The football season has been brought to an inglorious close two weeks before its time, by the decision of the Football Association that the remaining championship games be forfeited. Under the circumstances, with half the regular players disabled, it seems unreasonable to expect the team to keep the field, although leaving it meant the breaking of engagements with Dartmouth and Bowdoin. The series of defeats and misfortunes which, since the opening of the season, the eleven has had to struggle against, left it without backbone, and the loss of some of the best men was all that was needed to bring about its disbanding. Football seems to have fallen on evil days. The championship season has to be cut short like the game at Andover, for the reason that there are no men at hand in an emergency. For the past three years the beginning of each season has witnessed an effort to get together a championship team; the attempt has failed more completely each succeeding time. It is but a step further to the giving up of football, and with it all representation in the field of college athletics. The fault lies with the system that the Institute pursues; a system that sees no room for athletics as a means toward the object it is seeking to accomplish. What in other colleges receives favorable consideration, is here set aside as immaterial if it falls outside the lines which were originally laid down for the control of the Institute.

The Twentieth Century Club is a departure from what have been considered the traditions of the Institute. It has a purpose different from that of any club or organization in the colleges of this country. Nearly every institution of learning, from country academy to university, has its lyceum or athenæum, or debating society, or more ambitious union. The Twentieth Century Club at the Institute is more than a mere debating society; its object is deeper, and its scope wider. It aims to give to the students of the third and fourth year classes practice in argumentative composition and in off-hand debate, to cultivate their reasoning powers, and to accustom them to extempor speaking.

The addresses at the close of each meeting will be by some member of the Faculty, or by some master of the subject from outside the school. They will sum up the arguments pro and con, and give to the student, whose pressure of work deprives him of political, economical, and social reading, a clear, concise, and forcible idea of the latest thought upon the current topics discussed at the meetings.