The Tech.

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THE TECH.

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We have before us the Seventeenth Annual Catalogue of the Institute. It has the same general form as its predecessors, but differs from them in some particulars. Its most prominent feature is the large list of students, there being three hundred and ninety names. In the last two years the total number of students has increased forty-four per cent. This increase is most flattering to the management of the school, and is a mark of the growing popularity of this institution. The increase would undoubtedly have been greater had it been possible to obtain more ample accommodations for the Lowell School of Practical Design. The number of students in the Institute proper has increased, in two years, fifty-one per cent, and the number of specials sixty-three per cent.

Another prominent feature of the new Catalogue is the establishment of three "general courses." They are intended for such students "as may not intend to adopt a distinctly scientific profession, yet desire to obtain an education through studies of a predominantly scientific character." The elective course and the course in science and literature are not continued. The other courses, with the exception of civil engineering, remain substantially as before.

The Catalogue gives notice that in June, 1883, the admission requirements in algebra will be the same as those adopted by the New England Association of Colleges.

One other change, of a minor character, will be interesting to students. Former Catalogues set forth that "the drill hall contains a well-equipped gymnasium"; but in the present issue the word "well-equipped" has been omitted. We are glad to have even this assurance that the needs of our gymnasium are known.

Graduation day occurs Tuesday, May 30, and the next school year will begin Monday, Sept. 25.

Some one has truly said that a college paper is a better criterion of the spirit of the institution and the character of the students than are its catalogues or other official publications. The reason is easily discovered. Students select a college because they expect to find there that which is congenial to their tastes; and once within the college, the college paper, being their mouthpiece, naturally expresses their ideas and sentiments. So from the character of the paper is divined the character of the students; and on the character of the students depends that of the institution to which they belong. It becomes, therefore, the duty of each student to support the paper, not merely