# THE TECH


DECEMBER 5, '02

# THE TECH

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## FRESHMAN NUMERALS.

THE Freshman Class is to be commended for its action on Nov. 26 in supporting the Advisory Council in granting numerals to the football team and denying them to the relay team. The worth of the numerals does not not lie in the value of the silk or felt of which they are composed, but in the standard of the athletic work they represent. If these standards are cheapened the numerals are deprived of their value. The object of the Advisory Council is to promote athletics at Tech, and in order to do this it endeavors to keep the standard high. Football differs from both the relay and tug-of-war in that the first requires more team work and preparation than the other two, which accounts for the distinction made in granting numerals to the losing football team.

If any man or body of men think that Tech athletics can be benefited by a change in the rules, is it not best to propose such change to the Council, who will give it an unbiased consideration? That the Council will do this may be seen from their recent decision to grant, in the future, numerals to two substitutes of the winning relay team if their names are handed in before Field Day. We are pleased to see that the majority of the Freshman Class looked upon this matter in the right light.

## IMPRESSIONS.

ABOUT ninety-nine per cent of all the knowledge of men of their fellows is made up of impressions. On the "God's acre"—to the discouraged wretch, devil's acre—occupied by the Institute, this percentage is above par. We not only do not know others, but have a bare speaking acquaintance with ourselves, though this last is not so uncommon, anywhere. We never see all the fellows at the 'stute; we notice a lesser number; we remember the faces of still less; we speak to far less, and we know the names of only a few of those to whom

we speak. How many men at Tech are there of whom you can say this: "I know that fellow's full name, where he lives, where he comes from, how old he is, where he went to school, who the members of his family are, what his ambitions are." These are not impressions, but facts. If you have them you know more than most men do about each other; but you are far from *knowing* your man. It's the same with instructors. We form our opinion of them from impressions. We see more of them than they of us; so if impressions were worth much our opinions might be the more valuable. They form their opinions of us from impressions. They may think they know us. Perhaps they do; but it is the exceptional man who has the power of true insight into character. But what is this all about? Nothing much — impressions. We might waste time by discussing ways by which we could come to know the fellows. In part, these are gradually developing. The greater part will never come. The moral is this: Don't pride yourself on your ability to read character, and think you know a man when you never saw him wrestle with a collar-button.

### Engineering Alley.

On several occasions in former years THE TECH has called attention to the inconvenient approach to the headquarters of the Engineering Department. It has always been a customary and natural thing for students who are going from Engineering A to the Rogers Building, to use the eastern end of Engineering Alley instead of taking the slightly longer route which passes in front of Trinity Church. Now that the new Lowell Building has been built, with entrance only from Clarendon Street, the desirability of providing a more suitable connection between Engineering A and Clarendon Street is more than ever apparent. As a matter of curiosity, it has been found by pacing that it is 952 feet from Engineering A to the Lowell Building by the streets, and only 524 feet by Engineering Alley.

Nevertheless, throwing aside all considerations of the length of different routes, it is a fact that this end of Engineering Alley is used by a great many students. On Monday an observer was stationed at the alley with a count recorder, and between 8.30 A.M. and 4.30 P.M. 1,384 persons passed through this end of the alley.

During the winter months and after a heavy rain the alley is very wet and muddy, and between recitations it is so crowded as to make the narrow sidewalk on the northern side quite inadequate, while the crossing of the alley is not to be undertaken in a trivial or light-minded manner. A board walk along the southern side of the alley, with steps leading to the door of Engineering A from the Clarendon Street direction, would be greatly appreciated by hundreds of students.

### Tech and Athletics.

Last year Tech's attitude toward athletics was practically decided, and wisely. Organized athletics on a scale requiring much time and team work, as varsity football and baseball, were given up. Experience had shown that under the conditions here, such branches could not be made representative of the Institute, nor developed to an efficiency creditable with our standing in other respects, and it were better not to attempt at all what we could not carry through with full justice to ourselves. But this was by no means an agreement to let our athletics wane,— simply a transference of our energies to other branches more suitable to our circumstances, and depending on the individual, not the team. This, so far, has resulted in a concentration of our efforts in the track team which, by its success of last year and its even brighter prospects for this year, has gained

the right to be ranked as our most important and representative branch of athletics. Everything possible is being done to raise our standard in this line, with good management, co-operation of gymnasium work and track events, and good, though as yet by no means perfect support, from the student body. And the track team is a credit to us.

But while we make the success of the track team our highest aim, we should endeavor to make more out of the lesser forms of athletics than we do now. There are a number of fields open to us in which we could exert ourselves without being hampered by our conditions here, and could meet other colleges on equal footings,— for instance, tennis, golf, hockey, fencing, boxing, shooting, bowling and such forms of athletics depending largely on individual skill and requiring no unnatural amount of application and practice. Clubs in tennis, golf, hockey and fencing exist at the Institute, open to all applicants, but have not received the support they should as Tech clubs, nor have they been pushed as they might have been. There is no reason why such clubs should not be organized on large scales, and draw forth enough men to afford interest to their respective members, bring about closer individual relations fostering college spirit, and enable enough skilled men in each line to be selected to represent us elsewhere with most credit.

## Cross-country Race.

The annual cross-country run of the Cross-country Association was held last Saturday, Nov. 29, over the regular West Roxbury course of eight miles. It was a fine day for the run, and resulted in the best race we have had in years. There were twelve men in the race, and all finished. Quite a number of cross-country men came out to see the men run. Dean Burton was also in the party with his two sons, who are interested in running. He acted as judge at the finish. L. F. Myers was starter and timekeeper.

A. P. Porter, '04, was the first to start, and put up a good race for the first half. After him came Barnd and Wald. Barud ran an excellent race, and held his place until a half mile from the finish. The next to start were Casey and Pulsifer. They ran together for the first half, rapidly gaining on Barnd and Wald. Casey put up a splendid fight, running with great physical strain at times, yet plugging along like a hero. Thurber, '06, from one minute, who ran a grand race, caught Casey about two miles from the finish, and they overtook Barnd a mile from the finish. They ran within twenty yards of each other until the finish, with Lorentz, from one minute, only fifty yards behind.

Thurber easily led in the final sprint, with Casey two yards behind and Barnd ten yards behind Casey. Lorentz caught up on the home stretch, and was only twenty yards behind Barnd. Thurber, however, had judged his race well, and was fresh, while Casey ran the last half mile on his nerve. The two scratch men, F. B. Riley, '05, and A. J. Sweet, '04, ran a good race, but were unable to catch four of the men.

The new record of 49 minutes, 20 seconds for the eight miles shows that we have first-class men at Technology, and expectations for a good Cross-country Team next year seem to be amply justified. Thurber, Riley and Lorentz will make a firm nucleus for a team in the intercollegiate contests.

The first six at the finish were as follows:

| | Name. | Class. | Handicap. | Actual Time. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Thurber | '06 | 1 min. | 49 m. 20 s. |
| 2. | Casey | '05 | 4 mins. | 52 m. 20 s. |
| 3. | Barnd | '05 | 6 mins. | 54 m. 37½ s. |
| 4. | Lorentz | '05 | 1 min. | 49 m. 51 s. |
| 5. | Riley | '05 | Scratch | 49 m. 44 s. |
| 6. | Sweet | '04 | Scratch | 50 m. 10 s. |

The four men to make best time were Thurber, Riley, Lorentz and Sweet, in the order named.

### Naval Architectural Society Banquet.

The third Annual Fall Banquet of the Naval Architectural Society was held at the Technology Club, Tuesday evening, Nov. 25. Dean Burton, Professor Swain, Professor Peabody and Captain Hovgaard were the guests of the society, and about forty members were present. T. Miller, '95 (the first class to graduate members in the Naval Architectural Course), Barney and Simpson, '00, Coburn, Perry, Skene and Willard, '01, and Appleton, Everett, Gardner and Teague, '02, attended, the presence of so many graduates of the course doing much toward making the evening enjoyable.

After an excellent dinner, Pres. H. Crosby welcomed the guests and new members from the Junior Class, and introduced the toastmaster of the evening, P. R. Parker, who, after some excellent stories and apropos remarks, introduced Dean Burton, the first speaker.

Dean Burton said that, although not having any connection with the subject of naval architecture, unless his course in navigation gave him an opportunity to claim membership, he was a "well-wisher." He spoke of the value of professional societies to every Tech man, and said that, in his opinion, they are the best means of bringing the members of each department into closer touch and relationship with one another. Continuing, Dean Burton gave an interesting account of his experiences in Greenland, and told some stories, illustrating the differences between theoretical and practical navigation.

Professor Swain spoke of the opportunities Tech men have, both before and after graduation, to show what they're made of, and their character, using as text one which he claimed to use whenever he advised young men; viz.: "Wake up!" He said in part: "The reason so many young men fail, is due to the fact that they expect to fall into some 'snap job' with a nice salary immediately after graduation. These men think they know it all, forgetting that they have had no practical experience to speak of, and they do not reach high positions; but those who are willing to start at the very bottom, and to work hard for nothing, excepting the experience gained, are the ones which become presidents and managers of large concerns."

Professor Peabody, who had just returned from the annual meeting of the American Society of Naval Architects, after telling a few excellent stories, described the National Society, its object and organization, and gave an interesting resume of the papers read at the meeting.

Captain Hovgaard spoke of the great difficulties he had encountered when called to take charge of a Danish yard, which had under contract the construction of the Russian royal yacht "Alexis." The launch took place in midwinter during a driving snowstorm, a canal having been cut into the two-feet thick ice. The success of this launch, in spite of unusual difficulties, Captain Hovgaard laughingly ascribed to the precautions taken by the priests, who, carrying a silver bowl filled with water, walked around the ship three times on the morning set for the event, and then sprinkled the hull with the water. Captain Hovgaard also spoke of the curse of European labor unions and the trouble they caused engineers, and told of how he broke a strike by importing laborers from Germany. After Captain Hovgaard's speech the meeting adjourned. Thanks are due to Mr. Hayes of the Technology Club and the committee for the success of the evening.

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### Calendar.

*Saturday, Dec. 6.*—Freshman elections close.

*Wednesday, Dec. 10.*—Electrical Engineering Society dined.

*Thursday, Dec. 11.*—1904 Class Dinner, 7 P.M.

### Electrical Engineering Society.

The Electrical Engineering Society held a meeting last Friday noon. President Welsh stated that it was possible to have the pleasure of a talk from Professor Hollis, the head of the department of engineering at Harvard, on Dec. 10, and it was voted to hold a meeting on that date, arrangements to be left in the hands of the Executive Committee. An excursion to the Fore River Ship and Engine Company's plant at Quincy was announced for last Saturday. The meeting closed, after the election of a number of new members.

About forty visited the Fore River works Saturday afternoon. It was the most instructive excursion held this year. Two large war vessels, the "New Jersey" and "Rhode Island," are under construction. The electrical distribution of power to separate motors on each machine was a practical example of the way this form is taking the place of the old shaft and belting form of transmission of power.

The society is greatly indebted to Mr. J. W. Wellington for a most satisfactory excursion.

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### Reception to Freshmen.

The choice of a technical course of study is now a subject in which the first-year student is especially interested, and it is of particularly vital importance, as it will probably influence the whole trend of his future life.

In order that this choice may be made advantageously, all new students who were not invited to a similar earlier reception to the graduates from other colleges, have been invited to one of two informal receptions at the Technology Club on the evenings of Dec. 11 and 19, from 7.30 to 10, that they may meet the Dean and Committee of Advisers. As they will be continually coming and going, two evenings will be sufficient to accommodate the whole class. At these meetings representatives from the various courses at the Institute will do what they can to aid the Freshmen in the choice of their life-work. It will also furnish a chance to become acquainted with the instructing staff and fellow classmates. It is greatly hoped the Freshmen will make the most of their opportunities on these evenings.

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### The Technology Orchestra.

This is the second year of the Technology Orchestra, and it bids fair to be a permanent organization. A Constitution has been adopted, rehearsals commenced, and work fairly started. Two things necessary to its support are now wanted — recognition by the student body, and more members. The students should be aware that there is in existence an organized Institute Orchestra, and give it a chance to play. The manager, whose name is given in another column, will be glad to attend to that part. As concerns the need of more men, that would be met amply if every student who plays any orchestral instrument would see or send word to the leader as soon as possible. Rehearsals for the present will be held Tuesday afternoons, at four o'clock, in 13 Engineering B.

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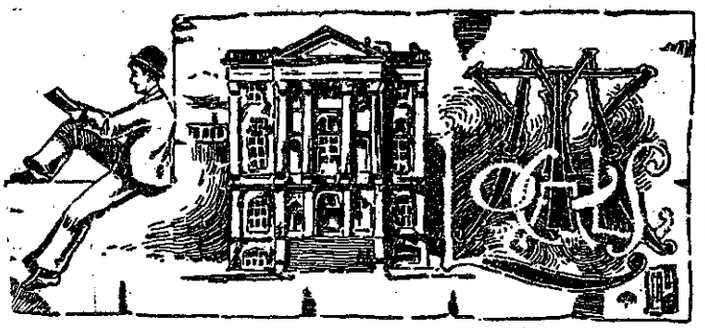
### The Walker Club.

The Walker Club held a meeting Tuesday evening, Nov. 25, at eight o'clock. The subject for debate was: "Is Municipal Control of Street Railways Advisable?" Two papers were read, Mr. C. C. Curtis taking the affirmative and Mr. C. D. Simonds the negative. Then followed a lively discussion, in which all present took part. Finally a vote was taken on the merits of the question. It was decided that municipal control was inadvisable. After a social half-hour the meeting adjourned.



EDITOR'S NOTE.—On account of pressure of work, Mr. Fremmer has been granted a leave of absence from the Tech Board.

Lawrence F. Bedford has been appointed 1st Sergeant of Company E, Freshman Battalion.

The final list of subscribers to the Walker Gymnasium is now in press, and will soon be sent to all subscribers.

The following officers of the battalion are in charge of the dance which will be given Dec. 12: Elliott, chairman; Barry, Keleher, Earle and Wetterer.

Preparations for remodeling the Research Laboratory of the Biological Department, for the increased number of graduate students, are now under way.

All men who played in the Field Day football game and *participants* in the winning Relay and Tug-of-War Teams, are entitled to wear their class numerals.

The list of graduate students and third and fourth year men for the catalogue has been posted. Men should make sure their names and addresses are correct.

Dr. G. W. Field, instructor in Economic Biology, has recently made a report on the biological feature of the proposed Charles River Basin, to be ultimately presented to the Commission, of which President Pritchett is chairman.

Five men accepted the invitation of the Technology Club to a Thanksgiving dinner. This dinner was open to all students who had no other place at which to partake of the Thanksgiving dinner. This small attendance indicates either modesty on the part of the Tech man, or plenty of friends.

Mr. Percival Lowell is giving a course of six lectures on "Our Solar System" in Room 6, Lowell Building, on Monday and Wednesdays, from 4 to 5 P.M. The lectures began last Monday, and are open to all.

The Class of 1904 will have a dinner on Thursday, Dec. 11, at 7 P.M., in the rooms over the Mechanical Laboratories off of Garrison street, which have just been fixed up. Tickets are 75 cents, and may be obtained from Jacobs, Carhart and Powell.

The Hockey Association held a meeting last Tuesday, at which the Committee on Arrangements for a rink reported that Dr. Pritchett had given the Association permission to use the land on Trinity Place, just beyond the Pierce building. This is a lot about 160 x 70 feet, and when arrangements are made for flooding it, will make an admirable rink. There is a great deal of interest in hockey this year. A squad of about forty express their intention to try for the team. Practice will begin this afternoon. Geo. W. Bateman, '03, is captain, and P. S. Crowell, '05, is manager.

The following is the complete list of candidates for Freshman offices. The ballots must be in by Saturday, Dec. 6.

| For President. | For Secretary. |
|---|---|
| W. M. Van Amringe | R. F. Scannell |
| M. A. Coe | H. E. Darling |
| H. V. Fletcher | L. Lawton |
| C. F. Wetterer | E. Henius |

| For Vice-President. | For Treasurer. |
|---|---|
| O. Adams | F. W. Friend |
| L. G. Blodgett | W. H. Foster |
| A. P. Mathesius | C. E. Hamilton |
| J. E. Simmons | F. Moore |
| | C. C. Rausch |

The Glee, Mandolin, Banjo Clubs gave a very successful entertainment Tuesday evening at Peabody. The concert was followed by dancing, the clubs being guests of the Murray Club.

The Mandolin Club's medley from "Prince of Pilsen," the Banjo Club's Koonville Koonlets, and a selection by Swenson, Higgins, Barnes and Wilson, were extremely good.

One would hardly think it possible that a Tech student would stoop to mutilating our library books by cutting out poems and pictures which struck his fancy. However, several books and a number of magazines have been treated thus since college opened, and have had to be replaced. There is no need of comment.

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### Action on Song-book.

The Institute Committee have formed the following plan for collection and edition of a Tech Song-book: The president of each class is to appoint an electoral committee of ten men, who will elect two members of the class to the board of editors; the editor-in-chief will be elected by the Institute Committee, and will be made a member of the same. This will give a board of nine members, who will have full charge of all parts, musical, editorial and financial. The Seniors and Juniors have already taken action in the matter, and it is hoped that the lower classes will do the same immediately. It is very important that the work be commenced at once, or the year will be gone with nothing accomplished. It is not intended that these nine shall compose all the songs, for that must rest largely with the whole student body, and every one should endeavor to push the work as much as possible.


'93. James A. Emery, I., is in the employ of Ford, Bacon & Davis of New York City, for whom he has been assistant engineer in charge of construction of the New Orleans and Carrollton Railroad, and engineer of construction of the Atlanta Rapid Transit Company.

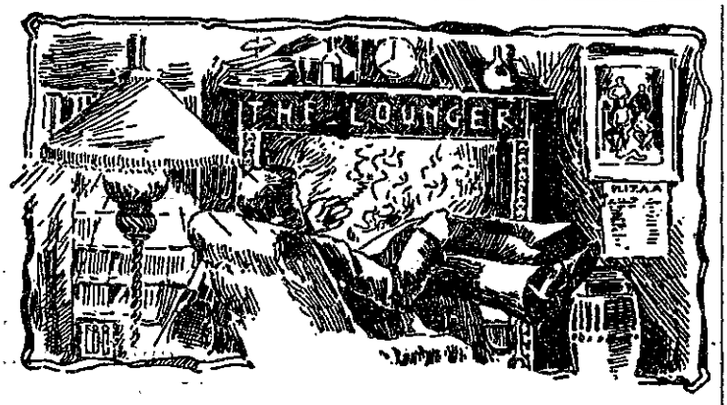
'93. Philip E. Perry was appointed teacher of Sloyd in the Lexington (Mass.) High School, where he began work with the opening of the present school year.

'98. LeRoy H. Byam, I., has been transferred from Peekskill to Buffalo, where he is acting as assistant division engineer of the Western Division of the New York Central Railroad.

'00. Walter C. Dean, VI, is at the Norfolk (Va.) Navy Yard, in charge of the electrical station there.

'02. Arthur R. Nichols, IV., is with W. A. Bates, architect, 100 Broadway, New York City.

It is interesting to note that two large pieces of work on water purification are in the hands of our alumni. The studies on the Philadelphia water supply from an engineering standpoint are in charge of W. W. De Berard, '01, with C. H. Wells, '02, as assistant, while W. R. Copeland, '93, with P. Boynton, '01, for assistant, is in charge of the experimental laboratory. At Harrisburg, Pa., similar experiments are in progress under the direction of C. G. Hyde, '96, with F. Gannet, '02, as assistant.




THE LOUNGER has always experienced a sensation of revulsion when he has heard the old adage, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." Undoubtedly this sentiment has the sanction of time, and must therefore be criticised only advisedly. It has, moreover, many interpretations, which depend upon the character of the bird and of the bush, varying, as these must, from the Bird of Paradise and the Burning Bush, to the proverbial cold bird and the Tannhaüser. The question, then, of the soundness of this proverb immediately assumes inordinate proportions, and THE LOUNGER is forced to fall back upon some of his friends for a solution. Personally, he sympathizes with Mr. George T. Angell, — dear moth-eaten old Angell,— that a bird in the bush is worth any number in the hat; but here again great obstacles present themselves, inasmuch as THE LOUNGER acknowledges himself incompetent to discuss, calmly, millinery ethics. Let us turn to a somewhat more practical interpretation of the same epigram. Charles Frohman tells us that "The Bird in the Cage" is worth "two" at the Museum. This sounds logical, but after all, we are obliged to take his word for it, and to speculate upon the suggested third proportional, "If the Bird in the Cage is worth two at the Museum, what would it be worth at Tech?" At this point it is necessary to assume some value for THE LOUNGER. It is generally conceded that THE LOUNGER is equal to anything. Representing this quantity by "A" we have $A = \frac{0}{0}$, or, THE LOUNGER is equal to zero over zero (and therefore has the denominator, at least, of a god). Applying this to the problem, we find that, while the Cage at Tech approaches zero as a limit, THE LOUNGER reproaches the Cage as the limit; introducing the factor, 2, we have incontestably established the fact that the Cage should be doubled. Mathematics is not only exact, but exacting. The change must be made; all sacred associations of the Old Cage must be torn up by the roots and cast into the bonfire, Oblivion. Hallowed memories of unredeemed umbrellas, checked overcoats in winter, and touching illustrated appeals through the mail from hatters and clothiers,— all, in fact, that has made the Cage come dear to us, must be forgotten. *O tempora, O mores!* Let the dead past bury its Cage. The name alone survives in th new and spacious structure which graces (perhaps like the Lowell building and the Class of Naughty five, only temporarily) our glorious Institute. Bu after all, the Cage itself is but the apparel,— will ther be another bird? Tremendous thought! Poten possibility!

Thus, with a joint discussion between himself— o more explicitly, between his own numerator and de nominator — does THE LOUNGER un-bird-on his cere bral cage during his brief moments of relaxation; fo be it understood that even THE LOUNGER must rela Few human beings can labor ceaselessly. There ar instances, however, of such phenomenal nature People do such things in Hell; Tech is — and TH LOUNGER in conversing with an Architectural st in the Milky Way of Course IV, learned that th remarkable spirit, like sweet cider or the force o gravitation, when once started, worked continuall "only ceasing," to use his own words, "in his profes sional work of riveting the joints on his girder plat to rush down and bolt the equally tenacious joints o his dinner plate." THE LOUNGER perceives that h facetious friend has here used punster's license i calling by the elegant name "joint," what must in evitably have been hash; and THE LOUNGER woul suggest by way of amendation that the nature of th hash would properly sanction the use of the epith "joint" only when accompanied by its surnam "Production," — a joint production consisting of — but THE LOUNGER will neither reveal nor revile th which he does not know or understand, and yet whic constitutes the very fiber and substance of his though mechanism, stimulating him to noble deeds an rare inspirations, bone of his bone, life of his life,— hash.

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WANTED: Information which will lead to the ca ture of the originators of the following statements:

Formerly prints were found at Babylon.

Caxton claimed that all books which were starte in the morning would be finished the same day.

Sidney was born in 1554 . . . and traveled on t continent in 1552-53.

The first printing-press was set up near Wes minster Abbey. It contained sayings of the philos phers.

All the manuscripts in Constantinople were d stroyed by the Christians, and the scholars fled wi these books to Italy.

Sidney was at Barcellona at the massacring of S Bartholomew.

Michael Angelo was being encouraged by t nobles in his research for scientific facts.

A reward of one beautifully illuminated copy Arlo Bates' new book, "Second-Year English Liter ture," will be paid for such information.