THE idea of getting our orchestra to play for the Glee Club party, which occurs this month, seems to be well received by a number of students. The most important objections to this plan are that it is doubtful if the repertoire of the orchestra is sufficiently large, and that although most of the players do not dance, and so would feel no deprivation in not indulging in that amusement, yet four hours' steady playing is a severe tax on amateur musicians. On the other hand, certain members of the orchestra express confidence both in their musical resources and physical endurance. The students who have noted the evenness of their rendering of "Les Sourires" naturally feel inspired at the thought of whirling to the strains of fellow classmates, while undoubtedly, if the performance should be successfully carried out, it would constitute a unique and original feature, most gratifying to the Techs and creditable to their college. At all events, the matter is worthy of the consideration of the committee in charge.

WITH three more issues The Tech closes Vol. IV. As a majority of the editors will retire at the end of the year, there will be a large number of vacancies on the board to be filled. As yet we have not received enough contributions to enable us to select the men to fill the vacant positions. The Freshman and Sophomore classes are especially invited to hand in contributions, not only of long articles, but also of "locals," "clippings," and items of college news. Local items about class and society news are especially solicited, and these will be held as the best standard to judge of a man's editorial ability.

IN another column will be found a communication in regard to the presence of wine on the tables at class dinners and similar Institute affairs. Although this is a subject which is usually considerably debated during arrangements for these affairs, the majority of Institute students seem opposed to the presence of wine at their public tables. If this opinion is held by the greater part of any class, and is expressed in resolutions, passed by a majority of all interested members, prohibiting the use of wines on such occasions, then those resolutions should be adhered to and enforced, and no exceptions allowed to set at naught the wish of the majority, as is too often done.

SEVERAL contributions have been received by the editors, unaccompanied by the name of the writer. Care should always be taken to avoid this omission, as it is in all cases an annoyance, and may prevent the publication of an article or a drawing.

Water Supply in the Desert.

An engineering problem of no little interest is about to be solved in connection with the construction of the railroad between Suakim and Berber. The problem is nothing more nor less than to provide an ample supply of water along a desert route from a terminal point, for the use of the workmen engaged in the construction of the railroad, and for the troops which will be needed as a guard, and also to provide for the permanent working of the road. The means which will be employed are similar to those by which petroleum is pumped from the Pennsylvania fields to the seaboard. Two four-inch pipes will be run over the entire distance (two hundred and sixty miles), on the surface of the ground, in a zigzag line, and left free to move under the influence of expansion and contraction. Every thirty miles or so will be a tank and two pumping engines, with a capacity for forcing water along at a pressure of 2,000 pounds to the square inch.

The contract for these engines has been awarded to the Worthington Pumping Engine Company of New York, who have agreed to deliver the engines in London thirty days from the time of the order. The pipes to be laid may be furnished by English firms, but there is a possibility that American works may also be called upon, owing to our facilities for making pipe of the character required to stand the enormous