a winner at the tourney which is being held. In this manner the champion is spared a series of contests with those players whom fate happens to throw
in his way at the drawings. Of course he may be beaten in one of these preliminary matches, but, in that case, it would be an occasion for universal regret, for the great body of spectators would miss the exciting match, coming as it did at the first of the tournament, when interest would be divided between several contests. In this way the tournament would be robbed of much of its importance, especially if the player who defeated the champion in the preliminaries had a poor opponent in the final round.

If each year's tournament were a free-for-all, happy-go-lucky affair into which everybody entered and strove for a prize which the winner could claim for his own at the end of the tournament, there would be some reason for the present system. But the prize is the Landsing silver cup: it has to be won three times by the same individual before he can exhibit it to his friends as his own property. He ought not to defend it against every player. The holding of the cup for the next year ought to be decided in a match between the holder at the time of the tournament and the winner of the tournament.

**A NEW MOVE IN ATHLETICS.**

*A Petition, Asking for an Advisory Board, to Be Presented to the Trustees.*

There is no use disguising the fact that our athletic interests need a stimulus. Everybody admits that the strictures on athletics last fall completely paralyzed us but we will be biting off our own noses if we say we won't play anything because we can't play what we want. The Athletic Association evidently realizes this fact for it has taken the first step toward recovery by appointing a committee to petition the Trustees to place the various athletic interests of the school under the control of an advisory board. This scheme is by no means a new one as it is now followed with great success in many of the New England colleges. Recent exchanges, especially those from Amherst and Williams, are just now giving attention to the subject. It is evident that an advisory committee, composed as above, would add immensely to the athletic interests of the school. There seems to be no doubt that the scheme will be adopted, but this is not enough. We are losing time. Other schools are preparing for the spring campaign of baseball and general athletics and some of the larger colleges have kept their men in training all winter.

If we want to be "in it" this spring it is time to begin. The committee, when once it gets to work, will give just the impetus so much needed at this time. Those who have our education in charge will not fail to realize that the subject of athletics must have its place, and such a board will be able to determine just what that place shall be.

The Amherst Student for February 8 publishes the constitution of its advisory board recently appointed. The principal results expected of the change of policy in regard to athletics, as outlined by the constitution and by opinions from both professors and students, seem to be, to unify the athletic interest of the college, to improve their financial standing, to give the students a better chance to present their plans, and to check any tendency to professionalism. If Amherst students can interest their faculty to such an extent, we might interest ours. Notwithstanding appearances, the Faculty are said to be not entirely opposed to a limited indulgence in athletics. Now is an excellent time to show it. We want something more than tacit approval. We want the Faculty to show an active interest in our athletics and we want the alumni to catch the contagion. Above all we think it is about time that the students and Faculty began to pull together on a few questions of importance like that of school athletics. This will be accomplished only when our representatives can meet with those of the Faculty and alumni and discuss plans which will be for the best interests of the students and the Institute.

**WHAT GERMAN SHALL WE READ?**

*A Correspondent Suggests that Middle Classes Have a Voice in Deciding this Question.*

To the Editor of the W P I:

Why cannot Middle classes have a voice in selecting the German which they are to read? While there is no fault to be found with the works now used, there are others which are just as valuable and which, very probably, classes might prefer. Many, if not most, of the men in the Institute have some knowledge of the best German authors and their works and have a preference as to what they read; would it not be expedient to let this preference give itself expression? It is universally conceded that a person does better work, and more of it in the same time, if he is interested in what he is doing, and this applies to the study of German as well as to other work.

The Faculty are, unquestionably, better capable of making a final decision as to what is to be read than the classes, but would it not be conducive to better feeling and better work on the part of the members if classes were allowed to express their choice and that expression taken into consideration in making
A recent graduate of the Tech had a queer experience in applying for a situation in answer to an advertisement in a Boston paper. It is said [presumably by authority] that this young product of technical education presented himself to the senior partner of the manufacturing firm which advertised with the remark: "I saw your advertisement for a man of pleasing address and some mechanical ability, and I called to see if I could fill the bill."

"What experience have you had in our line of manufactures?" he was asked.

"None, but I took the course in mechanical engineering at the Worcester Tech and had three and a half years of real, machine-shop work."

"Very good. Do you drink?"

"No, sir. A glass of liquor never passed my lips."

"You smoke, of course, and you give good cigars freely to your friends?"

"Quite the contrary. I never smoke."

"Do you play cards?"

"No, sir."

"Well, young man, I'm sorry, but I'm afraid you are just the man we do not want. We intend to send an agent to Washington to talk high tariff for our foreign competitors with several Democratic members of the House of Representatives."
No Use for Him.

A young man presents himself to the head of a manufacturing firm in this city, and says:

"Do you want a boy to sweep out the office, etc., and made himself generally useful?"

"No, sir."

"Have any opening for a young man who is willing to begin humbly and work up?"

"No, sir."

"Don't want a man to snap castings, or drive team, or take care of the horses?"

"No, sir. We have places only for skilled workmen."

"Well, I'm sorry, sir. I guess I'll try elsewhere. I'm a Senior at the Polytechnic Institute and I want to be sure of a job when I graduate."

Junior class officers: President, F. A. Morse; vice-president, F. W. Collier; secretary, R. S. Parks; treasurer, W. F. Burleigh; base-ball captain, C. A. Tucker; athletic director, E. H. Fish.

It is now the correct thing to have a flash-light picture taken of your room by some member of the Camera Club, who afterwards makes 300 per cent. profit by selling his productions at Shylock rates.

Senior Chemists have been analysing samples of air taken from the various recitation rooms just after an exercise. Though some show the ventilation to be very good, others are sufficiently foul to kill a good live man.

For what reason is the work of the Senior class with Dr. Smith designated by the senseless term, "English"? It is called "Political Science" in the catalogue and this name ought to be sufficient for everyday purposes.

The Camera Club is a shining example of what whole-souled Faculty encouragement, coupled with push and enterprise on the part of the students, can do. It is by far the most flourishing of the Institute's minor organizations.

Light, in printing newsy notes and comment on Tech men and things, is making a "palpable hit" in that quarter. The W P I welcomes the newcomer to the Worcester field of newspaper work and wishes it long life and prosperity.

A valuable clock, in a beautiful case of antique oak, has been presented to the Institute by Clinton M. Dyer, the well known insurance man of this city. It occupies a prominent place in the office and attracts universal admiration.

George Washington was a good man and would doubtless have attended the Tech, but George's methods of jarring the floor timbers are not allowed, so George would doubtless have been suspended soon after he had been admitted.

The executive committee of the N. E. I. A. A. held its first meeting last Saturday at the Quincy House, Boston, and made the usual preliminary arrangements. The Faculty objected to Dalendar's going down and E. A. Taylor, '91, went in his stead.

Apprentice class officers: President, D. A. Bullard; vice-president, A. C. Comins; secretary, E. A. Denny; treasurer, R. H. Hammond; executive committee, the preceding and F. A. McKay and L. W. Rawson; athletic director, C. O. Rogers.

A man who cannot get his high mark in calculus without getting up at two o'clock in the morning to solve problems is welcome to all the A's he may get. Whether he should be looked upon as a man of superior intellect or not is, possibly, a question.

Now the individuals who have penned jokes for this column during the past year, with the prospect of but little pecuniary reward, can direct their efforts to Pack, Judge, Life, and other periodicals at the rate of $5 a column and 50c a joke. This is the reward of virtue.

Few Wants and Easily Supplied.

A Prep's requisites: One feather bed; one alarm clock, set at 6:45 a. m.; one good excuse: "Alarm failed to go off"; one jack-knife and one stick of wood; one ne plus ultra towel; one 10c. soap bill, received; one chapel hymn-book, hymn number 44 missing; one French novel [R. O'Flynn: 10c.]; one piece chalk, for free-hand drawing.

The chemists of '90 have recently been granted the pleasure of making the acquaintance of several charming personages who have visited the organic laboratory. The most prominent among them are: Flora Glucin, Eliza Bean, Miss Sittle Lane, Ann Thraceue, Sallie Sean, Annie Lean, Rose Annie Lean, and Ethel Benzole, accompanied by her paternal ancestor, Ben Zoll.

The letter of J. Brace Chittenden, which is printed in the first columns of this issue, proposes a plan which, if carried out, would result in the W P I's receiving hearty encouragement from outside the school. It is as practical a plan as anything of that nature could be and deserves to succeed. Show some cooperation for the old love, brethren, and send in your names!

The New England Intercollegiate Press Association held its annual convention February 22, at the Quincy House, Boston. The W P I was represented by S. A. Kinsley. Routine business was transacted and officers for the ensuing year elected. A banquet followed. The convention voted encouragement to the Collegian, which is to be resuscitated if circumstances shape themselves favorably.

A great many grinders of all kinds are being turned out in the Washburn Shops, and the special machines for the Norton Emery Wheel Co. are well under way. Elevator work stands about the same as last month at this time, one order having been filled and two more received since then. In the line of special work might be mentioned a 24-inch chuck and an exhaust valve for the Alden engine.

Sibley H. Keyes, long and favorably connected with the Washburn Shops, left last Saturday night to accept a fine position with the Nonatuck
Silk Co., of Leeds, Mass. Mr. Keyes leaves be
him a souvenir, in the shape of the handsomely remodelled tool-room, which will keep his memory green for some time to come, and takes with him a host of good wishes from warm friends in all the classes.

The office now having two clocks, why wouldn't it be an excellent idea to put the smaller one in the basement, or the lower corridor, or some such public place, where the students can note the passage of time? If the "powers that be" could see the stream of non-watch-owners who go out of doors, between recitations, to glance at the tower clock, they would make haste to do some public-spirited act like this.

The student who is showing his friends the Salisbury Laboratories, on opening the door of the mechanical model room is seen to start back in surprise when his friends look with wonder on the barrenness of the room, and lisps softly as he re-reads the label on the door, "Yes, the painter made a mistake for it should be model mechanical room." It is suggested that the models of inventions which were sent from Washington be arranged here.

If a stranger had listened in the corridor on the second floor of Boynton Hall a few weeks ago, he would have been alarmed at the sounds which floated out through one of the transoms. He might have been so affected by them as to seek safety in flight, for separated from him by only a thin partition were bursts of eloquence powerful enough to put a quietus on an auctioneer.

The students were having a debate on protection versus free trade.

A Precautionary Measure.

A Prep enters an insurance office down town and asks of the agent his rates for approved risks.

AGENT: Do you want a fire or life insurance policy?

PREP: Both combined. I'm to take the semiannual examinations at the Polytechnic Institute shortly and I want to be insured against fire.

The withdrawal from the Telegram of Frank R. Batchelder, to sparkle as a beam of Light, Worcester's new society weekly, robs Worcester's newspaper of a bright writer whose loss will be felt strongly in Tech circles. For three years Mr. Batchelder has served up Tech news for the Telegram in a most thorough and attractive manner and it will be hard to fill his place with a writer who so fully comprehended the situation at the Institute.

Typographical errors in the 1890 catalogue (which, by the way, appeared last Monday) are few and far between, showing careful proof-reading. The presswork and general typographical appearance is most excellent. It is a pity that such a wretched system in the use of capital letters is employed. "Faculty" and other important words are spelled both with and without capital letters. Upper-case characters are thrown in with delightful abandon but, forsooth, with a most reckless disregard of the conventionalities.

During the past month, additions have been made to the library which are not noted in this spring's catalogue. A new supplement to the Encyclopaedia Brittanica, four volumes, has been received from Mr. Jared Whitman, the donor of the complete set. Books for the civil engineering department, to the value of $60, have been given by Mr. J. M. Bissell. Mr. M. J. Whitall of this city has presented a complete set of Johnson's encyclopaedia. F. H. Daniels, E. J. Bartwell, C. A. Earle and W. L. Chase, of the alumni, have contributed books.

The electrical building at the foot of Tech hill is a good cause for mystification on the part of strangers who visit the school, but it does not seem to be of any earthly use in a practical direction. Why not present it to the Dix street poker club to enable the members of that organization to conduct their meetings under more favorable conditions? The dome at the top of the building would carry off the cigar smoke in fine style and it would be impossible, without detection, to stick three aces with a wad of gum to the stone table which is mounted on a pillar of brick in the room inside.

It might be a good idea to adopt five innings to the game in deciding the class series in baseball the coming spring and thus avoid the difficulties arising from an attempt to crowd nine innings' play into an hour. Last year much dissatisfaction was caused because some of the games were called before nine innings were played, to the advantage of one nine and the general grumbling of the defeated one. A five-inning game can be just as decisive and exciting as one of nine innings, if it is understood before the game begins that only five innings are to be played.

Sibley Keyes's original and inventive mind has been at work on the problem of signalling the occupant of the tool-room guidance system, which works in an A1 manner, is the result. It has been found necessary, for the guidance of those who ask for tools at the window, to label the push-button, "Bell." It was thought, probably, that they might think it was a seven-story brick block, with brownstone trimmings, or, perhaps, a push-button. Sibley was not responsible for this sign but perhaps the one who inspires such signs as, "Please keep the grass off", can throw some light on the subject.

The Senior mechanics are enjoying the benefits of the Salisbury Laboratories to their fullest extent. Six hours a week are spent in the mechanical laboratory on the ground floor and thorough tests of boiler and engines made in the most approved manner. Past members of the Institute, who obtained most of their knowledge from text-books at Boynton Hall, should visit Salisbury now and note the present variety of mechanical engineer as he hustles, in overalls and jumper, around the Alden compound engine as it
revolves at several hundred revolutions per minute. Every facility for testing steam and its uses is afforded.

Then Everybody Laughed.

STUDENT [in mechanics]: Professor, why can not the energy of these vibrations you speak of be utilized? We have heard how a fiddler fiddled down a bridge and it seems to me if those same vibrations were collected we might do work with them.

PROFESSOR: Well, yes, I think it would be a good idea if we could make a banjo get our mechanics lesson for us.

The base-ball season this year gives promise of being of unusual interest and the result of the interclass series cannot be predicted with any degree of certainty. Although '90's record is a clean one and it is not at all probable that the championship will be taken by any other class, base-ball surprises have often occurred and they are just as liable to come this spring as they have in the past. The defeat of the Juniors by the Preps is getting to be a regular custom, and it would not be strange if '92 should meet defeat at the hands of '93 in the coming class series. The Prep class of this year is of course an unknown quantity.

The letter from "Junior" with regard to Sunday study, which is printed in another column of this issue, is worth careful consideration. If what he says be true [and we do not think he would wilfully misrepresent the state of affairs], there is an opportunity for Monday's lessons to be made considerably lighter. The experience of the present Senior class has been, that our teachers, in nearly every case, were ready and willing to prevent Sunday work by giving shorter lessons for Monday or for both. Why wouldn't it be a brain-saving plan to have a general lecture given on Monday by each professor on some subject closely connected with the work of his class?

Last month's work in Political Science by the Seniors was enlivened by a series of debates which caused the blood of many of them to surge through their veins with increased vigor. The questions covered a wide range of inquiry and most of them were of personal interest to the class. Some of the speakers were quite oratorical and nearly all were effective in one way or another. Of the five debates the first and last ones were especially interesting and enthusiastic. The first was on the question, whether license laws are more effective in the suppression of intemperance than prohibitory ones and the last discussed a tariff for revenue only versus a tariff for protection.

Is there such an organization in the school as the Young Men's Christian Association? There used to be and it was occasionally heard from. There are a few well-meaning students in the school who are actively interested in this movement but, with the exception of electing a remarkably inefficient corps of officers, they have done absolutely nothing during the past year in the way of aggressive or any other kind of Christian work. There are not a few in the Institute who like to see some push and enterprise exhibited in running its affairs and to them local Y. M. C. A. is a splendid example of utter uselessness. If this criticism will spur somebody to action, then it will have fulfilled its purpose.

The following graduates have not been heard from at the Institute since the issue of the catalogue for 1889: Fred I. Drown, '73; Alfred Lovell, '73; Henry S. Howe, '74; Luther H. Bateman, '76; C. Carroll Upham, '76; Woodbury Howe, '78; Horace Ropes, '78; William W. Abbott, '79; George W. Roberts, '79; Lowell E. Blake, '80; Thomas J. Howard, '80; Henry D. Smith, '81; Edward T. Morey, '81; Arthur H. Washburn, '82; George P. Nichols, '83; Arthur S. Peckham, '83; Alfred Thomas, jr., '83; Arthur H. Allen, '84; John C. Setchell, '84; Charles S. Cook, '85; Everett W. Eli, '85; also Wright, '72, and Clark, '73, graduates from a partial course. Most of these are supposed to be where reported in the catalogue for 1889, which report is continued in the issue for 1890. Information in regard to the present residence and occupation of the above mentioned will be thankfully received by President Fuller or the W P I.

During the time which has elapsed since the formation of the Pol Econ Club the membership has increased considerably and much interest seems to have been awakened. The members have been occupied for the past few months on the question of property, giving most of the time to the special feature of land and its rent. Bastiat and Carey have been reviewed in their position, which is that of a denial of rent, and Beautilc's theory of the insignificance of rent has been inquired into. Arguments for and against the assumption of rent by the State, as proposed by Mill, have been given, while Henry George's theories as set forth in "Progress and Poverty" have been closely scrutinized and criticized. Following the investigation of these different theorists, questions concerning the basis of the right of property, the justness of property in land and the best holding of land were discussed. The next general subjects for inquiry are socialism and communism, questions of vital importance at the present day.

The Prep Betrayed Himself.

A youthful customer entered a Front street furnishing goods store and said to the salesman, in a confidential whisper:

"Have you the patent 'Ironclad' overalls, with riveted seams and boiler plate seats?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, I'll take three pairs, children's size."

And, by the way, I guess I'll have a box of [Continued on page 250.]
You ought to see it.

For months a change has been coming over the prosaic space hitherto known as the Upholstery department.

Change has been the order of the day for the past year; indeed, so many and so often have the changes come that we long ago ceased to chronicle them.

Can't help saying a word now because you are coming to see the new goods for spring of 1890 in the Upholstery section.

Some ladies know of the great preparation made for this time, but you may not know.

When you come you will see the most delightful place in which to select your Lace Curtains or your Portieres.

You will not be obliged to use your imagination altogether, because we have a charming parlor arranged for your special use. Curtains can be arranged for you so that you can almost see the effect as when arranged in your home.

While you look at the elegant things so lavishly displayed, don't forget the more modest but just as useful things.

Imitation Silks in the newest patterns; some of them only 10c; others, 15c; pretty, too.

Madras in cream, lemon and all other colors, almost, and all needed widths for sash curtains.

Spot Muslin seems in very great demand already. The makers have done themselves great credit in this season's products. There are many very artistic effects worked out in them, which, with the pretty edgings to match, place in your hands the prettiest combination for chamber curtains.

Japanese Gilt embroidered panels for pretty screens; frames you may have; if not, we can tell you all about them.

Upholstery Plushes in plain, figured and crushed, in the largest and best chosen qualities to be found.

Another great bargain.

This time Handkerchiefs.

One thousand dozen fine embroidered Handkerchiefs for ladies, at 12½c each, was the announcement made yesterday and repeated this morning.

One thousand dozen are a good many 'Kerchiefs to offer at one time in a city no larger than ours.

The one thousand dozen are ready this morning for whoever comes for them.

The quality is so good that they were made to sell for 37½c and 50c.

Slight imperfections, such as come in all manufactured goods, caused the maker to set them aside.

They are daintily embroidered, are hem-stitched and scalloped, a ladies' 'Kerchief, surely. 12½c the price, and a sure bargain.

Haven't room to tell you now of the grand goods that came to us last week from across the water.

All that inherited and trained skill could do in Silks has been done in the qualities we have now.

Faille Francais in all new shades, 20-inch $1; 22-inch $1.50.

Regence, new and elegant, $1.25.

Surahs 59c, 75c, $1.

Indias and Chinas, plain colors, 49c, 59c, 75c, $1.

Habutai, in 20-yard pieces, $12.50, lovely for graduation dresses.

Printed Indias and Bengalines.

A perfect assortment. See them soon, before the line is broken.

It is a great Silk opportunity.

More of the cunning Momie D'Oylies came yesterday. The lovely first lot went almost before we knew it. You see they are quite different from anything you have known.
'North Brookfield' paper collars and a pair of celluloid cuffs."

"Yes, sir. In just a minute."

"And then please wrap up that 17c. necktie over there. Do you keep buckskin mittens? Well, gimme a pair. That's all, I guess. I'll come in next week to look at your flannel shirts."

"That's right," replied the salesman. "We're going to have a job lot from Boston to-morrow. Tell the other Preps to visit us and we'll give them a baseball cap in their class colors with every 75c. order."

The University Cynic, a journal from the University of Vermont, of Burlington, has this to say in its report of the New England Intercollegiate A. A. convention: "* * * * After presenting the cause of the University, exhibiting a number of the best and latest records made at field day, and answering several questions relating to the University and the records, the delegate retired while the vote was taken, which proved unanimous in favor of admitting the University. The delegate was then re-admitted to represent his college in the meeting, and on behalf of the U. V. M. was warmly welcomed to fellowship in the Association, Worcester Polytechnic being especially tickled that it should now no longer be the baby of the league,—but let them remember that if the U. V. M. is the infant, being a babe of the Green Mountain boys, she is likely to be a very hardy and vigorous one." A baby in years does not necessarily mean a baby in strength and Worcester, after maintaining a position well up in the race at the two field meetings in which it has participated, has never troubled itself very much about the title of "baby." Our esteemed rustic contemporary is wrong in thinking that anyone should become "tickled" for the reason it assigns. We welcome heartily our new friends from Vermont and we sincerely hope that the "hardy and vigorous" claims which they indulge in so loudly will find a full vindication on May 28.

From the Tuftonian, Feb. 20: "* * * Every college paper is full of the improvements that have been made at our college and the great things that we have done, but never a word by way of criticism or disclosure of abuses. Is it that there is nothing to criticize, or no abuses in the administration of our colleges? If the world at large thinks so, its ignorance must be very blissful; but the student knows better. Why then does not the college press openly and fearlessly point out the weak places in the management of our colleges? It is at this point that the restrictions under which the college press labors become manifest, and it is in them that the answer to this query lies. In the first place, however great may be his provocation, the student feels a strong aversion to revealing the mismanagement in the college where he is receiving his education or criticising the acts of a faculty among whom are many men whom he sincerely admires. But the minute he does say anything he is called an ungrateful up-start who has no idea how much has been done for him and is never satisfied with what he has. And if, after waiting in vain for some crying abuse to be corrected, he is man enough to denounce it and show it in its true light, he is immediately pounced upon by the faculty and warned not to repeat such an indiscretion, not because his criticism is untrue, but because, forsooth, it sounds bad outside, and may keep away some student who would otherwise come. * * *"
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