ble to us. And this vagueness is not the result of their inability to write good English, though it certainly at times would appear so. In a certain examination of the last semies was a question so involved in relative clauses, parenthetical sentences, and vague adjectives, that it took the full intellect of the professor himself to see what he really did mean. That his intention was to write a question nobody could exactly understand, was evident, as he was heard asking one poor unfortunate if he grasped the exact meaning of the question; and upon receiving a negative answer, appeared as much pleased as the unfortunate student would have been if told that he had received an H in a study.

This is not exactly the kind of treatment we have been led to expect that we would receive from our professors, who are pictured as always most ready and willing to assist us in our studies. It would seem that such a course would tend to revive the old "natural enemies" doctrine between professor and student, and thus cause a break in that harmony of which we are so proud here at the Institute.

The rapid growth of Boston around and about the Institute offers many subjects for investigation, presenting as it does so many chances as to speculation concerning the future.

The Rogers Building, when completed, in 1866, stood alone in its grandeur, being practically outside the city proper. The last twenty years has made wonderful changes, the Institute now being surrounded by the principal public and private buildings in the city, and occupying the most desirable situation for the purpose that could be obtained. We are so accustomed to these advantages that we fail to appreciate them all.

Now, there seems to be a feeling, and perhaps a substantiated one, that this part of the city will eventually be given up to trade. Inroads are already being made, and the "Back Bay" dwellers are moving farther away, in consequence. If twenty years has wrought such a change in our surroundings, what may another twenty years effect? You may think that this is of no consequence to you, but the future welfare of an institution where you spend four years of your life, should have some interest.

There is no doubt but that the change of our present surroundings to a busy mercantile center, would involve many disasters to the Tech. The noise and confusion, the greater distance from dwellings, etc., all would be objectionable, while there would seem to be no advantages incurred to offset them. As we have a perpetual grant of the square we occupy we should have some privacy,—about twenty feet,—but not enough to serve the required purpose.

Another question which comes up in connection with the discussion is perhaps more serious. If the Institute itself has grown to twice its original size, and is still increasing, where can it spread to? No more buildings can be erected on the present lot, and with the growth of the city the number of vacant spaces in the vicinity will be less. It would be decidedly objectionable to have the Institute split, so as to have a considerable distance between any of its structures. Any scattering should be avoided, if possible. It may happen in the future that we will have to pull up stakes and make an entirely new settlement. It is impossible to embody in one the advantages of country colleges with their abundant room, and city colleges with their peculiar benefits. We shall have to make the most of the many superiorities which we possess, and thus counterbalance our inconveniences.

In its last number The Tech spoke about the mysterious marking system in vogue at the Institute. It is just at this time that every one would most like to know what his actual per cent in everything is, and also his standing in his recitations, apart from that of his examinations.