HILE at the recent Intercollegiate Press dinner, it was with feelings of envy that the Tech editors listened to what most of the other college editors had to say. It seemed to be an almost universal opinion that the greatest boredom of college journalism, was the reading over of contributions and pronouncing on their merits, because the contributions were so numerous and competition for places on the editorial board ran so high.

We could not refrain from expressing the wish that we might be bothered a little that way. So far from having been a bore, it has been the greatest pleasure to us to read over the few contributions we have received this year, even those which we found impossible for us to make use of.

And the question came up in our minds as to why this thing is so? Why is there not more literary enthusiasm shown? It would seem that an institution the size of the M.I.T., ought to contain as much literary material as a college the size of Amherst, Williams, or Tufts, none of whom have more than half as many men on their class-rolls. To be sure, it may be said that these three places named, are colleges where there would naturally be a greater tendency to studies bearing on literature, than at a technical school like the M.I.T., where everything tends toward specialties in different professions, and where the time is too limited to permit of anything but strictly professional studies being included in the course. But we would say in reply to this, that there are plenty of scientific men whose writings and books are world renowned. And it is likely that these men would have been able to write in a fluent manner, and describe facts so that any one who reads may enjoy, if they had spent their youth in close professional study, without any literary relaxation? We do not believe that it is. There may be distinguished scientists who have gained renown from their writings, who have not paid any attention to the cultivation of their literary abilities; but if there are, they must be the exception, and not the rule.

Therefore, it is for this very reason, as necessarily so small an amount of time is spent at the Institute in learning how to write and express one's self clearly and fluently, that we should think fellows would be glad to take the opportunity to try and improve themselves in this direction, by writing something for the Tech.

It was only the other day that one of the professors of chemistry, in speaking to a Tech editor about the practice of writing up notes on all analyses made, said that one of the principal ideas in making the fellows do this, was to teach