HERE has been recently adopted at several colleges in this country a system of examinations which, it strikes us, is vastly superior to any other system we have heard of, and which, we feel sure, would be hailed with delight by Tech. students, and which at the same time would, we think, raise the standard of our marks. The idea of it is this: every student who has above a certain percentage in his term mark in a study, is excused from a final examination in it. It seems to us that this would be a great incentive for work, and also that a man would be working for something more than mere marks. Of course it may be said that we have no term marks in many of our studies, but we think that this could be easily got over. Why not have a system of short monthly examinations, which could easily form the basis of a term mark? The day of the examination might be announced beforehand, or not; but, in any case, this plan would have a great advantage over the examinations twice a year. It is the worry over the examinations which makes them so disliked, and not so much the fear that one will not pass. Even when one takes an examination which he is sure of passing, he does not take it with the same feelings with which he goes to a recitation, and he experiences a great relief when it is over. With the universal dislike of examinations, if there were only some way possible by which we could escape them, we feel sure that it would be eagerly seized on. Hence, if some such system as the one mentioned were adopted, we are certain that it would be found that every one would be studying harder, in order to escape the examinations, and hence the standard of the marks could not help being raised. As we are given to understand here, in many of our courses our term mark counts two thirds of the total mark, so that there would not have to be a very great change in the marking system in many studies. Of course there are a few courses which this system would not be applicable to, but that is no reason why the plan should be rejected. Exceptions could be made in those cases, and the rest of the courses might be marked according to this plan. We should like to see some such idea tried here at the Institute, if only in a few of our studies. Indeed, it might be well to try it on one or two studies to see how it worked, before finally adopting it.

THIS is a solemn time to many of our readers; for is it not in the midst of the semies? Already there have been examinations, and already that mysterious disease "exam. fever," which carries off so many light-hearted but idle Freshmen, especially, has begun its work. Its victims die to the Tech., but they are resurrected in a world where exams. are unknown. At these times how the aspect of things is changed. We go into the old familiar rooms of "R." or "N. B.,” where we have been a hundred times, yet how strange they appear. It is the innocent-looking sheets of paper scattered about on the desks and the strange instructors walking through the rooms. But we grasp the question papers and forget everything else—alas! too literally, oftentimes.

The Tech wishes success to every one of its readers in the semies. It hopes that all of its coupon-holders will get the highest marks possible under our glorious marking system, and that next term it will miss none of their kicks at The Tech office door demanding, "When will the next Tech be out?"

It is hard to say with just what success the winter indoor meeting of the Athletic Club came off. Compared with former games, those of Dec. 17, 1887, were quite satisfactory, but in the light of what they might have been, they cannot be considered so. Is it possible that in an institution of our size there are so few athletes willing or able to enter in these sports? Many of the events that might have been interesting were far from it, on account of the small number of competitors. It was only by the hardest sort of work that tug-of-war teams were entered from all the classes, so little competi-