

The Tech.

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VOL. I.

THE TECH.

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SOME time ago we gave some figures in regard to the libraries of the Institute. We desire in this connection to call attention to the fact that the Boston Public Library, with more than 400,000 volumes, is open to all members of the school, whether residents of the city or not. This is an advantage which, well used, will more than counterbalance the small size of our own libraries.

AS this is the time when many of the students are making resolutions about their second term work, it may be fitting for us to propose a fit subject for consideration and resolve. It is the subject of Sunday work. We will not attempt to discuss the question from either of its several points of view; but we ask all to con-

sider the matter and to decide for themselves, from the standpoint of economy of strength, whether it is expedient for them to deny themselves a day of rest one day in seven.

WE are glad to hear of the proposed excursion of the mechanicals. Such trips may always be made instructive. Nothing can be more beneficial to a young mechanical engineer than a knowledge of the different mechanical processes of the arts. Isolated from a knowledge of practice, mere study of theory is useless. The action of the mechanicals in organizing a vacation excursion is to be commended. The Worcester Institute of Technology, the Sheffield Scientific School, and twenty manufacturing establishments or other places of interest are to be visited. Those who go will have an opportunity of visiting establishments nominally closed to the public. It is understood that all the proprietors yet heard from have signified their entire willingness to receive the party. The excursion is in the hands of the well-known Raymond, and will be accompanied by one of his agents. We wish mechanicals a good time.

PROF. HUXLEY, in his discourse given at the York meeting of the British Association, on "The Rise and Progress of Palæontology,"* sums up as follows:—

"The whole fabric of palæontology is based upon two propositions: the first is, that fossils are the remains of animals and plants; and the second is, that the stratified rocks in which they are found are sedimentary deposits: and each

* See Popular Science Monthly.

of these propositions is founded upon the same axiom, that like effects imply like *causes*."

If these two propositions are granted, he sees no escape from the following three important conclusions:—

First. "That living matter has existed upon this earth for a vast length of time, certainly for millions of years."

Second. "That during this lapse of time, the forms of living matter have undergone repeated changes." The effect of this is that the earth contains forms which did not exist at some antecedent period, and others which have ceased to exist.

Third. "In the case of many groups of mammals and some of reptiles, in which one type can be followed through a considerable extent of geological time, the series of different forms by which the type is represented at successive intervals of this time is exactly such as it would be if they had been produced by the gradual modification of the earliest form of the series."

These are facts, concerning the history of the earth, which are guaranteed "by as good evidence as any facts in civil history."

The well-ascertained truths of palæontology leave room for only two hypotheses:—

"The first is that in the course of the history of the earth, innumerable species of animals and plants have come into existence, independently of one another, innumerable times."

"This, of course, implies either that spontaneous generation on the most astounding scale, and of animals such as horses and elephants, has been going on, as a natural process, through all the time recorded by fossiliferous rocks; or it necessitates the belief in innumerable acts of creation repeated innumerable times."

"The other hypothesis is, that the successive species of animals and plants have arisen, the later by the gradual modification of the earlier."

"This is the hypothesis of evolution; and the palæontological discoveries of the last decade are so completely in accordance with the requirements of this hypothesis, that if it had

not existed, the palæontologist would have had to invent it."

Prof. Huxley continues by saying that the "spontaneous generation" or the "miraculous creative" acts are so utterly devoid of even a scrap or shred of evidence that he is compelled to adopt the hypothesis of evolution.

Contributions.

Two Receipts

FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL DINNER OF THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

"Have patience, good people."—*As You Like It*.

I.

If you want a receipt for that popular mystery
Commonly known as the *Style of Queen Anne*,
You must first study up architectural history;
Then *mis*-remember as much as you can!

Drawings and photographs, prints and descriptions
(Sift all the meal out and keep all the bran);
Temples and tombs of the ancient Egyptians;
Pagodas and such like about Hindostan;
Towers and castles; the Louvre and Tuileries;
Gothic cathedrals, from Cork to Milan;
Domes and basilicas, prisons and pillories,—
Houses of all sorts from here to Japan.

The wood-work of Cairo, the stucco of Cordova;
Chairs and four-posters the "Mayflower" brought
over;

Every old tumble-down staircase and mantel-piece;
Sunflower, griffin, or peacock-eyed fan-tail piece,—
Don't be particular as to the names,—
Francis, Elizabeth, Henry, or James.

Take of these elements all that's adaptable,
Likely to make habitations more hab'table;
Turn aside neither for reason nor witticism,
And the thing that you get will be far beyond criticism.

II.

Do you want a receipt for that capital article
Known as the *Architect, Artist, and Man*?
Of every best thing take the very best particle;
Then let them beat the result if they can.

The classical taste of Italian Palladio;
Skill of Sir Christopher making a plan;
Knowledge of mortar and bricks, of a paddy, oh!
Knowledge of style of Labrouste or Durban;

Judgment unerring in pictures. in pottery,
 Patterns a Persian might paint on a pan,
 Figures for friezes or carved terra cotta-ry,
 Dainty designs for the face of a fan.

All one can master at home or at college, he
 Then must top off at the School of Technology;
 Algebra, drawing, and plane trigonometry;
 German and French, and descriptive geometry;
 Graphical statics; dynamics, — a touch of them;
 Physics and chemistry, — yet not too much of them;
 Courage, ambition, and love of the work;
 Spunk of a Yankee and zeal of a Turk.

Take of these elements all that 's most durable;
 Cure all the faults that are not quite incurable;
 Strain and refine just as much as can be,
 And the cream of the whole 's the A. A. M. I. T.

Investigation of DeHaen's Method for Estimating Copper.

THE method was devised particularly for estimating small quantities of copper in an expeditious way. The method is based on the fact that when a salt of oxide of copper in solution is mixed with iodide of potassium in excess, cuprous iodide and free iodine are formed, the iodine remaining dissolved in the solution of iodide of potassium.



The iodine is estimated by sulphurous acid or by hyposulphite of sodium. There is as much iodine set free as there is iodine combined with the copper. Therefore

$$\text{Cu}_2 : \text{I}_2 = 63.4 : 127.$$

The most convenient way of proceeding is to dissolve the compound in sulphuric acid, best to a neutral solution. A moderate excess of sulphuric acid does not injuriously affect the process. Dilute the solution in a measuring flask to a definite volume, 100 c.c. Should contain from one to two grammes of oxide of copper. Introduce a measured amount of cupric oxide solution, add an excess of potassium iodide (one part KI to ten water), and then proceed without delay to determine the liberated iodine by means of hyposulphite of sodium.

The copper solution must be free from ferric oxide and other bodies which decompose iodide

of potassium, also from free nitric and hydrochloric acid.

DeHaen obtained, for instance, 0.3567 instead of 0.3566 of sulphate of copper, 99.89 and 100.1 instead of 100 of metallic copper. Further experiments have shown that though the results attainable by this method are satisfactory, they are not always quite as accurate as would be supposed from the above figures given by DeHaen. One tried to counteract the injurious influence of the presence of nitric acid, by adding to the solution containing nitric acid, first ammonia in excess, then hydrochloric acid in slight excess. The result was not satisfactory. The reason is that a solution of ammonium nitrate mixed with some hydrochloric acid will even after a short time begin to liberate iodine from the solution of iodide of potassium.

Fresenius obtained results which show the method to be less accurate than one would suppose from the figures given by DeHaen. He obtained, for example,

0.0256	instead of	0.0254	copper.
0.0260	“	“	“
0.0257	“	“	“
0.0260	“	“	“

The following is an account of my investigation: —

I dissolved seventy-one grammes of commercial sulphate of copper in one litre of water, and determined the amount of copper in solution by means of the battery. I standardized iodine solution with a one-tenth normal arsenious acid solution, and then standardized hyposulphite solution with iodine solution, using starch as an indicator. I found, when standardizing iodine solution, that a sharper reaction can be obtained if the acid carbonate of potash or soda is present. I diluted 100 c.c. of copper solution to 1,000 c.c. Fifty cubic centimetres contained .08344 grammes of copper. I used 50 c.c. of this solution in each of several determinations, which were made as quickly as possible, and obtained respectively 98.6, 98, 97.8, 99.2, 98.73, 97.83, 96.93 instead of 100

of metallic copper. These results, as well as the ones already mentioned, show that the method is not very accurate. I tested the sulphate of copper, and found that it contained only a trace of ferric oxide. H. V. F.

C. C. M. I. T.

THE semi-annual exhibition drill which came off Wednesday, the 18th, proved clearly that at the Institute they rightly "teach the young idea how to shoot." The result of the three months' teaching was very creditable to the school. It was especially so when it is remembered that the companies had drilled with arms less than eight hours. About two hundred friends of the Institute witnessed the exhibition; and whether attracted by the "gold-lace that hath a charm for the fair" or by the prospect of a dance, pretty girls were certainly present in bewildering numbers.

The exercises consisted of the "setting up" drill, company movements with and without arms, artillery drill, and dress parade. It would be difficult, even if it were desirable, to draw any distinction between the two companies; and considering the small amount of time allotted to drill, the officers of each are to be congratulated on the precision with which their commands were executed. The readiness which the men have so far shown makes a marked improvement at the annual a thing to be expected.

The most interesting portion of the exhibition was undoubtedly the artillery drill. The spirit which the men manifested, and the energy with which commands were carried out, gave to the proceedings an air of reality which made them even exciting. The heavy field pieces went lumbering around the Gym. with quite a warlike rumble, and the friction primers exploded with a crack which to the timid people on the front settees plainly smacked of gore.

After the artillery came the battalion dress parade, which passed off without a jar, from the time the assembly sounded on the newly pur-

chased drums to the last command of Major Pratt and his soldierly-looking adjutant. In this parade the fine appearance of the color guard was especially noticeable.

The drill, which was perhaps a trifle too long, was followed by an order of eight dances to the music of the Cadet Band. The floor proved unexpectedly smooth, and though the number on it caused several collisions which rivalled in violence the recent one at Spuyten Duyvil, the dance was thoroughly enjoyable and enjoyed.

The Proposed Excursion.

A NUMBER of the students in mechanical engineering, members of Σ . M. E., are about to make a five-days' excursion to the principal manufacturing centres in this vicinity. The party starts Monday, Jan. 30, accompanied by Prof. Whitaker and Mr. Beeching. Following is the programme:—

MONDAY, JAN. 30. — Leave Boston (B. & A. R. R.) at 8.30 A. M. for Worcester. Visit the Worcester Institute of Technology, the Wheelock Engine Company, and Washburn & Moen's Wire Factory. Leave Worcester at 5.12 P. M. for Springfield.

TUESDAY JAN. 31. — Leave Springfield at 8 A. M. for Holyoke. Visit the Holyoke Water Power Company, the Testing Flume, the Deane Pump Works, the Holyoke Machine Company, and various paper mills. Leave Holyoke for Springfield at 1.24. Visit the United States Armory at Springfield. Leave at 6.35 P. M. for Hartford.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1. — At Hartford. Visit the Hartford Engineering Company, Pratt & Whitney's Machine Shop, Colt's Armory, the Billings & Spencer Drop Forging Company, the Hartford Machine Screw Company, the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company, and the Bicycle Department, Weed Sewing Machine Company. Leave Hartford at 5 P. M. for Willimantic.

THURSDAY, FEB. 2. — At Willimantic. Visit the Willimantic Linen Company. Leave Willi-

mantic at 11.30 A. M. for South Manchester. Visit Cheney Brothers' Silk Mills at South Manchester, and leave at 5 P. M. for New Haven.

FRIDAY, FEB. 3. — At New Haven. Visit the Sheffield Scientific School and the Winchester Repeating Arms Company. Leave New Haven at 1.21 for Meriden. Visit the Meriden Britannia Company and the Meriden Cutlery Company. Leave for Boston at 6.39 P. M., arriving at 10.45.

Alumni Meeting.

THE annual meeting of the Alumni Association of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was held Thursday, Jan. 19, at Young's. The business meeting was called to order at six o'clock. The following officers were elected for the ensuing two years: President, James P. Tolman, '68; vice-president, Silas W. Holman, '76; secretary, Charles R. Cross, '70; member of executive committee, S. E. Tinkham, '73; member of Alumni Committee on the School, Edwin C. Miller, '79. Between fifty and sixty persons were present at the dinner. Prof. William B. Rogers, the late president of the Institute, introduced Gen. Francis A. Walker, who addressed the Association. The meeting was of unusual interest on account of its social character.

At Professor Simon Newcomb's recent lecture on the "Advantages of a Mathematical Education," the speaker gave a short explanation of the "fourth dimension," which, although physically impossible, may be discussed in mathematics as an extension of the theory of the three dimensions.

At the meeting of the Society of Arts, on Thursday, Jan. 26, Prof. George L. Vose will speak upon "The Inspection of Public Works," with special reference to the defects in the present method of building and inspecting railroad and highway bridges in the United States. These meetings are always open to students of the Institute, and many of the subjects discussed

would prove both interesting and valuable to them.

2 G. Notes.

Ten's query: What is the difference between a glass of sherry?

Gussie wants to know what's the matter with "col-yoom."

Tommy says he is not engaged to her. People on Beacon Street and at the concert are mistaken.

Hadley says that the third year miners work harder than any other set of fellows in the Institute. "That only shows how liable some people are to be mistaken."

Scene: At the dance after the semi-annual drill.

She: Who is that young lady that you are so attentive to, — that one with the red dress and big hat?

He: Oh! yes, I know whom you mean. She is a friend of mine from C Street. Mighty pretty! don't you think so?

She: Yes, very! What a good-looking brother she has. At least I suppose it is her brother, he looks so much like her. I mean that dark young gentleman over there with the cute little black mustache. How dark they both are! They are Spaniards, aren't they?

And George spoiled this little romance by saying that he never saw Molly until that day.

The following notice has just been posted:—

PHYSICS.

A course of lectures upon the recent applications of electricity will be given during the second term. The lectures will occur once a week, and will be open to such students of the third and fourth years as have attended the regular course in physics, and whose choice is approved by the Faculty. Punctual and regular attendance will be expected, but no examination will be required. Students desirous of attending such a course will please hand in their names to the undersigned at as early a day as possible.

CHARLES R. CROSS.

Mining and Chemistry.

AMONG the exchanges of THE TECH are the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, the *Mining Record*, the *Mining Review*, and the *Mining Gazette of Cañon, Colorado*.

Extensive deposits of petroleum are said to exist in Venezuela. The oil is of good quality, and in many places reaches the surface, making wells unnecessary.

The work of excavation is still steadily going on at Hell Gate. An area of about five acres is already covered by the excavations, and the field of the next explosion is expected to be about nine acres. It will take about two years to complete the preparations for this final explosion.

In the year 1881 the mines of Colorado sent to New York nearly \$20,000,000 in bullion.

Tests made with the Duryea revolving blow-pipe furnace show excellent results in producing iron and steel directly from the ores. It is claimed that with this furnace the best grades of iron and steel can be produced at as low a cost as pig-iron with the blast furnace. The flux used is composed of feldspar and potash, mixed with common salt.

Comstock quotations are still falling.

The *Arizona Star* gives an interesting account of mining as carried on in former times by the Aztecs. Notched logs were used for ascending and descending the shafts, these logs being from twenty to thirty feet long, extending from level to level. The ore was carried in rawhide bags holding about half a bushel, which were rested on the back, being held in position by means of straps passing across the forehead. Water was carried out in the same way as the ore, in the rawhide bags. The ore was removed by building fires against the rock, and dislodging the calcined portions by stone hammers. The melting of the ore was effected with charcoal and bellows.

Prof. Ware was in the building last week.

Sporting Notes.

AT a meeting of the Athletic Club, Jan. 5, a committee was appointed to revise several objectionable features in the constitution.

In the Union's games on the 26th, the Institute will probably be represented by two tug-of-war teams, — one military, from the Cadet corps, and one of six hundred pounds limit from men at large; two men in the seventy-five-yard dash, and one in the pole vaulting.

We understand that considerable doubt has been expressed as to the fairness of the hitch and kick in our last games. Mr. Ferris, U. A. C., who acted as judge, made no objection at the time; and certainly the method of hitting the pan was the same as the so-called hitch and kick practised by Boston athletes, although it is our impression that the rules of the N. A. A. A. prescribe a different way.

At the last meeting of the Athletic Club, it was decided that the executive committee should consist of the president and secretary of the club, and four other members, one from each class. The president and secretary of the club are to act respectively as chairman and secretary of the committee.

The tug-of-war team (under six hundred pounds) is composed of Haines, '84, captain; Hillyer, Sp., '84, anchor; Harriman, '83, and McFerren, '85. All these men have been doing good work under the training of Mr. Burris. Since beginning work they have reduced their aggregate weight from six hundred and twelve to five hundred and ninety-five pounds, and will do no more running if their weight remains below the limit.

Means, Sp. '82, has been under training for the seventy-five-yard dash.

A notice is to be posted, soon after the semi-annual vacation, requesting all wishing to try for position on the ball nine to hand in their name and position to the secretary of the M. I. T. A. C. It is hoped that considerable interest will be shown in the nine this year.

In General.

THE cover of an '85 man's note book contains this excellent advice, "Dodge, French."

We wish all a pleasant vacation.

About time for the new catalogue.

The semi-annual examinations are upon us.

Where are the dumb-bells that belong in the gymnasium?

'84 has completed Conic Sections, and is now ready to begin Calculus.

Hardy was accepted as class photographer at a recent meeting of '82.

The latest blunder made by a Freshman was "stylographic injections" for "orthographic projections."

The Sophs from the University have commenced their course in physics under Prof. Cross.

It's rather bad under foot, as the worm said when it was stepped on.

Mrs. Partington says that Cuspi Dore's pictures are about the finest she ever saw.

Prof. O—— says cramming is a "delightful occupation." So take courage, ye faint-hearted.

There is a lively interest manifested in the coming tug of war in the Union sports.

Professor of languages (to student who has a small dog): "Mr. W——, does your dog have moths?"

It is rumored that the Freshman class, after examinations, is to be divided in mathematics into divisions by rank.

So far as we can ascertain, the civils have done nothing further about their society. They should brace up.

If you don't get your report within three days after examinations are over, you may understand that you are left.

Let us have a better attendance at the Athletic Club meetings hereafter. The other night they were unable to obtain a quorum.

The chemists and miners of '84 bid adieu to the qualitative laboratories. Next term they will be found in the quantitative department.

A book on etiquette says: "Never lap the

soup from your dish." This is a very good idea when you have new pants on.

Σ. M. E., at its last meeting, discussed the merits of superheated steam. Cheney and Davis in favor of superheating; Carson and Hutchings against it.

If you want to see some knobby pieces of work, just go out into the shops and see the bureaus that the Sophs have just made.

An '82 civil was recently asked if he believed in the "transfiguration of souls." We won't say who asked it; we'll leave that for the rest of the class to guess at.

THE TECH wants to hear from the young ladies of the Institute. The columns of the paper are open to all, and it seems especially desirable that the young ladies should be frequent contributors.

Ambiguous. — An old clergyman gave the following curiously worded notice to his congregation. He said, "Any members of this congregation who have left off wearing apparel will please contribute the same to the poor."

The fourth year (Senior) quantitative chemical lab. closed Jan. 13. Mr. Faunce heads the list in number of determinations made during this term. He has made over fifty for Prof. Wing, and about twenty for the mining lab.

The photograph committee of '82 are on the war path. All sittings must be made before April 15; all orders must be in before May 1; all pictures must be called for before the end of the term.

It would be a good plan for every one to write up the points of interest which he visits during vacation. This would give THE TECH a good stock of material to select from during the dull spring months.

She was wildly beautiful;
He was *desperately* fond of her;
She *hated* him intensely,
But, woman-like, strove to capture him;
He was a —— flea.

Mr. Samuel M. Felton, Jr., the new manager of the New York and New England Railroad,

is an Institute graduate of '73 in civil engineering. Mr. Felton is spoken of by Mr. Forney, of the *Railroad Gazette*, as one of the ablest railroad men of his age in the country.

Prof. A—— told the Junior class the other day that the behavior of the Freshmen was infinitely better than that of the Juniors. Book it, Freshies: it will be a pleasant thing to refer to when you are a little older, and can eat a pound of raw beefsteak on the morning of an examination day.

The class in constitutional history being very much excited over the Guiteau trial, prepared to hang him in effigy the other morning at the lecture. They spent five cents for a wooden effigy which would swing its arms and legs with the proper amount of agony; but owing to a flaw in the string, the execution was deferred for four weeks.

A tom-cat sits upon the garden fence,
And warbles wildly to its mate, —
"Oh! when the world has gone to bed,
I love to sit and mew-till-late."

But whilst that cat did sit and sing,
Up springs a boarder mad with hate,
Who shoots that cat to fiddle-strings;
He also loves to mu-til-ate.

The following work is in progress at the physical laboratory: Mr. Holman, instructor in physics, is working up the coefficient of friction of belts on pulleys; Mr. Pickering, assistant in physics, is preparing some work in photography to give the Juniors next term.

The chemists and Course B miners, '82, are working on the following: Mr. Hall, The electromotive force (E. M. F.) and resistance (R.) of a silver chloride battery; Miss Ames, E. M. F. and R. of a Grove cell, with different solutions and with different strengths; Mr. Frost, The E. M. F. and R. of a chromic acid battery, and the designing of a battery for the induction coil; Miss Rice, The variation and resistance of platinum wire at different temperatures; Mr. Mansfield, The E. M. F. and R. of a Daniells element at different temperatures; Messrs. Jenkins and Lowe, experimenting on the Faure sec-

ondary battery. Besides this, the regular '82 physicist, several specials, and the Juniors are at present busy working there.

We have just secured for our readers a literary prize in the shape of an unpublished manuscript of Dr. Johnson. It is that of a Dictionary of Proverbs. We quote the following: —

"The medium of exchange causes the equine female to proceed."

"Avail yourself of the information afforded by your natural optical appliances before you endow yourself with an ascending motion by a muscular contraction of the lower extremities."

"A concrete agglomeration of minute mineral particles, endowed with an advancing circular motion, exercises no attraction over the middle order of cryptogamous exogens."

"Diminutive spherical globules of condensed aqueous vapor, microscopical granular portions of anhydrous silicic acid, cause the formation of the potent expanse of dihydrogen monoxide, saturated with sodium chloride, and the felicitous stratification of immense mineral deposits."

The imitation of Turner's "Slave Ship" in the architects' drawing room is very good, the coloring being especially bold. Call and see it.

We would suggest, as an improvement of our telephone system, that the secretary's office and the School of Design change numbers. The room that is called most should have the shortest number for its signal.

The *Boston Journal of Commerce* for Jan. 21 will be interesting to the mechanicals. It contains an article on gear teeth, by Joshua Rose; also a chapter on indicator cards, besides much other mechanical matter.

We have discovered still another use for the fire buckets. The architects are using one for a wash-basin.

Photographs of the football team of last fall may be obtained at Hardy's.

The mention on the railroad station was awarded to Mr. Jones by Profs. Clark and Longfellow, but to Mr. Shepley by the vote of the Fellows.

Exchanges.

VOLUME I., No. 1, of the *College Record*, a monthly paper published by the young ladies of Norfolk College, Va., has been sent us. The first number of a college paper is nearly always issued by its editors in rather an apologetic tone: arrangements have not been completed, and usually the preparation has been hurried and unsatisfactory. As this cannot be helped, and is the rule rather than the exception, due allowance should be made by other editors before attempting a severe criticism of its matter and methods. All new editors are inexperienced, and require time before they become accustomed to their duties and privileges. Kindly advice will always be taken in the spirit in which it is given; but cutting criticism only awakens an animosity between the papers which oftentimes extends more or less to the general students of the colleges. No college journal, so far as our observation goes, — with perhaps the exception of the *University Magazine*, — has yet reached perfection, or even such a height as to be able to look down with supreme contempt on the struggling crowd of contemporaries, and scathingly ridicule or rebuke their audacious attempts to raise themselves towards its own level. These attempts, though often futile, are earnest, and as such have a right to consideration. We do not deny the thoroughly wholesome effect of ridicule in case of bombast and conceit, and in such cases let it be applied unsparingly; nor do we object to humorous hits and fun at others' expense, for this makes up half the life of a paper; but what we do most seriously object to is this ill-natured and contemptuous criticism, written principally to show the greatness of the author, and for his own edification.

Being delivered of the above, we go back to the *Record*. The short articles on "The Human Voice" and "Beethoven's Music" are very good; and a well-written article contrasts the passion of love portrayed by Mrs. Browning, as the purest and most tender emotion, with the

blinding, tempestuous passion so powerfully revealed by Byron. The arrangement of matter and typographical appearance of the paper might be somewhat bettered.

The February *Atlantic* opens with Whittier's new poem, "The Bay of Seven Islands." George Parsons Lathrop contributes a short poem and Chapters IV. and V. of his serial, "An Echo of Passion." Number II. of "Studies in the South" gives a bright and touching description of "A Mountain Funeral," and portrays the different types of negro as found in various Southern localities: "In the great black regions the prevailing type is the uncouth, strangely shaped, animal-looking negro or mulatto, who seems mentally, even more than by physical characteristics, to belong to a race entirely distinct from that of the white men around him." Also a number of more minutely drawn pictures of black planters and ministers, and many of the curious superstitions that everywhere prevail.

An exhaustive political article on the Refunding Bill of 1881 censures the hasty and ill-considered proposals and Acts of Congress interfering with the intricate and sensitive matter of modern credit and banking. "We make these things possible in this country by allowing the untrained congressional bull such extravagant smashings in the financial china shop. But there is little hope of the idea entering his shaggy head that some things are of too delicate mechanism to be brushed by a swing of his tail."

We can only notice a short home story, "Tom's Husband," by Sarah Orne Jewett, and a nine-page review of Richard Grant White and his works; also a long article on Daniel Webster's life and character. W. H. Bishop begins a serial, "The House of a Merchant Prince." A review of the third volume of Von Holst's "Constitutional History of the United States" may be of special interest to the Juniors!

No. 7 of *Academica*, the representative of Cincinnati University, has reached us. Its appearance is very prepossessing, as it shows its

face clearly, not hidden by pages of advertisements, which in our eyes detract much from the good looks of the majority of college periodicals. The editorial columns are principally filled with an account of a dispute of a serious nature between the editors of the paper and the Faculty. It seems that during the summer vacation *Academica* published an article, under the title of "The Rector's Case," which was displeasing to the Faculty, and at the beginning of the school year the editors were provisionally suspended. As the complaints against the Rector seem to be well founded, an investigating committee has been appointed by the board of directors of the University to examine the charges and establish their truth or falsehood. Meanwhile the editors have been restored to their classes upon the publication of an apology to the Faculty. *Academica* devotes three of its large pages to very readable locals and clippings from exchanges.

Alma Mater, a four-page monthly from Staunton, Va., published by the students of Wesleyan Female Institute, is before us. Though the size of the paper is small for a monthly, the matter is readable, we being especially interested in the very personal "personals," one of which we quote:—

"'Oh! don't, Tom!' By such an exclamation was Miss Julia B—— aroused from her midnight slumbers; and divining the source whence it came, inquired, 'What is the matter, Minnie?' 'Oh! it was so nice, Julia,' responded Miss Minnie M——; 'I was dreaming that Tom D—— was kissing me!'"

Apropos of the above comes this rather pleasant verse from the *Harvard Herald*:—

"A pout and a parting of lips as they touch—
That's a kiss in the abstract. It does n't seem much;
But where is the language can rightly express it?
What letters can sound it to help you to guess it?
What simile suggest, or what fancy reveal
The mysterious bliss it can cause you to feel?
Here nature assuredly won a diploma
For fragrance of flavor and perfect aroma.
A kiss is electrical, — comes with a start
That tingles a delicate shock to the heart,

And sets the eyes twinkling with rapturous delight,
Like stars in the sky of a clear, frosty night.
When 't is over, the ecstasy clings to you yet;
'T is a joy to remember and never forget.
All pleasure condensed in an instant of bliss
Can but partly describe what 's contained in a kiss."

Tobacco is prohibited to the students of Oberlin College, Girard College, and the Naval School at Annapolis. A similar rule has been recommended at West Point by the board of visitors. At Cornell University, nearly all the students have voluntarily signed a pledge to abstain from the use of the narcotic.—*Ex.*

Oxford has suspended eighty students who were concerned in locking some of the college officers in a room.—*Ex.*

The three lower classes at Tufts College have voted to adopt the Oxford cap, and the Juniors also wear the gown.—*Ex.*

It is a Vassar girl who keeps an autograph album exclusively for male signatures, and calls it her "him"-book.—*Ex.*

A chapter of the new "Memorial History of Boston": "Chapter V.—Boston was vaguely known to the Greeks. It is the real site of the fabled Atlantis. Moses would have got to Boston had not the Israelites been so stupid and obstinate. King Solomon always had an aspiration to get to Boston. Plato died longing to visit the neighboring groves of Concord and hold sweet communion with the Concordians. Galileo involuntarily turned the first telescope toward Boston. The Egyptians built the pyramids hoping to see Boston from their summits. Diogenes was rolling his tub toward Boston when death overtook him."—*Ex.*

"Where is Little Brother Now?" is the latest sicklio-comic song. We don't know what to reply; but a man came around this afternoon and borrowed our nickel-plated grappling-hook.—*Ex.*

A red-or-green-plush young girl,
A Russian-hare-muff young girl,
A little-fur-capery,
Æsthetic-drapery,
Ten-acre-hat young girl.

—*Ex.*

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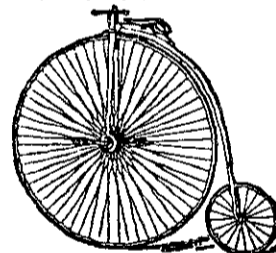
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