AN article on the Lynn boiler explosion, in the Journal of Commerce for March 25, will be found interesting to mechanicals, and also "Steam-Boiler Notes," in the Scientific American of same date.

The condenser for the laboratory engine has arrived, and preparations are being made for placing it.

'83 has begun experiments with the indicators, the preceding work being of a general nature about the engine. In the shops, steel forging has been completed and shipping and filing begun.

Mr. Davis read a very interesting paper on gas engines before Σ. M. E.

The third-year civils, at the instance of President Walker, will shortly make an accurate survey of the square which contains the Institute buildings, as a basis for plans and estimates on the large building to be erected. The overcrowded condition of our lecture-rooms and laboratories evinces the pressing need of increased accommodations for our students, which can only be supplied by the erection of a convenient and commodious building. It is also stated that probably the shops and gymnasium will be removed to the Ross field, as the new building must occupy their present position.

During the absence of Prof. Vose the civils visited the "City of Berlin" in a body, spending an afternoon in examining the vessel.

'84 mechanicals have made the annual visit to the Charlestown Navy Yard.

It is stated that belts made from mineral tanned leather are not only cheaper but considerably stronger than those made from leather tanned by the usual process.

A belt was made in Berlin lately, six feet three inches wide, and weighing a ton and a half. It required 200 of the largest and heaviest ox hides to make it, and its cost was over $4,000. It is to transmit 500 horse-power.

MR. KIDDER has been taken quite ill, and Prof. Clarke has been obliged to assume his duties. Prof. Clarke has set several members of the department to writing criticisms of some of the prominent buildings in town.

The three regular Seniors are at work on a solution of one of the arched ribs in the train house of the Providence Depot.

The new problems are, for the Seniors, a gate and lodge at the entrance to a French Chateau; and for the Juniors, the six-column problem.

Mr. Crowninshield delivered a lecture on stained glass, at his studio, on Thursday afternoon. The Art School and the department were both well represented. Quite a number of outsiders were present also.

The lectures we spoke of in the issue before last will begin with three lectures on ornament, by Mr. Cummings, on Thursday afternoons; the first lecture to be given on Thursday, April 13. Mr. Rotch will come along later. Mr. Van Brunt has informed the department that unfortunately he will be too busy to give his course this spring.

The architects have organized a boat crew, and will begin practice on the Charles as soon as a boat can be obtained. The members of the crew are as follows: Hooker, Trowbridge, Kingsbury, Fisher, Jenney, Sunderland, Drach.

The finest of the Amherst College buildings was partially destroyed by fire last Wednesday evening. Fine collections of minerals, physical apparatus, paintings, etc., were destroyed, the estimated loss being about a quarter of a million dollars.

Messrs. O. D. Skinner and W. B. Myers, of Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., have been visiting brother "Sigs" in the Institute.

The date for the annual ball has been fixed for Friday, April 21. Tickets now ready.