HE Tech offers its sincerest congratulations to those who have successfully passed the semi-terms, and extends its sympathy to all those who got stuck.

To one and all we would say, we are glad to see you again, and wish you success in your endeavors to keep all those good resolutions which we are sure you have made; for who does not make good resolutions at the beginning of the new term? Every one starts in with the avowed purpose of keeping up in everything; but how long does this last with most of us? A few of us perhaps do, but the majority soon fall into their old habits again, and have to work hard for several weeks before the examinations in order to catch up again. But all this has been discussed before, and was not what we started out to say now. Therefore, asking your pardon for bringing up this subject again, we will proceed to business.

As is known to most of the upper-classmen, if not to the Freshmen, there are three vacancies yet to be filled on THE Tech editorial board, one of which belongs to the Freshman class. We have been encouraged by a few contributions from the Freshmen, but have not yet received enough to justify the election of any one. The upper-classmen have shown no interest at all, and there is no competition for places on the board. We trust that this will soon be remedied, and that our complaints in this direction will be stilled. The students should remember that the present board cannot last forever, and that when they have gone, there will be none to fill their places, if more enthusiasm is not shown.

It is generally acknowledged that while examinations are not to be desired, they are, at least at present, a necessary evil. But so long as there has got to be this evil, should not the professors endeavor to make it less, by stating the questions in plain, straightforward English, so that every one could see at once what answer is desired, and could at once assure himself whether he knew the answer or not. Would not this be much better than endeavoring, as some of the professors have done, to shroud the questions in such a mystery of involved sentences and grammatical peculiarities, that the poor student not only cannot answer the question satisfactorily to himself, but even does not know whether he is answering what the professor wished him to answer. It certainly does not appear fair to us that a man should have to work both on the answer to a question and on the exact meaning of the question itself besides. It certainly is not the kind of treatment he will meet with in after life, for then all questions will be of a most practical nature. Why some of our professors will therefore continue to write examination-papers which are of this vague, nature is incomprehensi-