WIFTLY approaches that season of peace and good cheer, when grind and sport alike may revel in blissful unconsciousness of the beared-eyed horrors so soon to come. The shop windows have already recalled the happy days of infancy, when childish sorrows were forgotten amidst preparations for that mysterious visitor, Saint Nick. For us the mysteries are dispelled; yet the intangible content that pervades the air penetrates even the lecture hall, and mitigates for the time being the tyrannical imposition of book, prof., or exam.

Not for us is the symbolical yule log of yore, and its “common” successor to six places is a shameful descendant. The jolly holly and partial mistletoe still remind us of the times that were. But the great roast pig, swallowing the inevitable apple, as if to recall the fall of Eve in a skeleton-in-the-closet sort of way, the steaming plum pudding, spiritu-ously afire, yet unscathed (perhaps as a reminder of the fiery furnace fable), the immense family gatherings,—all are metamorphosed to conform to modern conveniences and stiff etiquette. We may no longer indulge the reckless rollicking and familiar intercourse that characterized the olden-time festivities; yet who is to forbid our reading the Christmas Tech, or joking with everybody’s friend, the Lounger, over prolonged connection with this unaccountable Institute, where all occasionally swear at the very work we come here to undertake? Who says we shall not kiss that other fellow’s sister if she can be caught under the mistletoe? and who among us does not intend to enjoy the Christmas recess the more for its shortness?

Ah, but we may not all be blessed with the means or opportunity of reaching home, or even with the home itself! Some of us must spend Christmas, perhaps for the first time, among strangers. Nevertheless, The Tech wishes to one and all, from Faculty to office boy, the best of the season’s pleasures, with the hope that much good, both present and future, may result from this brief period of recreation.

The Tech presents to its readers in this issue the results of an expenditure of much time, trouble, and money. It had been our intention to include a half-tone of the Varsity football team among the extras; but perversity or fate was against us, and our efforts ended in failure. We desired to extend to every student and professor a material Christmas greeting; and if even a partial success has resulted, The Tech editors will enjoy the holiday recess in peace and contentment.