Mechanical Engineering.

Regular or special mechanicals desiring places for work during the summer have been invited to apply to Prof. Whitaker.

Some of our last year civils now in the West are doing especially well, having already received desirable positions, due in great part to the experience gained through summers’ work on railroad engineering.

Mr. Beeching has returned, having nearly recovered from his recent illness.

There has been exhibited at New York a bar of steel ore taken from a mountain of that material in Liberia. It had not been smelted, but was as resonant when struck as the finest manufactured steel.

To find the capacity of a circular tank, multiply the square of the diameter in feet or decimals of a foot by 5.874; the product will be the capacity in gallons for each foot in depth.

Prof. Barff, of England, announces that by the use of boro-glyceride, a new compound formed of boracic acid and glycerine, he is enabled to preserve food for an indefinite period unimpaired as to its qualities. The Mechanical Engineer asserts that this is not new: railway restaurant men in this country and elsewhere discovered this process long ago without boro-glyceride.

At the recent cotton manufacturers’ meeting, the association presented to the department of mechanical engineering of the Institute of Technology a set of models of the arrangement of belts and pulleys for certain difficult problems in the transmission of power. These problems formed the subject of a paper by Nathaniel Hill, C. E., before this association at the November meeting, and were of such importance that the association had this duplicate set of models made, to be used for purposes of instruction in the institution which has hospitably given them the use of their hall at their semi-annual meetings for many years. - Machinist.

Department of Architecture.

Very few of the specials have come to the examinations, most of them having already secured good places in offices. As no degree depended on their attendance, they thought it best to go to the different positions awaiting them.

Prof. Longfellow signified to the Juniors the other morning, after their examination in design, his intention of resigning.

The petition asking the Faculty for a continuance of Mr. Cummings’s lectures, unfortunately could not be granted, owing to the press of business on Mr. Cummings’s hands, at present obliging him to postpone the remaining lectures of the course until next fall.

Mr. Shepley, Mr. Hale, and Mr. Jones have already gone out to Mr. Richardson’s office in Brookline, and they will be followed later by Mr. Heins.

At the meeting of the A. A. M. I. T. last Wednesday evening, the question of the reconstruction of the Association was again discussed. The authorities of the Art Museum having granted the Association the use of a room in their building next winter, it is proposed to reorganize upon a broader basis under the name of the “Architectural Association of Boston,” and to ask the Boston Society of Architects to cooperate by occupying the same room; while some of its members will deliver courses of lectures from time to time throughout the winter. Among the various motions of the evening was one to pass around the hat, in order to collect sufficient funds with which to furnish the new quarters. This was unanimously adopted, and some thirty dollars collected on the spot. Mr. Andrews also read a favorable report from the committee appointed at the dinner last fall to look into the matter of establishing an Association Sketch Book. This was unanimously adopted, after which the meeting adjourned.