from this system of note-taking, or not, is a question which we are not prepared to assert any positive opinion about, as our own ideas are not fully made up on this point. It has often occurred to us that a man must lose a great deal of a lecture while writing notes, because, unless he is proficient in short-hand, it is impossible for him to keep up with the lecturer, and he will thus be continually writing about one thing, while the lecturer is talking about another. Thus his notes must be necessarily of an intermittent sort of character, and it is a question whether his knowledge of the subject is not the same; for certainly no man can do thoroughly two such things at once, as writing about one thing and listening to another. But then it may be said, and perhaps truly, that what he does get down in his note-book, makes him have a more thorough knowledge of the subject than he otherwise would. This is undoubtedly the case when a man is taking notes for his own perusal only, but it is not about this kind of note-taking we are speaking. When a man is taking notes for the professor to look over, his aim is to get as large and good looking a note-book as possible; for it is pretty certain that no professor will go carefully through a whole class's note-books, and derive his opinion of their excellence on the thoughts expressed there alone. He cannot fail to be favorably affected by a note-book which is written up in good handwriting and copiously illustrated; at least, it would seem so to us. And here comes up the question, Is not a thorough knowledge of the subject sacrificed to a mere mechanical excellence, which entails only a partial knowledge of the subject? As we have said before, we should not like to assert any opinion positively on the subject, but would like to hear it criticised by the students. Our columns are free and open to all. And also, that we may hear both sides of the question fairly and impartially discussed, we would esteem it a great favor if some of the professors would also write to us concerning this same subject. It is one which deeply interests us personally, and we should be very glad to hear more of it.

It has been finally decided that we are to have a nine this year. A great deal has been said in opposition to it, but at the meeting of the Base-Ball Association, Saturday, it was unanimously decided to put a team into the field. Most of the opposition is due to the fact that there is only such a short time for us to play in during the spring, and that the best part of this time is so near examination-time as to preclude any possibility of success. We think this is in a great measure true, and that the Institute can never be renowned for its ball nine. But we should be able to put a nine into the field that would do better than the teams of the last two years, who so distinguished themselves that they were called the Bijou team, in derision. We think it would be well, also, for the management to limit the expense as much as possible, and only play nines in the neighborhood of Boston. There is no reason, this year, why we should not put in a nine that would at least try to win a game. The half-hearted play of last year should not be tolerated again; and if the nine shows a disposition to repeat last year's tactics, they should be at once disbanded. We do not expect the team to win all, or even a majority, of the games they play; but we do want to see more earnestness in the players. With such players with us as Nichols and Smith, of the Harvard 'Varsity team of '86, and Clement and Ayer, of our own last year's team, we think we can reasonably expect this, and trust that we shall not be disappointed. And the students, too, should remember that the nine can do nothing without money, and so subscribe liberally to its support.

EDSR. JORDAN, '88, Robb, '88, and Finch, '90, have been elected members of the board of editors of THE TECH, and begin their duties, with the present number. They are a welcome addition to the board, which is even now smaller than it should be. We are pleased to say also, that since our last number we have received a few contributions.