The ideal graduate undoubtedly should, for the sake of its effect upon his own moral nature and the editorial pocket-book, subscribe annually to The Tech. Practically, the average graduate declines to cumber his abode with so much paper, or pay two dollars for the yearly privilege of sifting two hundred and fifty pages of chaff to extract the (to him) relatively small amount of wheat; but the average graduate would, I believe, be very glad to pay a trifle for the sake of receiving regular news of his Alma Mater, in the shape of an annual bulletin of such events and changes as would especially interest him. Then let one out of every sixteen numbers of The Tech be published as an Alumni Number. In times past attempts have been made to get up an occasional Tech composed largely of contributions from former editors, W. R. Ingalls issuing a very successful one during the year of his management. Why not combine the two features? Every year, at such time as may give the editors the most leisure for its preparation, let a number be published containing such contributions from former editors and other alumni as may be obtainable, together with summaries of the work during the past year in athletics; number of games lost and won and league standing in foot-ball; ditto base-ball; standing of Institute records at the close of the last meeting, with names and classes of record holders; number of men in the whole Institute, in each class, in each society, in the cadet corps, and in the last torchlight parade. Let it contain notices of changes in the corps of instruction, and chronicle the introduction of new text-books and of new machinery, or important apparatus, notable alterations in the building as well as in the courses of instruction. Such a number might, with equal propriety, give the number of balls and hops held during the year under Tech. auspices, an index to the last volume of the Quarterly, the result of the presidential canvass of the students, the financial status of the Co-op, and a list of legacies received by the Institute since the year one. It would be well to add a list of M. I. T. publications during the year, such as appears piecemeal at present, and also (grouped by classes) a reprint of all such "Alumni Notes" as mentioned actual changes in address or occupation. All this, of course, would take room, and the purely statistical matter might conveniently be printed as a supplement, and stitched in at the back. It would not, however, take so much of the compilers' time as might at first seem, for a large part of the figures would be taken bodily from the Institute Catalogue or back Techs. Neither would it interfere appreciably with "Technique," since the names of students still at the Institute would hardly appear,—the constant aim being to give such outlines and figures as would best answer the question, "What is doing at the Tech.? and how does it compare now with what it was when I was there?"

To facilitate this, add a few sketchy accounts of events of special interest which have occurred during the year,—and we have a work which students and alumni alike will find worth both reading and preserving.

To introduce this to those for whom it is intended, let the annual prospectus of The Tech contain special reference to it, and the fact that a present or previous deposit of its retail price will insure its being mailed to the sender immediately on publication. Then supposing that, in consideration of the enlarged size, the price is raised to a quarter for that single number, and that for the next two or three years the prospectus be mailed to all graduates and to the later alumni: it seems to me eminently probable that the receipts from them would more than make good the loss on regular subscribers, especially after the Alumni Number had become an institution; but the financial side of the scheme is secondary, especially to a correspondent. I might, indeed, hint that a complete schedule of coming ball games, falling into the hands of a resident alumnus, would certainly not tend to decrease the gate receipts at such games; neither would a form of bequest in favor of our institution, delicately inserted at the foot of an obituary column, fail to remind the wealthy alumnus (if we ever have one) that "Life is short and cash is fleeting." When good authorities say that the chief qualification requisite nowadays for a college president is to be a good beggar, every aspiring student should try by cultivation to secure it. Yet the main object of such a publication as this would be to assist the maintenance of an interest in Alma Mater that would render begging unnecessary; and this end must, at least, command respect. If the writer has seemed over-sanguine, due allowance must be made for one sufficiently far removed from Boston culture—and Tech.—to feel strongly the need of some such publication as that proposed. Whether unthought-