The Tech.


THE TECH.
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Aving, at the Institute, no large independent library, we cannot, like some of our exchanges, boast in this respect. Nevertheless, it is doubtful if many colleges enjoy such unexcelled library facilities as we. The books of the Boston Public Library, numbering 430,000 volumes, are at the disposal of all students of the Institute, and when located in their new building, which is to be hardly more than a stone's throw from our principal buildings, will be most convenient of access. In addition, the Boston Society of Natural History grants to our students the full use of its valuable library.

Of the most value to us, however, are the various department libraries located at the Institute. Placed, as they are, directly in the reading-room of each department, their use is much increased by their proximity. These department libraries are of the greatest value to students, and though small in numbers, consist of the most important publications relating to the respective departments. The general library in Room 3, Rogers, numbers about 1,500 volumes, and is under charge of Prof. Atkinson, to whom we are indebted for these figures. In the Chemical library there are 500 volumes; in the Civil Engineering, 400; in the Physical, 670, which is especially full in works relating to electricity; the Architectural, about 500 volumes; the Rogers library, 675 volumes; the Mechanical Engineering and Biological, 200; the Mining, 350. The last has recently been increased by the addition of many new books, and is now a most valuable library, comprising as it does all of the important American works on metallurgy, besides many in French and German; in all, there are about 5,000 books in these libraries, and this number is constantly increasing. As working libraries their value cannot be overestimated.

The recent suspension of the Junior class by the professors in the quantitative chemical laboratory appears to us to be unwise, unjust, and unnecessary.

The indirect cause for this action was the alleged general disorder which has been shown by the class in the laboratory for some time past; the immediate cause was an occurrence too trivial to be recorded here, and it is this which lends a certain amount of ridiculousness to the whole affair.

There, undoubtedly, have been misdemeanors committed by the class while in the laboratory, and we do not wish to attempt to excuse these; but it is perfectly safe to say that they have all been committed by less than a half-dozen men. Yet no attempt has been made by the authorities in the laboratory to single out and punish