Vol. IX. Thursday, December 7, 1893. No. 12.

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We are pleased to publish this week a letter from a graduate, wherein he sets forth the advantages and beauties of his adopted city. We can only wish that others among our alumni would take as much interest in the present students of the Tech and give us pointers on whatever they think would be advantageous to us. We cannot always see far enough ahead to choose the best thing, and so a little advice from those who have been over the course would undoubtedly be of great benefit. So, dear alumnus, do not be bashful about sending in your wise counsels; do not be afraid to tell us of your mistakes, if you have had any. Be a philanthropist on a small scale, for who knows but that you may be the cause of someone's success in after life?

A word or two regarding "cribbing" we hope will not be out of place. We do not, of course, sanction the practice but it is the matter of signing pledges that is the subject of much discussion. To us it seems that this pledging one's word on paper is entirely superfluous and unnecessary. It is argued on one side that it is a constant restraint to the student and ever reminds him when tempted that he has given his written word that he will not crib. But is a written promise in this case necessary or of any more avail than a spoken one, or even an implied one? For when a student enters a room for an examination he gives his promise, which is neither spoken nor written, that what he does is the product of his own mind and own study. Then why make him write out his promise? Is it any more binding?

Moreover, it is almost universally true that he who cheats in examination without a written promise will do so, even when he has written out his agreement not to do so. For the crime is no greater and is perhaps much easier of perpetration.

It should be stated here that this argument is confined to pledge signing in only a few classes or for only one or two professors. A plan such as is in vogue at many other colleges, we think, would eventually be successful at this Institute. For instance, one wherein every member of the Institute pledges himself not to give or receive help in any examination—during which the supervision of professors or instructors is therefore unnecessary—would after a few trials advance the standard of morals at the Tech.

With the few late games of the foot-ball season, we see the last of outdoor college athletic sports for the year pass away. The
athletic student now utters a sigh of relief and says to himself, that he will at last have a little more time to himself and a little more time to give to study, if such is necessary. In early spring, when as yet the frost was in the ground, he had begun to harden his hands for the base-ball season; or he had donned a suit of scantiness and endeavored to lower his old records on the running track or in the jumping-pit. And then after a few months of this he comes back to school again and his talk is now "love" and "lobbing" and "smashing," and so on. Or perhaps he laces on a tight-jacket and lets his hair grow long in anticipation of the hard knocks he expects to get. So that when at last there is no other sport to turn to, he feels glad for a while; for becoming weary of the continual hard work, he longs for a change and a rest.

With him who does not himself engage in athletic sports but who is an admirer and follower of all sports the feeling is almost the same. He has seen successes and failures of his favorites and he too is tired somewhat and is glad of a rest.

So that now we settle down into the period of rest and recuperation, during which we nurse our lame spots and broken noses; the period of reform and good resolutions, in which we endeavor to catch up where we have fallen behind and resolve henceforth to better combine athletics and study.

The decision in favor of the old burlesque is, we think, the best that could be arrived at under the circumstances. The minstrel show was preferred by some, and it must be said there were many arguments in favor of it. The burlesque, however, will include many of the specialties of the minstrel show, and, in fact, will give them a finish and refinement which they otherwise would not have. The time used in preparing a minstrel show would be as great as that for the old burlesque.

That the burlesque will draw as large audiences as last year should not be doubted for a moment. It should be borne in mind that the Tech has made its reputation in the theatrical line; that it has had the honor of presenting on the stage the best amateur performance ever seen in Worcester. He who has seen a good play once is only too eager to see it again, especially when there is a long interval between. Indeed, there were many who on witnessing the production of the burlesque at its first performance, immediately came to the conclusion that they must see it again the following evening.

We have the word of the managers that the expense will not begin to reach the figures of last year, so that if there is a slight falling off in attendance there will be a falling off of expense which will more than counterbalance it. And if the attendance is as great as last year, there is no reason why the Athletic Association should not have a sufficient sum for the expenses of an intercollegiate team, even should the games be held at Springfield.

Those who take part in the show render a service for which they cannot be fully compensated. Indeed, there was complaint last year that the participants received little or no thanks for their pains. Those who did not see the gradual development of the burlesque can only imagine the work put into it, the time and labor put in by the managers and players; the great sacrifices which they have made in many ways are only a matter of conjecture to the uninformed, so that it seems that some small favor, some little token of recognition and obligation ought to be tendered those who sacrifice personal pleasure for the honor and glory of the Institute.
At last has the dreaded and much talked of fire fiend visited us. When we say
"much talked of" fire fiend, we refer to the time a year or two ago when there was con-
siderable discussion as to what would happen in case of a fire in any of the buildings.
Many were of the opinion then that the precautions against fire were not what they
ought to be in any of the buildings, and that a fire once started would gain too much
headway before the means of extinguishing it could be put into use.

We are in doubt about saying on which side of the argument the recent fire would be
found—whether under the conditions it was extinguished with the least possible damage,
or whether with more or better arrangements and precautions the fire could have been
put out with less destruction of property.

Taking into consideration that it was a time of vacation, and that only one or two,
or perhaps no persons were supposed to be in the building, we see that there was ample
opportunity for the fire to gain sufficient headway to make things lively. The fire
department of the city was unusually slow in getting into action, principally because of
the hill to climb and the inability to find hydrants. The lines of hose on the stair-
ways were found to be in very bad condition for use, one of them being so tied up as to be
of no value whatever, so that had it not been for the aid of the students who happened to
be in the shop and who hurried from their rooms to the scene, the damage to the build-
ing would have been much greater.

On the other hand, if school had been in session, it is safe to assume that there would
have been no fire at all, or only such a one that a single pail of water could have extin-
guished.

So that, unlike some of our esteemed predecessors, we think that the fire precautions
are as much as are necessary. For it is agreed that it is almost impossible for a fire
to get any headway during a session of school, the only time when these extin-
guishers and hose would be used. If the fire should start during the night or at a
time when the buildings are deserted, the fire apparatus would certainly be of no use,
as very little could be done by the discoverers of the fire, and the only thing that
could be done would be to wait for the arrival of the fire department.

FIRE IN THE LABORATORIES.

On Saturday, Dec. 2nd, for the first time in many years, the fire fiend visited the Institute
and for a few minutes it looked as if there was to be a serious fire. About 7.30 A.M., as
H. E. Scudder was crossing the flats between Highland Street and Institute Road, he noticed
an unusually large volume of smoke issuing from the Salisbury Laboratories. Thinking that
something was wrong, he hurried to the building, where he met Janitor Smith, who had also
discovered that all was not right. Together they hastened up-stairs to the top floor, where
the chemical laboratories are situated. On opening the door at the head of the stairs, they
saw flames breaking through the door of the stock-room. Returning to the head of the
stairs, they got out the two-inch hose which is kept there ready for use, and directed it against
the flames. They worked for a few minutes in the dense clouds of suffocating smoke when,
seeing that the fire was likely to need other assistance, Scudder took the key to box 371,
which is located on West Street directly opposite the Institute grounds. The key looked as
big as a telegraph pole, and Scudder couldn't find the key-hole; he sent word to the Wash-
burn Shops and George I. Humphreys succeeded in pulling in an alarm. The Chemical was the
only piece of apparatus used, as that and the hose in the building were sufficient to control
the flames, but it was only after an hour and a half of hard work that the fire was entirely
extinguished.

Capt. Robert M. Moore, of Chemical No. 1, was seriously injured by the falling of a section
of the ceiling upon his neck and head. The ceiling is not constructed on the ordinary lath
and plaster plan, but wire netting is used and the plaster is spread over that. Capt. Moore
was standing just inside the stock-room when a piece of the red-hot netting fell, burning him
severely. He was wearing at the time of the accident the uniform cap instead of the helmet,
of this year are safe, so that students may be sure that there will be no abatement in the annual breakage bill.

The flames hardly got outside of the stock-room. The door-casings of the hall, out of which the stock-room opens, were slightly blistered by the heat, and one or two panes of glass in the transoms were cracked, but that was all. In the general laboratory east of the stock-room, there was a thick coating of soot, which covered everything. Bottles on shelves were covered with a layer which could not be removed; ceiling, windows and walls were covered, and writing on the blackboard was concealed from view. In the chemical and physical reading-room, directly beneath the stock-room, were many valuable books, which were quickly removed by Prof. A. S. Kimball, and students, who reached the building soon after the fire broke out. The insurance patrol covered the table and shelves, and also made a sort of canopy with one of the covers which collected the water as it dripped down from above.

In this, the first case of fire in the Laboratories, is shown the wisdom of the construction of the building with fire-proof partitions, and the locating of lines of hose in convenient places in the laboratories. But for these precautions, the fire would have undoubtedly spread throughout the top floor, if not the entire building. If the fire had had time to spread into the hall, it would have greatly increased the loss not only by fire, but by the dripping of the water upon the valuable apparatus in the physical laboratories on the floor below.

The loss on the stock is estimated to be about $3000, while the damage to the building is thought to be about $1500. The laboratories were insured in the Worcester Mutual, Merchants' and Farmers', Cambridge Mutual, and Middlesex Mutual, for $5000 each. The stock and apparatus were insured in the First National, and the German-American, for $5000 each.

The cause of the fire cannot be definitely determined. A chimney passes through one corner of the room, and it is thought by some that the fire was started by over-heating the woodwork, from this chimney, but this theory is not generally regarded by the students as the correct one. It is possible that the fire may have been due to spontaneous combustion, but the few inflammable substances in the stock-room are kept in glass jars, and the supply of naphtha, benzine, alcohol, ether, etc., is stored in the brick vault of the basement.

The only interruption in class-work will be in the laboratory work of the Freshman and Sophomore classes, who work in the general laboratory, which was so badly smoked up. The lectures
will go on without interruption, as the necessary apparatus and chemicals are kept in the lecture-
room, and the apparatus-room in the rear.

Janitor Smith, of the Salisbury Laboratories,
was seriously affected by the dense smoke and
exertion. He worked with great energy to ex-
tinguish the fire, and to him and Scudder is due
the credit for checking the spreading of the
flames before the arrival of the fire department.
The smoke is described by those present as
being unusually unpleasant and suffocating, due
perhaps to the peculiar nature of the substances
burned.

THE N. E. A. A. U. CROSS-COUNTRY
RUN.

On the train that left Worcester for Boston
at 7 o'clock Thanksgiving morning were the
Tech runners, Brown, Chambers, Gallagher,
Lungren and O'Connor. The above-named
men, together with Whittall, comprised the team
that had been selected to represent the Institute
at the first cross-country run held at Mystic
Park under the auspices of the N. E. A. A. U.
Much to the regret of the other members of the
team, it was learned that Whittall was unable
to go.

Arriving in Boston, the team hurried across
the city to the Eastern Depot, where a train for
historic Medford was boarded. Mystic Park
was reached a few minutes past nine.
The mile track then was found to be very soft.
This was caused by a four-inch layer of dress-
ing which had recently been put on in order to
get the track in good shape for next year's
trotting events.

It was stated at the time of entry that the
course would be two miles on the track, then
two miles cross-country and the last mile on
the track. This course was changed owing to
the fact that it was thought more people would
attend if the runners were in constant view of
the spectators. The course as finally deter-
bined upon was a hard and difficult one. Here
it is. From the wire down the track about 30
yards, then through a gateway to the inclosure
within the track, then parallel to the track to
the end of the turn, where the track was again
entered and kept to the half-mile post. Here it
was necessary to vault a fence and then to keep
close to the fence, inside of the track, until with-
in 200 yards of the finish when another fence
was vaulted, leaving the last 200 yards to be
done on the track. The course as here given
was 110 yards short of a mile, and it was neces-
sary to cover the route five times. The entire
course was so soft that there was no place where
the runners would not sink into one to two
inches of mire.

Forty-five men toed the scratch for the word,
the Tech starting in the second line. Of the
forty-five men twelve dropped out before the
race was finished.

The first mile was covered in 5 min. 56 sec.,
O'Connor being the first of the Tech men to
make the distance. O'Connor finished the second
mile in 19th position, Chambers in 21st place,
while Lungren and Gallagher were 31st and
32nd. Brown was hopelessly behind. During
the third mile Chambers held the same position,
while two men passed O'Connor. Gallagher
and Lungren each moved up five places during
this mile. The fourth mile saw no difference in
the positions of the Tech men. In the fifth
mile both O'Connor and Chambers passed a
man. Gallagher and Lungren passed three.

Chambers was the first Tech man to finish.
Two yards behind him came the next man,
O'Connor. A distance of 200 yards separated
O'Connor from the next man, who proved to be
Gallagher. Lungren was the next man to
finish. Thus four of the Tech men finished
together, making no attempt to beat each other
home. Brown, however, did not fare so well,
and came in quite a distance behind.

Clark of the Dorchester Athletic Club was the
winner, his actual time being 29 min. 47 sec.
He had no handicap.

Chambers came under the wire in 20th posi-
tion. His actual time was 32 min. 35 sec.,
which, deducting his handicap of 2 min. 15 sec.,
put him in 15th place in the summary.

O'Connor was the 21st man in. His time
was but one-half a second slower than Cham-
bers. His handicap, however, was only 2 min.
He was given 18th place in the summary.

Gallagher was 22nd man to finish, making the
distance in 33 min. 8 sec. He, however, was
not so fortunate in the matter of handicaps, and
received but 1 min. 30 sec. allowance. He was
placed in 26th position.

Lungren finished in 23rd place. His time
was 35 min. 15 sec. His handicap was 2 min.
15 sec., thus placing him in 18th place.

Brown was the 32nd man to finish, his time
being 35 min. 47 sec. He had a time allowance
of 2 min. 15 sec. This caused him to be placed
30th in the summary.

The handicaps were not made known to the
runners until after the race. More men were
thus kept in the race than would have been had
not the uncertainty of their handicap urged
them on.

The Tech team finished fourth, being beaten
only by strong athletic clubs, which contain
some of the best long-distance runners in this
part of the country.
Among the Intercollegiate men who ran were Jarvis and Brownell.

George O. Jarvis is the man who holds the mile intercollegiate record, which he made at the Oval last spring. He is a Wesleyan man, but ran under the colors of the Suffolk Athletic Club. He started as scratch-man and finished sixth place, his actual time being 30 min. 53 sec.

W. D. Brownell, who was one of the runners on the Brown University team, finished in 11th place. He made the distance in 31 min. 39 sec. He holds the mile record at Brown of 5 min. 1 sec.

Taking into account the condition of the course, of which the Tech men had no knowledge, and the fact that they were not accustomed to plowing their way through mud ankle deep, it is not surprising that they did no better against men who knew exactly what was coming, and who had been training for it for weeks. It should be regarded as sufficient honor that the Tech beat out all other college teams.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Athletic Association held Nov. 29th, the entertainment committee made its report. Frank F. Phinney, '95, the chairman of the committee, stated the following methods of raising funds for the association had been considered: a new burlesque, a minstrel show, an entertainment given by outside talent, a concert by glee club to be formed at the Institute, subscriptions, reception, the old burlesque.

The committee recommended that the burlesque be given in the Worcester Theatre before the Easter recess, and that a committee be appointed with full power to take charge of the burlesque, appoint business manager, sub-committees, etc. The report was accepted and the committee was continued in office to have the burlesque in charge.

The matter of having class polo teams and selecting an Institute team from them was discussed, and it was voted to have class games; and all other business concerning them was left to the Athletic Directors.

A meeting of the Athletic association was held in the chapel on Tuesday noon, Nov. 21st.

The meeting was called to elect an athletic manager for the school year, also to consider the advisability of entering a team to represent the association at the cross-country run of the N. E. A. A. U., to be held at Mystic Park, on Thanksgiving morning.

E. W. Davenport was unanimously elected athletic manager. He will have charge of the intercollegiate team, also of the teams that will represent the association at the indoor tournaments held this winter.

It was decided that the expense of sending a team to Boston on Thanksgiving Day would be more than the association could well afford to pay. For this reason it was voted that each class be asked to bear its share of the expense.

Since then all of the classes have voted to bear their part of the expense, and as a result of this Manager Davenport has entered a team of six to take part in the run.

ATHLETICS AT TECH.

In order to have a good idea of athletics at Tech, or at any college, we must first have a clear understanding of what supports athletics.

I think it will be conceded by all, that the mainstay, the backbone, of athletics at a college is hearty support by the students individually and as a whole. I think, also, that it will be granted that next to the support of the students, the support of the Alumni should form a very important part.

Does each student at this Institute do all that he can for the support of athletics? How was it last spring? We had an excellent base-ball team at the beginning of the season, but before base-ball was fairly inaugurated the students apparently deserted it, for there was not a game played at which the gate receipts were sufficient to pay the guarantee to the visiting team. Would this have happened at Brown, Yale, or Harvard? Why should it have occurred here? The answer may be given that Yale, Brown, and Harvard are large and wealthy; that they can therefore support a team in the right way, but that Tech is small and poor. This is all nonsense. Look at foot-ball this fall. We had a strong team, as good as Tech ever has had, and in addition we had excellent material for substitutes. Our manager and captain were both most capable of filling the positions they held. All our team needed was support, and it was supported fairly well. If we had larger gate receipts at each game, sufficient money would have been in the treasury to provide a training-table, which is of great aid. A training-table would do wonders in the way of strengthening our team, and it also would give the captain a better opportunity to thoroughly know his men.

Every student knows, he may not acknowledge it, but nevertheless he knows, that the students here do not pay proper attention to athletics. If each student would do all in his power to create a true college feeling among his classmates, it would not be long before the standard in athletics would be raised higher.
THE W P I.

than it ever was before. The students here are
too selfish. They pay too much attention to
number one, and not enough to the Institute.

Some will say, "What is the use of giving
time and money to support athletic teams when
the Faculty restrict them in such a manner that
it is almost impossible for captains and man-
gers to accomplish anywhere near what they
might, if they were properly encouraged." When
several members of the Faculty go so far
as to become enthusiastic supporters of the
various athletic teams, and to attend as many
of the games as they can, it is reasonable to
suppose that the Faculty, if they saw Tech
coming to the front, would rejoice and give us
more privileges than they do now.

There is surely a wrong opinion prevalent at
this Institute, and it is that our Faculty is
opposed to athletics in general. On the con-
trary, each member of the Faculty has, without
doubt, the welfare of Tech at heart, and his
whole ambition is centred in the Institute.
There is not one of their number who would not
only be proud, but would even boast of any
important victories achieved by Tech athletic
teams.

So much for the part the undergraduates play.
We will now turn our attention to the Alumni.
Let the Athletic Association have blanks printed
asking for aid, and sent to each Alumni, and
to the Secretary of the different Alumni Asso-
ciations. If this were done, it would remind
the Alumni that it is their duty to support their
Alma Mater in athletics, and it would not be
long before they would come to our aid.

In conclusion, it may be said that if we put
off from year to year giving all that we possibly
can to athletics, we will never make any head-
way at all. Now is the time to begin, and let
every loyal Tech do his best. If he is any sort
of an athlete, let him strive to improve; if he
is not an athlete, let him give as much as he can
from his pocket-book. C.

THE END OF FOOT-BALL.

A picked team from the Institute went to
Southbridge last Saturday and there played the
Southbridge eleven. The Tech players, with
two exceptions, were members of the class of
'95. Hence, it was practically a '95 class team.
The game was arranged through Morse, '97,
and Hapgood, '95. Morse acted as agent for
the Southbridge men, while Hapgood looked
after the financial and business end of the Tech
team.

The Tech men were victorious, the score
being 20 to 12 in their favor. The line-up of
the teams was as follows:

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<td>Albertson,</td>
<td>Hughes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Killiam,</td>
<td>J. Edwards.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atken,</td>
<td>Morse.</td>
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<td>Stone,</td>
<td>Perry.</td>
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<td>Cunningham,</td>
<td>Durgin.</td>
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<td>Harrington,</td>
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Score, Tech, 20; Southbridge, 12. Touch-
downs, Harrington, Stone, Cunningham 2,
Morse 2. Goals kicked, Killam, Stone, Durgin 2.
Umpire, Corbin. Referee, Hapgood.
Time, 20 minute halves.

The Southbridge team was captained by
Morse, while Harrington officiated in that
position for Tech.

The game was witnessed by about 200 per-
sons, including a large number of the fair sex,
mostly High School girls who came to cheer
their favorite team to victory. The attendance
would undoubtedly have been larger had the
weather not been so cold and disagreeable.
A number of the Southbridge players took
supper with the Tech men. At 8 o'clock a
barge was taken for Charlton, eight miles dis-
tant, where a train was to stop to take the Tech
men to Worcester. Arriving at Charlton the
train was found to be an hour and a quarter
late. Thus we did not arrive in Worcester
until after eleven o'clock.

Although the Tech men did not get out of the
trip square, yet the grand way in which they
were treated by the members of the Southbridge
eleven fully made up for the expense incurred.

INSTITUTE PARK.

A student just entering the Institute, or a
stranger seeing Institute Park for the first time,
with its fine drives, its spacious lawns, and its
many instances of landscape gardening, can
scarcely be induced to believe that only five
years ago this same place was but a piece of
pasture land, low and swampy in places, and
on the whole, presenting very little attraction
for the tired or overworked people seeking
pleasure or recreation.

The shores of the pond usually bore a very
untidy appearance, and a luxuriant growth of
"cow-lilies" was about the only beautifying (?) feature which appealed to the visitor.

The chief pleasures to be derived from the
place at that time were an occasional swim for
the small boys of "Goveville," which is the ap-
pellation given to the suburban district directly
northeast of the pond; the indifferent fishing
enjoyed there, and good skating in the winter.
The fishing was poor at best, as the angler, after waiting patiently for an indefinitely long period, would experience a faint nibble or perhaps a bite, and, on rare occasions, would land a fish measuring at least three inches in length.

How different are the scenes of to-day at the same resort. These pleasures it is true are things of the past, but who mourns them? Instead, we have something so preferable that the memory of the old state of affairs causes not even a regret.

The shore of Salisbury Pond was looked at for several years by the Parks Commissioners and other prominent citizens, with the view of establishing a city park there.

Nothing was done, however, in regard to the project until 1887, when Hon. Stephen Salisbury, whose generosity is well known to every Tech student, presented to the city of Worcester about twenty-five acres of land surrounding the pond and including one of the small islands. Probably thinking of the adage that "large bodies move slowly," Mr. Salisbury did not wait for the city to begin work, but began laying out drives and walks and various other improvements at his own expense.

The grounds were graded and drained and a retaining wall was laid along the entire water-front of the park. A handsome boathouse and a commodious bandstand were erected and a large number seats were placed in convenient places about the Park.

The following year the improvements went on, and some very pretty features were added. The best of them is the reproduction of the "Old Mill" at Newport. The tower is built of undressed granite, is 30 feet high and 23 feet in diameter. At the top is a sort of gallery which is reached by a winding staircase containing 45 steps. From this gallery an excellent view of the surrounding country may be had; on clear days, Mt. Wachusett, 18 miles away, being clearly seen.

Another pretty feature is the bridge which connects the island to the mainland. It is constructed of wood, and has three spans, each about 50 feet in length.

Most of the students when sketching under Prof. Gladwin's supervision have souvenirs of the Park in the shape of sketches, which they at least recognize as "free-hand sketches of the tower," "the bridge," "the boathouse," or other objects of interest.

Professor Gladwin himself has made a very fine pen-and-ink sketch of the Park and Institute buildings from which an engraving has been made.

Did you get a notice?

---

**Chicago and the West.**

Naturally a residence of three years in Chicago has impressed me with the greatness of this city, and if allowed to I could write pages for my reasons, until your Eastern readers discredit my words from sheer force of their extravagance. But I would be honest in it all. No one who has not observed the methods of the remarkable business men of Chicago, can have an idea of the force and power of this community. New York, her only rival, excels in the number of extremely wealthy men and in the capitalization of her interests—owing largely to her being on the seaboard, and of course to her being many years her senior, but far below Chicago is New York in the energy and push of her business men (and women, I might add) and her municipal spirit. One often hears that Chicago is provincial. Yes, she is this, but it is just this provincial spirit that in sixty years has made her from a trading port into the second largest city in the United States, with the almost sure prospect of outrivaling New York in point of population within the next ten years. This same provincial spirit it was that made so grand a success of the World's Fair. Unquestionably no large city in the United States would have (I don't say could have) furnished men to come forward and take hold like one man, as did the Chicago Directory of the Columbian Exposition. Nearly every one of the members of that body were wealthy business men with large private interests, which they allowed to take a place second to those of the Fair, and only those who have had a knowledge of the amount of time and work required of those Directors can imagine what personal sacrifices were made to make the Fair the glorious success it was. To be sure it was a national affair, but it was placed in the hands of Chicago men to carry it out, and with characteristic—provincialism—if you will, they worked together as no body of men in this country would have done. Chicago men are proud of their city, and they spare no pains to make it worthy of their pride. A New York paper happily struck the keynote when it said: "Chicago brags a good deal about herself, but, gosh, how she does back it up!"

All of which means that in looking for a place to cast their lot, the graduates of the Worcester Tech can do no better than to choose some city far enough west of the Alleghenies to have come within the influence of the spirit that has made Chicago, and which is making scores of towns that would never have been able more than to creep, had they been located in the conventional and highly respectable, but slow old East. The West has been made by the sturdy
sons of New England, but the stock is getting low and weak, and the western graft is flourishing on the virgin soil of the prairies. Boys, look up the history of Cleveland, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Kansas City and Chicago, and when you get ready to settle make up your mind as to whether this is not the kind of air you want to breathe.

P. J. McFadden, '88.

WESTERN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the Western Alumni Association will take place in Chicago, Dec. 21, at the office of T. E. Wilder, 212 Lake Street. The annual election of officers will take place according to the by-law which reads:—

"The annual election of officers shall be held on the same day as the annual meeting. Nominations may be made in writing, signed by any five members, and filed with the secretary at least four weeks before the election. The secretary shall prepare a ballot upon which the names of every candidate so nominated for each office shall be printed, which shall be mailed to each member of the Association. Members shall designate the candidates for whom they wish to vote by placing a cross after the names thereof, and no ballot shall be count other than the official ballot prepared by the secretary.

"The Executive Committee shall appoint three inspectors to conduct the election, who shall receive and count the votes and report the result thereof in writing to the president, who shall declare the same to the annual meeting. A plurality of votes shall elect, and in case of a tie between two or more candidates the inspectors shall decide the same by lot.

"The officers elected shall not assume their respective offices until after the annual meeting."

W. M. E. S.

The next regular meeting of the Washburn Mechanical Engineering Society will be held in the Salisbury Laboratories on Monday, December 11, at 8 o'clock P. M.

Mr. A. B. Upham, of '78, will give a paper on "Machinery in a Printing Office." (Either the U.S. Post-Office Department or the Secretary, not Mr. Upham, is responsible for the non-appearance of this paper at the last meeting.)

Mr. Wm. L. Chase, of '77, will open a discussion on the topic, "Drawing and Pattern Records; How Complete a Record Does It Pay to Keep, and How is it Best Done?" It is hoped that many will be prepared to take part in the discussion.

Mr. Samuel M. Green, of '85, will present a paper on "Automatic Fire Protection of Mills." Papers open to discussion. All are cordially invited to be present with guests.

Geo. I. Alden, Sec'y.

Y. M. C. A.

At the Sunday afternoon service of the 26th, Mr. Day of the State Executive Committee of the Y. M. C. A. and Mr. McClellan of Brown University brought forward a matter which is exciting some interest in the Associations of several New England colleges. There are at present eleven colleges and higher fitting schools in the union. Its object is to furnish the colleges and schools included with a general secretary who will travel from one place to another, making stops of from three or four days to two weeks according to the size of the colleges. Thus the different institutions will be brought closer together and will be greatly benefited by a readier transfer of ideas by means of this gentleman.

The salary paid the secretary will be two thousand dollars, one-half of which the State Executive Committee agree to look out for if the colleges will see to the other half. This will mean about ninety dollars per college for the eleven already in the league. This share will not, of course, apply to the students alone for the alumni, trustees and faculty will probably all be asked to help. Brown University has already raised one hundred and fifty dollars.

PERSONALS.

E. Stearns Wood, '93, has just returned from a trip west, which included a visit to Chicago and North Dakota. He is going to take the post-graduate course in Electrical Engineering at the Institute.

T. S. Stephens, lately of the class of '94, has returned from Chicago, where he had been engaged at the World's Fair in the interests of the Rhode Island Locomotive Works. He will now enter the employ of that firm in Providence and in the spring will assume the duties of travelling agent for the said firm.

HE LIVED A WEEK ON $1.

The editors of the WPI recently received a pamphlet entitled "Every Man His Own Cook and How One Did It," written by Elmer C. Rice and Edward Atkinson.

Mr. Atkinson, who is a well-known inventor, recently claimed in an article written to the Boston Herald that, by the use of an oven he had invented, sufficient food for complete nutrition at the standard of the German soldier in active service could be purchased and prepared for the sum of one dollar per week.

The task of testing the practicability and truth of this claim was assigned Mr. Rice, who is a member of the Herald staff. He was to do
his own cooking by means of the oven in question and his total expense for food and fuel during the week was not to exceed the sum of one dollar.

Mr. Rice in this little book interestingly relates his experiences during the week in question. He describes the preparation of each meal, computing the cost, etc., in each case.

The total expense of food and fuel for its preparation during the week was 99.9 cents, but one-tenth of a cent below the limit. Mr. Rice found the average cost of breakfast during that time to be about four and one-half cents. The average dinner, however, cost as much again. During the week of the experiment Mr. Rice lost two and three-quarters pounds—caused more probably from worryment, that the expense of the week would exceed one dollar, than from absolute lack of food.

Mr. Rice is a graduate of the Institute, being a member of the class of ’90. After being graduated from here, Mr. Rice became connected with the *Telegram* of this city, where he remained until last spring. He then accepted a position on the staff of the *Boston Herald*.

The WPI wishes him success.

**SCIENTIFIC NOTES.**

An armor-piercing mortar shell made by the Sterling Co., of Pittsburgh, has been successfully tested at Sandy Hook. Two projectiles were fired from a 12-in. mortar at a 45-in. plate set at an angle of 60° to the horizon. This plate represented the deck of a ship under normal firing conditions, and in both cases the projectiles pierced it without breaking up, and with only a slight upsetting of the end. It is said that the company will at once proceed to turn out a number of them for the acceptance by the War Department.

The Canadian Atlantic Cable Company, Mr. R. R. Dalsell, President, is again agitating the laying of a direct cable between Canada and Great Britain, and is seeking to induce the Dominion Government, in the coming session, to grant a subsidy. The company claims to have $500,000 of the $2,500,000 capital required paid in; but it hopes that England will also assist the enterprise. Mr. Dalsell has received an offer to lay the cable, which would commence at the Straits of Belle Isle and terminate on the west coast of Ireland.

The Ferris wheel at Chicago, says Secretary Vincent in his report to the stockholders, carried 1,453,611 passengers at 50 cents each. The receipts were thus $726,805.50. After paying off $300,000 due on the bonds the company divided equally with the Exposition $426,805.50, and after deducting operating expenses, the sum of something over $150,000 was divided between the stockholders. Offers of purchase have been received from Coney Island, New York, London and Antwerp; but as none of these were satisfactory, the wheel will remain in Chicago for the present.

The visitors of the Chicago World’s Fair were almost entirely citizens of the United States and Canada. The best estimates possible only credit 25,000 to Europe, as passing through New York to Chicago and presumably attracted to the Fair alone. Between January and October of this year the increase in the trans-Atlantic passenger traffic to New York was only 13,790 aliens and 8,838 citizens, according to the figures of the Immigration Commissioner on Ellis Island.

The experiments made with the electrical traction on the Erie Canal recently were fairly successful, and may be considered as settling the question of the practicability of working canal-boats on the trolley system. The true test of the system and the proof of its commercial value can only be made by the equipment of a considerable section of the canal so that boats can be operated regularly throughout the season.

**COLLEGE NOTES.**

At Cornell the fraternities have their separate football teams and the association thus formed is known as the Star League.

Bowdoin will celebrate her one hundredth anniversary next June.

The trustees of Rutgers have decided that the commencement exercises shall hereafter be held in the evening.

The University of the South is considering the advisability of establishing a school of journalism.

Harvard has established a meteorological office on top of volcano Arequipa, Peru, 19,000 feet above the sea.

Nearly half the men who have graduated at Monmouth college have selected their wives from the girls who were with them in college.

Dartmouth is considering various plans of student self-government.

A plan is on foot at the University of Pennsylvania for erecting a large gate at the entrance of the grounds as a memorial of their great athlete, Clarence S. Bayne.

The alumni of Harvard are to establish a magazine devoted especially to the affairs of their Alma Mater.

At the University of Wisconsin a rank of 85
per cent. in daily or term work exempts a student from examinations.

Thirty young women have applied for admission to Yale’s post-graduate department.

Dartmouth’s Dramatic Club will present the English comedy, “The Rivals,” during the first of the season.

The editors on the Chicago University weekly are paid for their services.

Wittenberg has dispensed with examinations provided the class standing is above 80.

An annual prize of $60 is to be given at Dartmouth to the member of the athletic team standing highest in studies.

A sham battle on a large scale is being planned for the Cornell military department, to take place next spring.

A handicap chess tournament has been held at Princeton.

The average age of undergraduates at Harvard is 22.7 years, at Columbia 21.5 years.

The University of Wisconsin has a Freshman class of 280.

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TECHNICALITIES.

Rice has been chosen class photographer by ’94.

Blue ribbons are conspicuous in the buttonholes of Techs.

Wanted. To know if fat is a good conductor. If so, shunt S-wy-r.

The chemists are now prepared to expect a triple breakage bill next June.

Mr. Chamberlain of Boynton Hall is now kept busy telling how he put out the fire.

Pratt is receiving congratulations on his phenomenal success in breaking flasks.

The new motor has been set up in the laboratory and tested enough to show that it will be useful.

Unus—“I have forewarnings that——”

Dwus—“What, four warnings! you must be in tough luck.”

Seniors have been heard giving utterance to loud cries of gratitude that the fire did not touch the physical laboratory.

Inquisitive wants to know what three Seniors talk politics, two to one, both night and day, anywhere and everywhere.

It is understood that several members of Division A, ’94, are sorry to have dropped mechanical drawing. Somebody help them.

The Senior chemists are engaged in the determination of nitrogen and phosphoric acid in fertilizers. Their next work will be on water analysis.

Judging from the condition of the paths between Boynton Hall and the Salisbury Laboratories, students passing between the two buildings will need either stilts or pontoons.

Professor to class in Mechanics—“Now be sure and do not get hung up on this problem,” and he proceeded to draw a picture of some gallows to take moments thereon.

One of the reverend Seniors was overheard, the other day, asking if Chaucer took the plan of his tales from Longfellow’s “Tales of a Wayside Inn.” If that’s the case, who’s a who?

Dr. Fuller, finding that his class in mineralogy was too large to work advantageously has divided the class, one division recites from 1.30 to 2.30 Mondays and the other from 9 to 11 Tuesdays.

A Junior, whose recollections of the Thanksgiving recession are still uppermost in his mind, renders the following line thus:

“Drum hab’ich mich der Magie ergeben!”

“Therefore have I devoted myself to Maggie!”

Some of the students have been heard to express doubts as to the probability of a man’s being full of gratitude even on Thanksgiving Day, when he has been the recipient the day before of a double-barreled notice from the office of unsatisfactory work.

A number of Techs went up to Springfield to see the Yale-Harvard game and, while none had to walk home, it is probable that there will be unusually large bills for laundry and for charities. Several men are also letting their hair grow, as a result of their confidence that Harvard would win.

The first indoor athletic meet held by the W. A. C. is to take place January 6th, at the Rink. If all those who are at all gifted in an athletic line will take care of themselves and train the best they can, Tech will make a creditable showing this winter, and be in good condition for Intercollegiates next spring.

In the report of the Harvard-Yale game at Springfield, in the Boston Sunday Globe, it was stated that the Worcester Tech boys, many of whom attended the game in a body, made themselves generally disagreeable and acted like a crowd of toughs. It may be interesting to some who may have seen the report and believed it at the time, to know that the Worcester Tech boys did not attend the game in a body at all. There are other institutions of learning in Worcester, however, for whose students we do not care to answer.
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