our future practice, and on which largely depends our future success, can be acquired with a minimum of expense and labor, and with a much greater degree of thoroughness, at an institution especially fitted for this purpose, than in any ordinary practice. This basis gained, if there is any inclination to continue in the chosen subject, the best method is to secure, as soon as possible, a position in which an opportunity for study and observation is given. The most favorable opening for the graduate or special is not always that which at first offers the largest compensation.

The knowledge gained at the Institute is somewhat similar to the framework of a building, which, though the most essential part, needs something more to make it useful. If one is in earnest in his chosen profession, and has ambition, the best thing to do is to find a position which, while it does not, perhaps, afford him a very liberal allowance, gives him a chance to learn, by actual experience and observation, what he lacks. Add to this, patience, perseverance, thoroughness, and supplementary study and inquiry, for scientific knowledge is always on the advance, and the life of a professional man must be one of continual study and observation, and these will, sooner or later, surely produce the desired end.

**President Walker’s** report, recently published, gives an encouraging statement of the condition of the Institute at the present time, and, by many suggestive tables and comparisons, sketches its rise from small beginnings. Not only is the number of students nearly one third larger than last year, representing a larger geographical territory, but the examinations for admission have shown a marked improvement in the preparation of candidates, due to a better understanding of the requirements for entering, and a better method of teaching them in preparatory schools.

The presence of thirty-three students from eleven Southern States is especially noticed, as indicating the future increased development of Southern industries. Many interesting facts are shown in the tables of the number of instructors and students at the Institute now and in years past, and the different lines of work adopted. The improvements in the mining and metallurgical laboratories are described, together with those in other directions, which, though small compared with the enormous changes of the previous year, result beneficially.

The report closes with an appeal for additional endowments which shall place the Institute of Technology on an assured basis, providing against financial embarrassments; reducing the large tuition fee and the dangerously large proportion (now five sixths) which the revenue from this source bears to the entire income of the Institute; establishing a number of greatly needed scholarships; permitting an increase in the compensation of the professors and other instructors, to correspond with the incomes of successful practitioners in scientific professions, or, at least, of professors and instructors in the leading classical colleges; and enabling future progressive demands of industrial education to be promptly and fully met, while permitting original research and investigation on the part of the corporation and Faculty.

The report will be read with interest, as it contains much valuable information condensed from the catalogue, together with a great deal not to be found there.

In the editorial on chemistry in the mining course, in No. 6, there was a mistake, which, if not corrected, might prove misleading to those not familiar with our chemical work. “The determinations, if not correct within three per cent, have to be repeated,” should have read, “If not correct within three tenths per cent.”

The next *Tech* will be published Wednesday, February 4. The editors hope that a goodly number of contributions on matters of general interest, scientific or literary, will be prepared during vacation.