INCE the beginning of the Institute, each class that has passed through its scientific halls has attempted to leave behind one or more enduring monuments to itself, in the shape of some well-established custom. Among many that are credited to the Class of '88, there is one which has received much less notice than it deserves. We refer to the class photograph album.

Last year, after much opposition, a tolerably complete album was made up, containing photographs of most of the men of '88, and left in the President’s room. The opposition was due, in a measure, to that natural antipathy for all that is new which has ever rendered hard the lot of the inventor; but it was against the intensely conservative spirit which characterizes every class in the Institute, and which was not lacking in '88, that the Album Committee had to struggle the hardest. The completion of the album, and the establishment of this custom, is due solely to the exertions of this committee.

We have taken occasion, thus early in the year, to speak of this, that last year’s difficulties may, by timely advice, be at least lessened. The conservative spirit which opposes itself so strenuously to all innovations may have some salutary effects; but would it not be for the better, if before deliberately condemning any new project, we should first consider its merits? In a class album there can certainly be nothing objectionable. The idea of each member of the graduating class leaving a likeness of himself in a place attainable by all, cannot be but pleasing.

Let '89 go and do likewise, and thereby do credit to herself, and to a custom worthy of her.