and it is Destined to command the Notice of the Press and Educated World — genius and Logic will Tell like the Sun over 1500 000 000 people in Europe, Asia Africa and America. increase of population 500 000 000 people in the last 100 years. Over 3000 languages spoken in the world; the English Language is spreading with Great Rapidity. The Soil and Mind of man are not one millionth part developed into axioms and Maxioms!

DANIEL PRATT
The Great American Traveller.

Communication.

[The Editors do not hold themselves responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TECH: — In a recent number of The Tech appeared an article advocating the extension of the course at the Institute to six years. While coinciding with the sentiments inspiring this article, the writer wishes to disagree with this proposal.

The work done at the Institute is too severe. For a student pursuing his studies faithfully, the mental strain approaches, perhaps exceeds, the intellectual elastic limit. To reduce the high standard of resultant excellence is a remedy which will find no favor among the alumni, although to many a mind a long step in this direction was taken when Prof. Howison severed connection with the school.

Of the more recent changes in the engineering departments, it is a pleasure to say that they meet the approval of the large majority of the graduates.

It is an easy solution of the difficulty to say the course should be extended; but we must consider that this step will necessarily increase, almost proportionately, the expense to be incurred by the student. Unfortunately, to a great number of the patrons of the Institute, the annual budget is an element inspiring most rigid calculation, and an increase of twenty-five per cent in the outlay would cause the relinquishment of the scheme of education by a class of persons among whom will always be found the best students of the Institute.

The scheme which the writer would propose is that which has always been the idea of the corporation, — to exalt the requirements necessary for admittance.

Ten years ago, — and the conditions have changed little since, — a boy of fifteen who had faithfully pursued his studies in the public schools and who had only partially completed his high-school course, was fitted, — we will not say for the Institute, — but to pass its entrance examinations and could have studied for three years Latin or Greek.

How soon the same boy could have been fitted by the narrow and mistaken method of preparatory schools the writer does not venture to estimate; but he will assert, — and in the opinion is sustained by every graduate with whom he ever conversed, — that no boy at the age of fifteen or sixteen is fitted physically or intellectually for that philosophical, mathematical, imaginative, and speculative hothouse known as the Institute of Technology.

The studies at the Institute should begin where our public free schools stop. These schools, it is true, give as a rule only a superficial knowledge of the many subjects they pretend to teach, but every student knows that the most elementary knowledge of a subject taken up at the Institute is the saving condition which oftentimes determines his success. For this reason the writer would advocate an examination on German, trigonometry, physics, astronomy, physiology, zoology, botany, geology, chemistry, and physical geography.

Proficiency in any seven of these might make up for ignorance of the remainder, as the extra knowledge possessed would allow some spare time on one subject which could be devoted to those in which a deficiency existed.

It is almost a safe assertion to make that, of those graduating from the Institute with a creditable record, eighty per cent come to the school possessing the knowledge embraced in the above specifications, and that this knowledge was an important factor in their success. If