Department Notes.

The Seniors have almost finished the sketch problem of a memorial fountain, and a new one has been given out. It is a design for a small private museum situated within the park of the owner. The rendering is to be done in monotone, as there will not be time to finish it elaborately before vacation. The thesis work has been assigned to the Senior architects.

The third-year men are at work upon their first problem in designing a porch for a city house, upon which every class has, so far, exercised its inventive faculties.

The bowling alley recently started in the architectural drawing-room will be closed on and after Jan. 1, 1883, as the receipts were not enough to pay for the damages to the furniture, etc.

The theatre in the Architectural Library will reopen on the 1st of February, with the following attractions: The O'Reilly Brothers will be present and introduce several new songs and dances; and the orchestra, under the guidance of a famous Orangeman, will play the accompaniments in their usual charming manner. We have also secured the assistance of "Bend off," the famous scout from Omaha, who will give a specimen of the true Indian war-whoop and show his skill in throwing the tomahawk. Performance to begin promptly at 3 P.M. Come early and avoid the rush!

Mr. Wilcutt did his cupelling last week.

The miners are advised to read the article on "Hydraulic Mining" in the January number of The Century.

Mr. Tompkins has spent the past week in leaching his zinc ore with sulphuric acid, and evaporating the product to a pulp.

The room where the lectures in geology and mining are held was transformed into a sleeping apartment during Mr. Wilcutt's night runs.

The miners of '83 have just found out that those who have not finished their proof analysis by the end of this term will be conditioned in chemical work. If this rule is carried into effect, most of them will begin the second term with a condition.

Σ. M. E. is talking of another excursion.

The fourth-year students in mechanics have visited the Watertown testing machine.

Three of the principal iron and steel works in New England are introducing the Jarvis system in their puddling and heating furnaces.

The courses in civil and mechanical engineering at the University of Tokio, Japan, are almost identical with the corresponding courses at the M. I. T.

In the last issue of the American Machinist, Mr. W. A. Hammett replies to the criticisms that have been published concerning his table for computing indicated horse-powers.

A writer in the Mechanical World gives the proper speed for the teeth of circular saws at 6,000 to 10,000 feet per minute, according to the nature of the wood operated upon.

We are told that the mechanical engineering department is to receive the handsome gift of a pair of Brown indicators. They will be very welcome and will supply a "long-felt want."

Our M. E.'s will look upon the new building (when there is enough of it to look upon) with their "fire eye"; and if it is not constructed in the most approved manner sharp criticisms may be expected.

It is an important feature of the Brush storage system as now perfected that the battery can be charged from the same wire used in furnishing arc lights. The company, it is said, will supply the batteries with the Swan lamps at about the price of gas. Col. William E. Barrows, president of the Willimantic Linen Company, the first large concern in New England to make use of the electric light, was so much impressed with the success of the battery that he ordered one for use in his works.—Commercial Bulletin.