THE TECH.

Was it the whip that broke the silence with its sharp clang? or was it merely the suction pump that the plumber had inadvertently left on the hydrant?

No, it was not. As Corisande Arabella Philina gurgled a kiss upon his mossy lip her cheek paled, grew hollow at a sudden loss, a dark mass shot forward beyond the dasher, a dull thud was heard upon the icy pavement, — a crash, a moan, and all was still.

As the first gleams of the rising sun gilded the State House dome, they showed two lifeless figures, beautiful in the midst of the wreck about them, — dead in her gum, — her chewing-gum.

The First Institute of Technology.

As the tendency of recent times has been towards the foundation of scientific schools and institutes of technology, perhaps it will be interesting to look back and see what was the first institution of this kind. This was the Royal Institution of Great Britain, founded by Count Rumford, — one of the most eminent scientists that this country has produced, and one to whom it has done too little honor. Count Rumford's researches had been largely of a practical and technical nature, and in the last part of the last century the idea occurred to him to establish an institution for the diffusion of this kind of knowledge, the outcome of which was the Royal Institution of Great Britain. The conception was entirely original to Rumford, and therefore the credit of founding the first institute of technology belongs to an American.

The purpose of the Institution, in Rumford's words, was "to spread the knowledge of all new and useful inventions, and to teach the application of science to the useful purposes of life." It was to be a repository for models of all kinds of mechanical inventions, and instruction in physics and chemistry was to be given by lectures and a laboratory, which was one of the finest of its time. The funds for the support of the Institution were raised by subscriptions from the members and from fees from those who attended the lectures. The government was intrusted to a board of nine managers elected by the proprietors.

The Institution received its charter in January, 1800, and opened a few months later. Since that time it has been the means of bringing forward many eminent scientists. It was here that Sir Humphrey Davy — who was assistant professor of chemistry and director of the laboratory — won many of his distinctions. Here Faraday received his first instruction in science, and here Dr. Wollaston carried on his experiments in galvanism.

After manageing the affairs of the Institution for a few months, Rumford quarrelled with some of the directors, and soon abandoned the scheme altogether. Faraday was for thirty-eight years a lecturer there, and to him a large amount of its success was due.

What town in Connecticut reminds you of the Jewish lawgiver? Why Middletown of course. Leave off the -iddletown and add -oses and you have Moses.