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THE TECH

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THE TECH

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When everie man throughtout ye lande
Doth fille hys neighbor's cuppe,
And everie lasse with busie hande
Doth sewe ye stockinge uppe,
Ye Teche doth bidde eache honest ladde,
Ye fairest maiden seeke
To make fulle happie, make fulle gladde,
And kisse upon ye cheek.



coming is no less welcome. The weather prophet of the Institute, by laying down the board steps, has announced that winter is

N another week we shall be enjoying a second brief period of rest, and a momentary change of thought and action. Old Christmas is at hand and, although time may have destroyed some illusions since our days of fairy tales, his

here, and if he is to be relied upon we may have what is commonly known as a "good old-fashioned Christmas," bringing with it good sleighing, skating, and other agreeable pastimes.

All will certainly enjoy their vacation, from the Faculty to the office boy, from the Lounger to the Freshman theme writer; and all will take a rest, with the exception only of the Course II. grind and the "Technique" editor. Each of us can count upon some welcome reminder of friendship, and some upon a few days at home or in the country. THE TECH shares in the general good fellowship, and to one and all extends its heartiest good wishes, sincerely hoping that each may find in the coming holiday the merriest of Christmases.



T is with a deep feeling of pride and satisfaction that the Institute awaits the unveiling of the memorial to President Walker. Satisfaction, because the fund insuring the proper and fitting tablet was made up among the undergraduates, and the matter pushed ahead, so that now we look forward to its unveiling on the anniversary of the General's death. Pride, from sentiments perhaps best expressed by a quotation from Senator Hoar's eulogy, "But in the Institute of Technology do we find his most enduring monument." General Walker was proud of the Institute, and the Institute is proud to have called him president. In no way can the men, graduate or student, better show

their appreciation of such an honor, than by individually trying, as he aimed, for the best, for excellence in all things.



WE note with great pleasure the interest which has been aroused by our former editorial on the need for a general engineering society, and the communications from Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Strickland outlining plans for the formation of such an organization. The student papers presented before the several existing societies have come to form such a comparatively small part of their exercises that it seems probable that the best results would be obtained by a complete merging together of these societies, each of the interested courses being represented on the programme committee of the united society. Considerable time would, of course, be necessary to bring about such a sweeping change; but if the matter is taken up at once there is no reason why the organization could not be completed by the beginning of the next school year. Let each society first discuss the matter. Then, if each is favorable, let delegates be appointed from each to meet and decide upon a plan of organization, and draw up a constitution to be afterwards ratified by their respective societies.



THE managers of the Musical Clubs, we understand, have discovered the name of the man who broke into their frame in Rogers corridor recently, and stole the poster announcing one of their concerts. Although we do not wish to attach undue importance to

such a matter, we hope that whatever action the Clubs may take in regard to the affair may be sufficiently vigorous to discourage all such thefts in future, and assure the safety of posters in the corridor, at least when under lock and key. The drawings thus exhibited by the various organizations afford a pleasant relief to the monotony of bulletins and tabular views, and would be greatly missed if, for any reason, they had to be discontinued.



SOME of the students seem to think, like too many of the professors, that athletics are all well enough "after the studies are over." This is unwise, to say the least. The invigorating effect of brisk exercise, followed by a cold shower, is invaluable to many who now make it a daily custom, and would be of the greatest benefit to many others who complain that they are too "fagged" to attack their work with proper vigor and interest. This exercise is indeed separable from "athletics," commonly so called, but the added interest of participation in contests of some kind raises the mere routine of exercises from a drudgery to a pleasure. Is the fact, therefore, simply that athletics are well enough "after the studies are over," or is it not more properly said that studies are each day much better after a moderate participation in athletics?

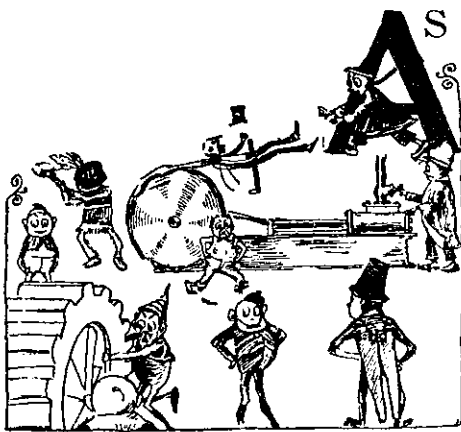


IT was most interesting to note the immediate and complete hold which Marion Crawford obtained on his audience in his recent lecture at the Technology Club. It was the sympathy and admiration always aroused by a good story well told, and besides, Mr. Crawford had the good fortune of at once exciting

the admiration of his audience by his fine physique, scarcely to be rivaled, it seemed, by his own hero Saracinesca.

In almost a boyish way he related the interesting and remarkable chain of events which led from his attempting the study of Sanskrit when a child; and of his meeting with Dr. Jacobs, the diamond merchant of India, and the original of "Mr. Isaacs," Marion Crawford's first novel.

Mr. Crawford does not tell stories the way he writes them. His utterance is not brilliant, and he doesn't venture far beyond the safe confines of incident and facts, but he has the fascination of Mark Twain and a certain *bon-homme* which makes his experiences essentially real and intensely interesting. He certainly won the loyal allegiance of every graduate and undergraduate who had the fortune to hear him.



As one looks over the list of societies at the Institute one notes that their object is to help their members in specific lines of study closely related to the work of the class-room. The debating society, so important in other colleges, is conspicuously absent.

It is said that the Mechanical, the Electrical, and the Architectural Societies take the place of such an organization, but there is little ground for the statement. Their field is necessarily, and rightly, limited to the discussion of technical subjects. They fail, however, to furnish what is equally important to students of a scientific school, and that is, an acquaintance with some of the countless subjects without the field of the architect and the engineer, but included in every liberal education. A society for the discussion of the topics of the day, and

matters of general interest, could do much in the direction of counteracting the trend of scientific work toward narrowness of thought and expression. It is now proposed to form at the Institute a debating club that shall be open to the whole student body. The plan has the approval of the English department, and the interest already manifested seems to insure the success of the undertaking.

Ninety-seven Class Dinner.

LAST Saturday evening '97 held her first annual alumni class dinner. Twenty-five men were present. At the meeting before the dinner a committee consisting of J. Bancroft, Chairman, C. W. Bradlee and John Collins, Jr., was chosen to take action upon the death of Mr. H. W. Allen.

After an excellent dinner, Mr. Collins, Secretary of the Class, introduced the toastmaster of the evening, Mr. P. L. Dougherty, who, with very appropriate remarks, introduced the following men who responded to toasts:—

H. D. Hunt	"The Cold, Cold World."
J. Bancroft,	"A Brief Summary of What I Know."
H. A. Clark	Impromptu.
A. Elson,	"Men Whom I Have Failed to Influence."
C. W. Bradlee	"Harry Allen."
W. O. Sawtelle	"Our Friends Still at Tech."
W. Humphreys	Impromptu, "My Travels."
A. W. Jackson	"Dough."
J. P. Ilsley, Jr.	Imitation of Cavalier's Songs.
J. A. Collins, Jr.	"'97 in 2000."

All the toasts were well given and abounded in wit and sarcasm.

After the toasts it was moved and seconded, that the president and one member of the class, chosen by the president, be a committee to choose and buy a suitable present to be given to the first child of a member of '97, and that the sum expended should be taken from the class funds. This motion was passed.

The evening was then ended with one last good old-fashioned Technology yell, which shook the glass on the table and awoke the house.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The Editors do not hold themselves responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE TECH:—

In Number 9 of THE TECH Mr. G. A. Hutchinson, '98, called attention to the desirability of consolidating the various engineering societies into one strong organization, which would be able to command a long list of distinguished speakers. In advancing the above proposition the real end in view has been overlooked. A successful engineer must be able to do more or less speaking in presenting plans, specifications, etc., and must express his ideas in a clear, concise form. It was with this object in view that the societies were formed, and it was thought that while the talks which the students would give might not be of the best, yet all would attend, for, in turn, each would have the same opportunity of delivering an address. Besides the speaking there is the discussion which takes place at each meeting, and which would be discouraged if larger attendance were realized or outside speakers obtained.

The evenings should be devoted to short discussions by several men, and the practice which seems to have grown up in the last year of having outsiders should be abandoned. If the men are desirous of hearing papers on engineering subjects by prominent men, then they should attend such meetings as the Society of Arts, the Boston Society of Civil Engineers, or an occasional Lowell Course. It is a fact that in Boston there are plenty of opportunities for hearing lectures which are open to those who wish to go. We all hear more lectures here in the Institute than we can do justice to, and each professor makes his talks as practical and as far-reaching as he thinks we can appreciate, so it seems that the proper sphere for the societies lies in the training of its own members.

Very truly yours,

W. R. STRICKLAND, '98.

Two Cancelled Checks.

I HAD often noticed hanging above the mantel in front of the fireplace in Jo. Paige's library two blue-green bank checks carefully framed in oak, but I had never quite got up courage to ask him to tell me their history until last Christmas Eve. I had noticed that the checks

were for considerable sums, and the date on them was the same as that of Jo.'s wedding. What made me curious about their history, however, was the fact that they were signed by D. M. Salisbury and E. McC. Sherman. Now, I could not understand how it could come about that Teddy Sherman and Dan Salisbury, the ardent though unsuccessful suitors for the hand of Belle Wilder—now Mrs. Jo. Paige—should have made Jo., the successful suitor, wedding presents in the shape of two checks of such size. I often turned over in my mind the details of Jo.'s courtship and marriage for some solution of this problem, but had never been able to arrive at one. I remembered that for two years before the Christmas when Jo.'s engagement to Belle Wilder had been announced, it had been supposed by every one that either Teddy Sherman or Dan Salisbury would be the possessor of Belle's hand, and there was a tremendous sensation when Jo. Paige carried off the prize. Dan and Teddy were neck-and-neck in the race, but Jo. was not thought to have the slightest chance. Several bets on the result were made among the fellows, and I myself lost a little, but with very good grace when I found out who was the successful man. In spite of the fact that I knew Paige better than any one else, I never dared to ask him the history of his engagement. This Christmas Eve, as I sat before the fire with Mr. and Mrs. Paige, I was overcome with curiosity. I ought to say right here that I was once somewhat of an admirer of Belle, as I still call her, but that I am yet a bachelor.

"Jo., what are those checks up there in the frame? What do they mean, anyway? You've seen me staring at them, and I mean to know their story."

"Those things? O, they're keepsakes. Shall I tell Arthur about them, Belle? You know I've kept my word, and never told a soul."

"Ye-es, I guess you may," said Belle. "It's too old to be very embarrassing."

"If it is very bad you can leave the room, Mrs. Paige," I remarked.

"Well, here goes," broke in Jo., as he reached across for the tobacco jar that was standing on the table between us. "You see the checks are signed by Teddy Sherman and Dan Salisbury? And you remember that each of them thought he was going to marry Belle, don't you? Sit still, Belle, I may as well tell Arthur the facts without dressing them up any. Dan and Teddy made a bet between them, but I won it. They were at the Fairfax Club one day, and got to discussing their chances of success. Each of them was dead sure the other hadn't the ghost of a show, and finally the discussion got pretty hot. At last, old Dodge, who was the only other person in the room at the time, and who was a good deal bothered by their noise, looked up from his paper and asked them why they didn't bet on it, and then keep quiet. That struck Teddy and Dan as a bright idea.

" 'I tell you what I'll do,' said Dan. 'The one that gets the mitten shall pay all the expenses of the other's wedding, and the wedding journey.'

" 'But, suppose she refuses us both, what then?' Teddy suggested. He always prided himself on being far-sighted.

" 'O, the two of us shall do it for the lucky man; but, you know just as well as I do, that will never happen,' answered Dan. 'Dodge here will be stake-holder.' So they each made out a check and gave it to old Dodge, whom they swore to absolute and eternal secrecy. He has kept his oath, too. That was about Thanksgiving time, and for the next month things were very lively. Belle, here, the little flirt, smiled on both alike, and enjoyed it immensely. I thought it was all up with me. Then came that Christmas house-party at Jess Putnam's. We were all down there. About that time Belle began to think things were getting a little dangerous, so she frowned on them both just a little, and was not quite so cold to me. Before I knew it, I

lost my senses and proposed to her myself."

"You mean thing," broke in Mrs. Paige from the stool by Jo., where she was sitting. "I wish I'd refused you."

"Now, don't get sarcastic, Belle. You know I don't mean I regret that I lost my senses then. I think I was the most surprised of the three when Belle said yes, and I know I was the happiest. That's all there is to tell. Old Dodge presented us with the checks the day before the wedding, which was the next June, and told their story. Of course Belle and I couldn't refuse them, so we changed our plans and went to England on the Paris? Did we have a good time, Belle?"

Jo. finished his story, and Mrs. Paige stared into the fire in silence for a moment. Then she got up from the stool and calmly sat down on Jo.'s knee. "You haven't told all the story, Jo., dear."

"That's all I know of it, Belle. I'll make up a few more incidents if you'll like it any better."

Belle thought an instant, and then said slowly: "Dan and Teddy both proposed the afternoon before that Christmas Eve when you did, Jo."

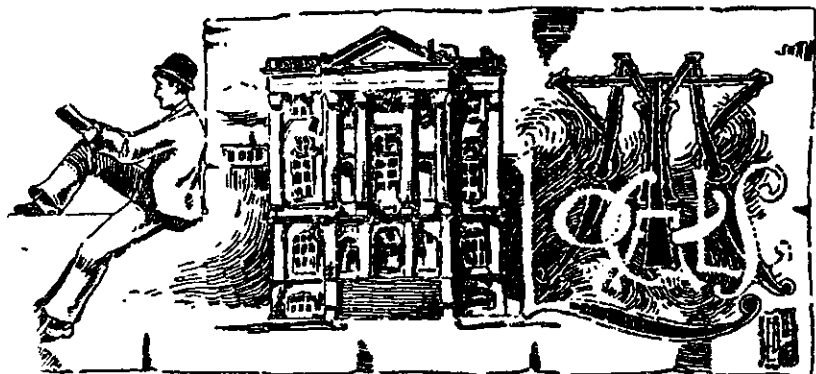
Mr. Paige's face was a study, but I felt that it was an opportune time to go out on the piazza and see what was the state of the weather.

G. P. D.

Sonnet.

We think we could enjoy what we have not,
 Poor foolish mortals, ever upward striving,
 But when with toil at each far height arriving
 Yet higher summits loom and must be sought.
 Ah, ever by experience untaught,
 Still hoping to find joy in sweet possession,
 We struggle toward those peaks that in succession
 Unending rise with mystic magic fraught.
 Their splendor fades when they at last are gained,
 The raptures flown that in anticipation
 We fancied we should find in realization
 Of our heart's wish when finally attained.
 What matter? Were the soul's ambition chained,
 The world were long since dead beyond salvation.

E. H. P.



Dr. Noyes will give the lectures in organic chemistry next term in place of President Crafts.

The Mining Engineering Society meets Tuesday, December 21st. Professors Hoffman and Lodge will speak.

The Electrical Engineering Society will make an excursion to-night to the New Edison Lighting Plant, on Atlantic Avenue.

Professor Davis of Harvard gave a lecture on Geography before a large assemblage of school teachers, on Saturday, in Room 11, Rogers.

At the reception held at the Student House on last Thursday evening, Professor Burton gave a talk on Greenland and his trip in the Polar regions.

All first-year students should report their present intention in regard to choice of course, by filling out the cards to be obtained at the secretary's office. This choice is not binding.

Last Saturday a party of Tech. men visited the Chickering Piano Factory, by courtesy of the manager, who detailed a man to show the party over the plant from lumber mill to show-rooms.

Professor Burton will speak before the Civil Engineering Society on Monday evening, December 20th, in Room 22, Walker. His subject is "The Massachusetts State Boundary Survey of 1897."

Some of the entrance cards to the Walker Memorial exercises have been left over, and Professor Sedgwick has kindly had them placed in THE TECH office, where they may

be obtained by any student who desires a memento of the occasion.

At a meeting of L'Avenir on the eighth, M. Leon Bernard gave a most interesting talk on the first Napoleon, in which he departed widely from the stereotyped Chauvinistic view of the subject.

We have seen the design of the new athletic medals and can answer for its excellence. The design is a bold relief of a well-known discus thrower, the workmanship being wonderfully faithful throughout.

Mr. Robert Gaily of Princeton University, traveling secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions, addressed the regular meeting of the M. I. T. Y. M. C. A., on Friday last.

Friends of the Walker Club will be interested to know that Miss Kate Ryan, who has so successfully coached its plays, is with the Castle Square Company, this week, as Madame Vinard, the concierge, in "Trilby."

At a meeting of the Boston University Athletic Association on Monday last, John Rockwell, Course VII., '96, M. I. T., and a former M. I. T. football player of repute, was elected Treasurer of the Association for the year '97-98.

A meeting of the Football Association will be held on Friday, December 17th, at 1 P. M., in Room 11, Rogers, for the election of officers and other business. Every student is a member of the Association, and all are welcome at the meeting.

The jury of Boston architects have made the following awards on the recent problem, completed by the Senior class: First Mentions, Richardson, Richmond, Schroeder, G. P. Stevens, Lawrence, Keene, Miss Dozier, Mathews, Faulkes, Kelly; Second Mentions, Coombs, Heathman, and Everett; all in order of merit. The jury expressed the opinion that the designs were the best yet turned out by a Senior class.

An important meeting of the Senior Class will be held this afternoon, Thursday, at four. The scheme for Class-day elections presented by the Institute Committee, and published in the last number of THE TECH, will be considered.

The Sanitary Engineers, through the kindness of the B. & A. R. R., took a trip to the chemical precipitation sewage disposal works of Worcester last Tuesday, and were shown around by Mr. J. W. Bugbee, the chemist of the works.

Arrangements have almost been completed for the meeting of the Senior Class on New Year's Eve, as suggested in the last TECH. It will be held at the Technology Club, and music and light refreshments will while away the time till midnight.

The presentation of the bust of President Walker will take place on Wednesday, the 5th of January, at three p. m. Exercises will be suspended for the afternoon, and it is hoped that all members of the Classes of '97, '98, '99, and '00, will be present. After a certain time, unoccupied seats will be open also to members of the Freshman Class.

THE TECH is authorized to receive subscriptions for the "Life and Letters" of President Rogers, at \$2.00 per copy (a reduction of fifty per cent). It is hoped that these volumes may be widely read and known by the Institute public. Every one who knows the work appreciates its unique value, not only as containing the history of the early years of the Institute, but as giving an account of its formation.

The committee on the reading of plays appointed by the Walker Club, wishes to announce again that the Club is desirous of presenting, during Junior week, an original play by some Tech. student. A few plays have thus far been received, but the committee wishes to obtain several more before making a final choice. Messrs. E. W. Curtis, '98, and C. F. Gauss, '00, will give any desired information. Manuscripts should be addressed to E. W. Curtis, '98.

A Mississippi Yarn.

"Well, Gus, dis yere am de boss!"

"Dat so Luke! Look like dis yere place dun been made 'tickler for dis nigger ter warm hisself ter?" Gus seated himself comfortably on a box in the ruddy path of light which flowed across the engine room from the open door of the "nigger boiler."

"Dis yere a good boat," remarked Luke as he stuck a splinter of pine into the glowing coals, and then lighted his pipe from it.

"Dat so, Luke? Dese yere gubermment boats is mos' in gen'ally de bes' boats, 'specially when dey hab de fuss-class hufficer tu run dem."

"Dis one a fuss-class boat sho," said Luke, between the puffs he took at his pipe. But she doan 'gin tu hol' a cannul tu de ole 'Gustus.' She were de fas'es' an' de bestis boat dat dey were on de ribber."

"'Pears like I dun hear 'bout dat 'Gustus' afore, Luke?"

"Course! Ebbey one hear ob de 'Gustus'! She were de boat! De Major he brung de Missus an' de chilrens on tu her, an' eben de rats know she war de mostest cumfurablest boat de ware."

"How you gwine tu know dat, Luke?"

"Sho! dat easy! Dey so fon' ob her. Dey allus war fon' ob her, but dem rats at Baton Rouge, dey come de mos'. Sholy one night dey come so fas' dat we tink suthin war goin' tu happen to dose people sho."

"How dat, Luke?"

"We war a laying dere one night an' dey jus' come down de lebbie an' pile on her, Lawd! it war a caution! De watchman he grab a boat-hook an' he swope dem offer de stage-plank; but dey run ober de cable. Den he make a dibe at dem and dey come ober de spar. When de sun riz he were plumb wore out. Yas, sah! he were plumb cerflustercated! Fo' Gord! dey were so many ob dem varmint on her dat de ole 'Gustus' draw a fut more water! Dat are so!"

"Well pe-e-e-ople!"

"Dose rats dey was de mostest noosunce; dey chaw de boy's boots, an' dey chaw de ropes, an' dey chaw de stuff in de sto'e room, in fac' dey chaw mos' ebbey ting, dey chaw de ha'r offer de Major's dog, an' den dey chaw a hole in de office safe!"

"Am dat de sho nuff troof, Luke?"

"Dat am sho'ly de Lawd's troof, Gus!"

"Why fo' dey no kill dem?"

"Kill dem! Why, chile, dey kill dem all dey could. Dey kill dem wid traps, but dey laff at de traps, dey kill dem wid pizen, but dey jus' grow fat and slick on pizen. Dey try cats, but dey chaw up de cats; dey chaw de weasles jus' same too. Well, dey used ter shoot dem, an' tu club dem, an' chuck things at dem till dey pooty nigh chuck ebbey ting, but de rats, into de ribber, but dat jus' gabe dem 'nough exercise tu keep dem spry and soople, an' dey were more an' more ob dem ebbery day. Yas, sah! we tink dey gwine tu sink de boat eff we doan look out."

"Huccome dey get rid on dem, Luke?"

"De Major he run dem offer de boat wid dogs."

"How he do dat?"

"Dat dead easy! He had two dogs, one on dem war small wid floppy years, toder he were one ob dese yere Newfoundling dogs, an' he were mos' as big nor a horse. Dey bofe hate dem rats like pizen iby, 'cause dey chaw de lille dogs' years an' make dere nes' wid de big dog's ha'r. Well de Major he seen doze dogs chase de rats, an' he sot dere an' study an' study, den arter a spell, he slap he leg an' low, 'By George! I'm gwine tu get eben wid dem rats yet!' sez he.

"Well, suh! he know dem rats allus run down by de coal bunkyers, doze rats allus run on de same paff, like de cows. De Major he tole some ob de boys tu take ole 'Moze'—he were de big dorg,—an' hol' him by de coal bunkyers, an' den he tuck de little dorg an' dey raise de rats. De rats dey riz an' run. Well, suh! Moze saw dem comin, an' he jus' lay he haid 'gin de wall an' opyen he mouf. Dorg

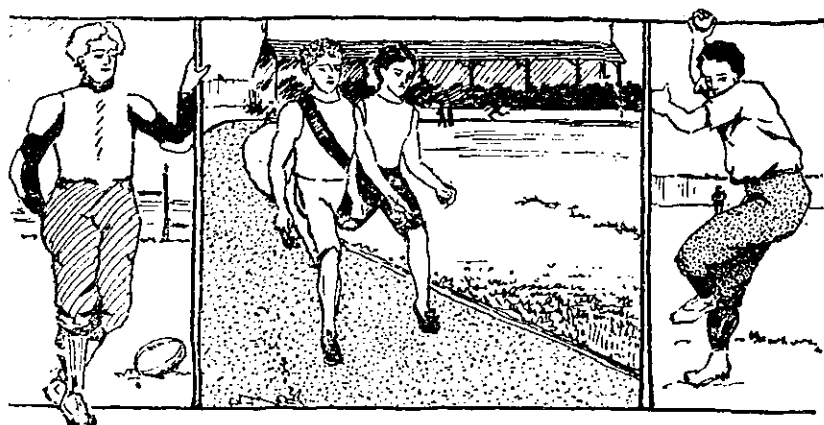
on me! but dem rats run right inter he mouf, an' he jus' gabe one skrunch, den he shuck he haid an' he war ready for de nex' one.

"De nex' time we were tu Baton Rouge, all dem rats what was lef' dey went hum tu tack de news tu dey relations, an' dey didn' come back no mo'. Dat Major he war tu smart for dem sah!"

"Luke, you mean tu say dat am ebbery word de troof?"

"Dat am sholy so, Gus! Dat am perscriptibly so!"

R. S., '00.



The fence vault is added to the usual events for the Fall Meet.

The new medals will be presented at the Friday games.

The class games at the Gymnasium Friday should have a large attendance from every class.

The members of the '99 Track team chose Burch captain, Friday, the 10th, by a unanimous vote.

Ninety-eight has somewhat receded from its high position in athletics, and just now has neither captain nor manager for its Track team. To-day is your last chance to enter for the Friday Meet. Grasp it.

The Hare and Hounds at Wellesley Saturday did not bring out as many as usual, but the ten that ran found a very interesting course. Hares: Batcheller, '00; Pray, '99. Time, 60 min. Course, 8 miles.



Correspondence solicited from all who have been connected with the Institute.

'73. Mr. R. A. Shailer, Course I., is a large contractor in the West. He has just completed a section of the Boston subway, and is also engaged in the construction of one of the sections of the Chicago drainage channel.

'91. Mr. Frank H. Dorr, Course VI., died at Somersworth, N. H., on Jan. 8, 1897.

'90. Mr. A. H. Newell, Course II., has left the Stockton Iron Works, and is farming Tule land, near Stockton, Cal.

'91. Mr. Harry B. Taylor, Course V., died at Lowell, Mass., on June 8, 1897, of heart disease.

'91. Mr. Geo. W. Bryden, Course II., is engineer for the Megquier & Jones Co., of Portland, Me.

'91. Mr. Geo. A. Campbell, Course I., is at present with the American Bell Telephone Co., and located in Boston.

'96. That Tech. spirit and good fellowship is not lacking among the members of Course VI., Class '96, who are located in New York City, was shown Friday evening last, when a theater party composed of George W. Lyman, Norman L. Rutherford, Lambert N. Whitney, John Tilly, Joseph W. Stickney, and Theodore I. Jones, was held at the Broadway Theater, New York. This was the second of a series of theater parties which will be had by the New York '96 men.

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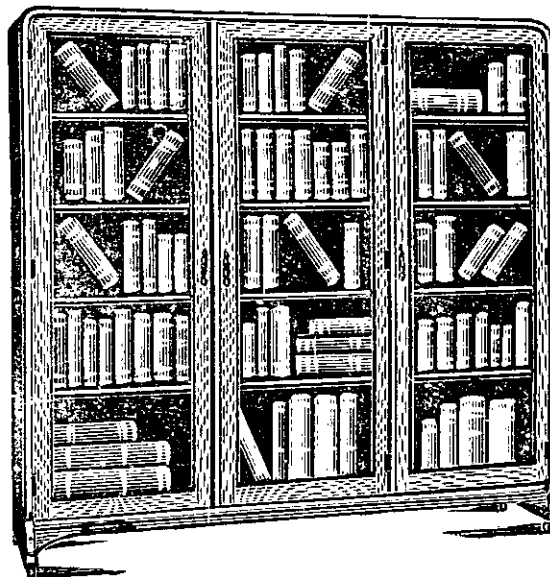
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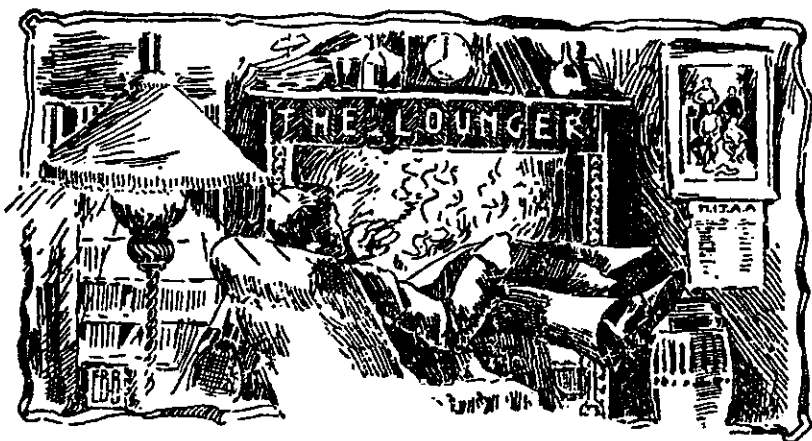


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REJOICE, O gentle Freshman, for the Christmas season is at hand, when greens are regarded with admiration and not with cruel scorn! Rejoice, ye Sophe, for a brand new cane may lie hid in some snug corner of a sock on the festival morning! Be of good cheer, O Junior, for mistletoe berries are white, and maiden's lips are red! Prepare, most grave and reverend Senior, to enjoy thy last undergraduate class dinner, and the last Christmas of thy joyous, irresponsible youth with the zest born of a knowledge of sterner things. O athletes and red-beribboned officials, disport yourselves merrily at the Indoor games! O grinds, enjoy your Christmas in your own unholy fashion by plugging quaternions or valve gears, or whatever may be your special brand of vice! O members of the Faculty, eat, drink, and be merry, with consciences untroubled by any visions of the past and dreams unvisited by phantoms of the flunked!

It is true that the glittering stars are veiled by gray clouds. It is true that the whirling snowflakes are reduced to a liquid form early in their passage through the heated atmosphere. It is true that the merry tinkle of the sleigh bells is drowned by the rumble of wheels on the bare pavement. It is true, also, that the Lounger's purse is empty, and that aunts and cousins innumerable will expect little remembrances from their favorite relative!

Even the weather and the unbought present cannot, however, dim the brightness of this festal season. The essence of the English Christmas speaks to us through Charles Dickens, and spreads even over the land of the Puritan the spirit of charity and love, of good fellowship and jollity. It is at such times that the Lounger, cynic though he may seem, is in his element. And it is with earnest sincerity that he wishes to all his friends (and he includes under this title every one connected with Technology) his wishes for an old-time merrie Christmas!

The Lounger is nothing if not a philosopher; he

was, therefore, much pleased to note, on passing through Rogers corridor last week, that a society was to be formed for the "discussion of modern philosophical questions." The Lounger has since learned that this hopeful project emanated from the brain of an enthusiastic Freshman, who in two short months has learned that the crying need of the Institute is for new societies to furnish occupation for the undergraduate body. The benefits of a philosophical society to the Freshman must indeed be patent to the most sceptical: when he has received an F for the fifth time on his tinting plate he will, if he be a member of this society, remember the maxim of M. Aurelius Antoninus, "If a thing is difficult to be accomplished by thyself, do not think that it is impossible for man"; and when the fumes of carbon bisulphide offend his nostrils in the upper parts of Walker he will argue, with Berkeley, that material things have no existence, except in the consciousness of the observer.

The Lounger's hopes for this new society were nipped, however, in their bud. At the time set for its organization he happened to be in THE TECH office, composing a lyric after the manner of Robert Herrick, when his labors were disturbed by confusion in the room below. Cheers, and groans, and hoots broke the afternoon stillness; finally the splintering of woodwork was heard, and the dull thud of ink bottles striking against inelastic blackboards. The Assistant Editor in Chief and the Assistant Business Manager, who were matching pennies in the corner, rushed out to quell the impending riot. They returned half an hour later with the glow upon their faces of duty nobly done. It seems that they found the Freshmen almost at blows over the ratiocination of their first syllogism; they quieted the excited seekers after truth, and pointed out to them the virtues of calmness and moderation. Then it occurred to one of them to spring that old, old joke of a Debating Society. "Look here," said the Assistant Business Manager, "you don't want a Philosophical Society. You don't know enough. What you want is a Debating Society." Whereupon the fickle multitude decided that a Debating Society was what their souls really yearned for, and they proceeded to organize one and to elect the A. B. M. chairman. Thus has the dream of past Freshmen and TECH Editors been at last realized. This is why the A. B. M. may be seen any afternoon on Boylston Street with his mouth full of paving stones, trying to drown the clang of the electric cars as Demosthenes did the roar of the Ægean.

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Hollis Street Theatre.—This is the last week of the London Gaiety Theatre Company in

their most successful musical farce, "In Town." The music is bright and tuneful, the dialogue witty, and the dancing is some of the most beautiful that has ever been seen in Boston.

Boston Museum.—The gay "Circus Girl" is continuing to attract great crowds to the Museum. It is full of life and go and bright, catchy music, and is given by an exceptionally good company. Miss Fabris' excellent voice has won her a great reputation.

Castle Square Theatre.—That famous old play, "Hazel Kirk," is to be revived by the Castle Square Stock Company. The play was a remarkable success years ago, and had phenomenally long runs in New York and other large cities. Miss Lillian Lawrence will appear in the title role.

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