To hear him speak of his great idea was to realize something of the divine right of science. When the philosophical development of American thought shall have reached the stage of retrospect, he will be canonized as one of the pioneers of the scientific method. At present probably less than ten per cent of the intellectual leaders of the United States have reached the moral turning-point which Professor Rogers long ago passed; nor is it easy for those who have never experienced this new philosophic birth to realize the vigor and freedom which it confers. Most men go through life tramelled by ideas acquired by heredity or accepted without examination. Diseases of the intellect are as common and as hindering as diseases of the body; nor shall we ever come into our rightful inheritance until we have sloughed the metaphysical skin with which most of us are born.

Prof. William B. Rogers was the man to whom above all others New England will owe whatever pre-eminence she may hereafter attain in the useful arts, who strove all his life to set them and those proficient in them in their proper place as the peers of the humanities and of their students, of the professions and of those trained to them, and who succeeded in his aim, and placed the institution which he founded in the same rank with the colleges, its graduates on an equality with their students. To have done this is to have performed a service so great, so widespread in its results, so corrective of many abuses, social and personal, that he who effected it could hardly receive too much honor from his countrymen of every class and condition.

Prof. Rogers added to his extraordinary scientific attainments a personality which, by its integrity, earnestness, simplicity, and warm-heartedness, attracted and developed all that is best and noblest in all with whom he was brought in contact. The dignity which he had was the result of a pure and noble character, sunny and all-embracing in its affections; and no one ever went to him in perplexity, or in quest of knowledge, without receiving a cordial and kindly greeting. His scholarship and attainments commanded respect, but his frank, winning, and genial manner compelled affection,—and that is the higher tribute. As a zealous promoter of scientific education among the industrial classes, he had no superior; his writings have enriched the pages of all the leading scientific periodicals in Europe and America.

Contrary to the statements made in the daily papers, the cause of Prof. Rogers's death, as revealed by a post-mortem examination, was heart disease, and it is certain that death took place instantaneously and with no suffering whatever.

The portrait and a condensed sketch of the life of Prof. Rogers is contained in No. 4 of Vol. I. of The Tech, on sale at A. Williams’s book-store.

An exceedingly interesting account of the first public appearance of Prof. Rogers in New England, is given in the Boston Sunday Herald for June 4.

Harvard College conferred the degree of LL. D. upon Prof. Rogers in 1886.

BOARD OF EDITORS, 1882 83.

Harvey S. Chase, '83, Editor in Chief.

Associate Editors.


C. M. Wilder, '85, General Advertising Agent.

The very gratifying success of The Tech during the past year has been, in a great measure, due to the ability, the energy, and the untiring exertions of its editor in chief, Mr. Walker: he has always identified himself with, and has worked for, the best interests of the school, and has been considered by every one as "the right man in the right place." Now that he has been obliged to leave us, he may feel sure that he is attended by the best wishes of the entire school, and that he will long be remembered.

Mr. Walker was in all of his labors very ably seconded by Mr. Chase; and in appointing this gentleman as Mr. Walker's successor, the Directors feel confident that with his experience and the competent associate editors already named, the success of The Tech for the coming year, from a literary standpoint, is assured. The financial outlook of The Tech is also very bright, owing partly to the experience of some of those who have this matter in charge, and partly to the fact that certain expenses were incidental to starting the paper.

Although little of a positive nature has as yet been done, yet it will doubtless be of interest to our subscribers to mention a few of the principal changes proposed in their interests: A committee has been appointed to obtain estimates of the cost of twenty pages of the same size as herebefore; the system of delivery is to be improved; our exchange list will include all of the leading periodicals, and they will be so arranged as to be readily accessible to all; prizes will be offered for the best contributions and for the best cartoons. If possible, more convenient and more easily accessible quarters will be obtained for The Tech.

The government of the Institute have been very much pleased with The Tech, and have signified a desire to help us by contributing articles on the benefactors of the