various classes of the school. The directors have charge of the publication of the paper. They elect the editorial board, consisting this year of ten members. The directors are responsible to their respective classes for the property and funds in their charge, and hold their positions until the election of the full succeeding board.

The energetic chairman of our board of directors has been, from the first, prominently connected with THE TECH, and deserves the thanks of the entire school.

THE prize for the best design for the cover of THE TECH has been awarded to Mr. G. F. Shepley, of the Architectural Department. Mr. Shepley has gained not only the mere prize, but also the approbation of all interested in our paper.

Communications.

Public Spirit.

A DEGREE from the Institute of Technology conferred upon a young man is proof that he is a good, patient worker, or that he has born ability; and we are proud of our membership of an institution whose graduates are, in one respect at least, promising young men. But ability to learn the lessons taught here, and to graduate even with high honors, is but a small part of true manly character. In doing this and nothing more, the man is simply working out his own selfish interest. If he works for the betterment of his own condition that he may do his share toward bettering humanity, he works nobly.

The true manly character involves much more than working for marks. Every man has duties other than those to self. It is only the meanest of men who do not recognize their duty as citizens of the State. Nearly all men pay taxes, and expect to pay them. Nearly all men want to pay taxes for the support of those things which minister directly to their own personal wants.

The mean and niggardly men are quickly sifted out when a subscription paper comes round, asking support for some scheme for public benefit. How utterly degraded and low is the man who draws from the pockets of whole-hearted, public-spirited men, money to pay for the benefits which his selfishness allows him to enjoy! It would be harsh to call such a man a thief, would it not?

The world needs a generation of public-spirited men; men who, when a church is wanted, a school, a public library, a park, or anything of common benefit, can realize that want and bear their full share of the expense. We all know rich men who are so notoriously stingy that they are never approached for a subscription. Men of more public spirit have to fill up the blanks left by those Shylocks who are unfriendly to any public benefit. Thank God! there are public-spirited men in every community.

If a man—a young man, let us say—is poor, and honestly says that he cannot afford to give as much in money as others, it is no disgrace to him. But his circumstances do not excuse him from the duties which he still owes to society. He is bound to give his personal support, and whatever money he can, to the worthy objects before him.

Let us bring these principles home to ourselves. We, members of the Institute, form a little community. First of all, we owe our allegiance to our government. This done, we have duties to each other and to the organizations which exist for the common benefit of all. We have several such, and they are commendable and deserve the support of every member of the Institute.

This paper, in its infancy, has thus far met with meagre support. A good part—the best part—of the fellows have shown an interest in it; yet there are many who have met the attempts of its founders coldly. Selfishness is an excellent indication of character.

We have an Athletic Club, organized for the promotion of athletic sports and such exercise as is necessary to the health of a student.