its physics have been very carefully worked up, and especially because it is a very simple organism. Then comes the study of a simple animal, then of moulds, stoneworts, mosses and ferns, clams, starfishes, earthworms, and frogs; a flowering plant, a bird and a rat, and finally of the embryology of an incubating egg, or of its contained chicken, with which the year's work closes. Afterwards, some special subject in biology, as botany, animal physiology, zoology, or embryology, is pursued, according to the taste of the worker.

And the use of all this? Well, biologists are often considered to be visionary, to be chasing some phantom or other, but great minds like Aristotle's have been busy, from his day to Darwin's, and to this,—and have not been ashamed of it,—in chasing the same "phantom." The human breast craves an answer to this great question. How is it that we live, move, and have our being? This alone is a mystery which has been deemed worthy of the noblest steel. But this is not all. To the physician whose heart sinks as he feels his coming defeat in the waning pulse-beat; to the friend whose hope sets with the drooping head; to the officers of the public health, and to many more, biology is more than a phantom. In the germ theory of disease, developed jointly by chemists and biologists, we have a clew to the causes of disease. In disturbed nutrition of the cells of living things we have probably the key itself.

It is for reasons like the foregoing that the faculty of this institution have lately provided a new course (VII-B3) preparatory to the professional study of medicine. It is made to include chiefly physics, chemistry, and biology, and of the latter subject especially, animal physiology. This is a young but very thriving science, much cultivated in Germany, where it has had its birth and best development. The biological laboratory of the Institute will be furnished, therefore, not only with microscopes and other tools for work in general biology, but also with kymographs, myographs, tambours, and other physiological instruments of precision for the study of muscle and nerve, of blood pressure, and of digestion and secretion. In this way it is hoped to send out the student intending to study medicine fully equipped for his work and trained both in mind and hand.

The time is going by and will very soon have gone, when one may enter the medical school fresh from the farm or the factory. He should rather bring to the study of disease familiarity with healthy living things; a hand accustomed to the scalpel and the micrometer; an eye used to the study of cell-life; and a mind stored with the principles of physics, chemistry, and biology. That he may do this will be the endeavor of those who will have his interests in this institution and in the future most at heart.

W. T. S.

Current Littérature.

Which might have come from our exchanges.

A "TECH" MEETING REPORTED AFTER THE STYLE OF ONE OF OUR E. C'S.

"The most infernal piece of foolishness I ever heard of," remarked Chubbins as he took a fresh bite off the editorial tobacco. "The idea of having a co-ed. on the board."

The professional poet, who had just come in from the Chapel, brushed the free-lunch cracker crumbs from his sleeve and mildly insisted that he didn't think it was half bad. "That may be," said Chubbins, "but I for one don't want any girls round. Before we knew it they'd have us all swear off on smoking and be publishing a column of Golden Thoughts.'"

At this point the office boy came in, and after having been sent out to wipe his feet, returned with the announcement that the printer's collector was waiting outside.

"Well, let him wait," snarled the managing editor, as he caromed into the waste basket, while the P. P.* heaved a sigh which spoke of the oblivion of inspiration. "How are we going to pay him and have a supper at the same time? Tell him to come again during office hours, when he will be sure to find us out."

The painful silence which followed the departure of the office boy was broken by the

* Professional poet.