elling suspended from the connecting cable. It should be remembered, however, that the lifeboat is first resorted to unless the violence of the sea or the distance from the station forbids, and in any case if the wreck lies very far from shore. When, as is usually the case, the wreck lies within four hundred yards of the shore, the former method is quite practicable. The projectiles have been fired upwards of six hundred yards, but the limit is soon reached, as it is hard to combine in the line used the necessary lightness, non-resistance, and strength. Any material in the least degree rigid, as fine wire, is quite inapplicable. The mortar used is of composition metal, weighing with all appendances one hundred and eighty-five pounds, and takes its name from Capt. Lyle, its inventor. Its construction and that of the projectile, even the arrangement of the line in loops or fakes, all embody the results of careful study and experiment. The life boats used are much lighter and less expensive than the English, and are more easily transported wherever needed.

At the conclusion of the address, to which so brief a summary does scant justice, a few items of interest were added by Capt. Sparrow, the superintendent of this district.

The Tech's Predecessor.

A n old copy of The Spectrum recently fell into our hands, and as, doubtless, there are many at the Institute who do not know that The Tech had a predecessor, some remarks and extracts from the above-mentioned paper may be interesting.

To take The Tech as a standard of comparison, the first radical difference between the papers appears in the fact that while our predecessor appropriated, at least in name, the whole of the Spectrum, The Tech is content, so far as outward appearances go, with something approaching the red and violet in the two ends thereof.

According to its prospectus, The Spectrum was an eight-page paper published every alternate week of the term by the students of the Institute. The price was one dollar for the term, and single copies were sold at fifteen cents each. The issue in question bears date Feb 28, 1874, when the paper was about to commence its third volume. Its table of contents shows the matter to be of a much more serious character than The Tech would dare present to its readers. An editorial, however, sets forth the difficulty of editing the paper so forcibly, and it applies so well to the condition of The Tech to-day that we copy it in part, as follows:—

“Our trouble, heretofore, has been the lack of interest and spirit that has been shown by the majority of students in regard to contributions. How, then, shall we meet the difficulty? Evidently the only way to get their co-operation is to publish a paper in which there shall be matters of interest to every individual. Another difficulty that has been in the way of the prosperity of The Spectrum is the erroneous idea that it is, and was originally intended to be, a class organ, edited and contributed to only by men in that class. We have sought to overcome this difficulty by making a change in the editorial board. This body formerly consisted of men belonging to one class; it now represents two, the Sophomore and Junior. These are the changes which have been thought advisable, and every student ought now to feel that The Spectrum is a thing in which he has a personal interest, an interest which it is his duty to show by some substantial work in its behalf. We want especially to impress upon the minds of fellow students that The Spectrum is and shall be the medium through which their ideas may be freely expressed on subjects of interest, and that their failure to take advantage of the opportunity will lead us to feel that they are not alive to their own interests.”

Just how long The Spectrum lived we are unable to say, but we can draw a lesson from its early decease and urge all our readers to act upon the above suggestions if they would make The Tech a permanent success.

Recollection is the only paradise from which we cannot be turned out.