cylinders, and the amount of water pumped and the distance through which it is raised determined, together with re-evaporation and other data.

In connection with the experiments mentioned, and with others under consideration, which will be prepared in due time, the testing machines of the applied mechanics' laboratory are used; these are a 50,000 lbs. Olsen machine, for small specimens of leather, iron and other materials, and in which experiments on the qualities of springs will be made; and a machine for large pieces, such as beams and floors.

The Institute has received a considerable amount of cotton machinery, in the use of which the fourth-year class will receive instruction.

In December two ten-hour tests were made on the boilers in Rogers Building, furnishing steam to the Porter-Allen engine, and their evaporative power, under the conditions existing at the time, calculated. Later in the present term another test will be made, which will include calorimetric work, and there will be a test of the boilers in Rogers Building, furnishing steam to the Porter-Allen engine, and their evaporation and other data.

The variety of subjects investigated in the mechanical engineering laboratory, and the fact that the greater part of them are not undertaken until the fourth year, show the importance of this work and the closeness of connection between it and the studies of the department. It is difficult for any one to whom experience of this kind is an every-day affair, to realize the advantage derived from it, in carefulness of observation and accuracy of methods, as well as in practical scientific knowledge.

In order that the social hop to be given by the Glee Club soon after Easter may be a greater success, socially and financially, it has been deemed advisable to enlarge the list of associate members. As one concert has already been given, new members will be admitted for the remainder of the year for $1.50. Tickets can be obtained of Mr. T. A. Fox, architect, secretary of the club.

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A Triplet of Letters.

NO. 407 — TH AVENUE, NEW YORK,

Feb. 16, 1885.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TECH:

Dear Sir,—My sister rashly sent me upstairs the other day to look in her bureau drawer for a package of bills. In my search I opened by mistake a bundle of letters, and, my attention being attracted by an allusion in one to your institution (from which I graduated two years ago), I absent-mindedly read it and some others, and finally took the liberty of purloining the enclosed three, and sending them to you for the benefit of your readers. I expect my sister will be "madder than mad" if she ever finds it out, but I was once on THE TECH board myself, and so feel for you, and only stipulate that all last names shall be changed or left blank.

Yours fraternally,

'83.

DEAR CLARA:

I suppose you are wondering why I have not written to you before, as I promised; but you see, it has taken me some time to arrange my room, take out and hang up all my dresses to my satisfaction, and get generally settled; and then Cousin Lottie and her husband seemed to think at first that if they didn't make special efforts to amuse me, I shouldn't have a bit of a good time, so they took me to all sorts of things, operas, concerts, receptions, sociables, and so on, in quick succession (as they say in novels), and it was more than a week before I managed to make them understand that that was just what I had come to Boston to escape, because I know so few people here, and wanted to have one real nice lazy time without having to wait until Lent for it. I think they were quite glad on their own account to find out the true state of the case, because they are about the steadiest young married couple I ever saw, and—at least so I imagine—had not been into society much lately, until my unexpected acceptance of Lottie's kind invitation called upon them, as they thought, for a new departure. Well, now it is all understood, and unless some of the gentlemen to whom I have been introduced come calling (and I hardly think any will, for all the people in good society here seem to me to be an awfully unsocial set), I shall be free to settle down to my projected existence of practising, reading, and fancy work. By the way, it was so nice of you to send me that pretty pattern I asked you for, when I had neglected you so shamefully; I am going to begin on it right away.

I must tell you about an aggravating little incident that happened the other day. You know my room is at the back of the house, and there is nothing but the lengths of two back yards, with the width of the enclosed alley way, between my windows and those in the opposite block. Well, I have sometimes seen a rather nice-looking young man seated in the window directly opposite mine, and generally either reading or