The Twentieth Century Club.

The regular meeting of the Twentieth Century Club was held Monday afternoon, in 14 Rogers. President Ripley presided, and Tucker acted as Secretary in the absence of Meserve. The question was, "Resolved, That the State should Control Railroads." Messrs. C. B. Grimes and A. D. Koch spoke for the affirmative, and F. A. Walker and E. D. Walker for the negative. The principal pleas presented by these speakers were the good and bad points of European railroads where government control already exists. After a short open debate, Dr. Davis R. Dewey gave a general discussion of the subject. He started out by considering the classes of people who advocate the control of railroads by the State, and showed that they were either office seekers, or members of that pessimistic class of discontented people who are always eager for any change. He pointed out that the only government control that would be real, would be governmental ownership.

It is held that all corporations which operate only by franchise and other rights granted to them by the public, should be under government control, so that the unearned increment that comes to each company with time, would return to the people that have created it.

Others hold, that at present there is not enough competition between great corporations to induce them to give the best service at the lowest rates; while still others claim for governmental control, the great advantage of saving the waste caused by competition.

Then while those in favor of state control point out the political advantages to accrue from the abolishment of the great railroad lobbies in our legislatures, those opposed claim that the immense party patronage created by such an army of government employees would ruin our republic.

Doctor Dewey showed that it was fair to neither situation to institute comparisons between European practice in this regard and our own. Between here and there the economic conditions under which railroads are built and operated differ so widely, that neither can serve as an equitable criterion for the consideration of the other.

At the present time, under the existing political and business situations in this country, it would be unwise to introduce any great change such as the advocates of this system propose, but the agitation of the subject is timely, in that it tends to brace up the railroads, and, by an implied threat, the Civil Service; for were any such scheme to be carried out it could only be done under the strictest kind of Civil Service.

The question for the next meeting, which comes February 23d, will be, "Resolved, That the union of Canada with the United States is best for our country."

It is to be hoped that the meetings hereafter be more fully and openly advertised. Something better than a sheet of note paper should be posted to give notice of meetings in which so many take an interest.

The report of the Treasurer of Harvard University shows that the invested funds of the College amount to $7,121,854. The income available amounts to $370,054, and the expenditures to $364,483, the balance going towards paying former deficits.

On January 10th a cross-country run was held at Princeton, in which H. Hallock, '93, and T. B. Turner, '93, beat the college eight miles' record of 60 minutes, which was held by D. A. Norton, '93, and J. Roddy, '91. The time was 52 minutes, 30 seconds.

The Amherst College Athletic Board has decided that the baseball management must raise $1,500 before the beginning of the season, and advocates the election of assistant football and baseball managers from the Junior class. Last year's football team was the first in years that paid expenses.