Our Champion Banjo Club.

On Friday evening, January 12th, the Technology Banjo Club competed in a tournament open to all the banjo clubs of Boston and vicinity, excepting the Boston Ideals. Being in the midst of examinations, no rehearsal had been held for over a week. Despite this fact and the sickness of two members of the Club, our banjoists carried off first prize,—fifty dollars in cash,—beating six professional clubs in the performance. The playing was judged upon four points: time, expression, execution, and harmony.

Calendar.

February 1st.—Lectures, "Architecture in America, and Influence of the French School," Prof. D. Despradelles, Room 12, Architectural, at 8 p.m.

"Naval Architecture," Prof. C. H. Peabody, Room 27, Rogers, at 7:30 p.m.

February 2d.—"The Measurement and Calculation of Earthwork," Prof. C. F. Allen, Room 27, Rogers, at 7:30 p.m.

February 3d.—M. I. T. A. C. Closed Sparring Meet, at 7:45 p.m.

February 5th.—"The Architecture of the Renaissance," Prof. E. B. Homer, Room 12, Architectural, at 7:30 p.m.

"Naval Architecture," Prof. C. H. Peabody, Room 27, Rogers, at 7:30 p.m.

"The History of English and Irish Relations, and the Question of Home Rule for Ireland," Professor Currier, Room 22, Rogers, at 7:45 p.m.

"The Design of Iron-riveted Structures," Professor Swain, Room 21, Rogers, at 7:30 p.m.

"Geodetic and Topographical Surveying," Professor Burton, Room 27, Rogers, at 7:30 p.m.

February 6th—"The Measurement and Calculation of Earthwork," Prof. C. F. Allen, Room 27, Rogers, at 7:30 p.m.

"Medieval German History and Literature," Professor Dippold, Room 11, Rogers, at 7:45 p.m.

"Chemical Mineralogy," Professor Crosby, Room 12, Rogers, at 7:30 p.m.

"Elements of the Theory of Functions," Prof. H. W. Tyler, Room 21, Rogers, at 7:45 p.m.

"Pauperism and Crime," Professor Dewey, Room 22, Rogers, at 7:45 p.m.

Christian Union Meeting, in Room 27, Rogers, at 1:50 p.m.

The following is a description by President Walker of the change in the examination system at the Institute: Beginning with the second term of the present year, the Faculty have determined to omit final examinations in respect to certain studies of the first and second year, the students whose term work has been satisfactory passing thereon without further inquiry; while those students whose term work has been unsatisfactory will be conditioned, as if upon the result of examination. Condition examinations will be held as heretofore, both as to manner and time.

The subjects to which the new rule is to apply will be announced as soon after the opening of the second term as possible. It is not intended by the Faculty to omit examinations in all subjects; nor is this deemed from any point of view desirable. The mental attitude of examination, when the student summons up all that he knows respecting a given subject and prepares himself to answer questions relating to any part of it, or to do work in any part of it, is regarded as a very useful means of mental training. The entire disappearance of examinations would, therefore, be regarded as a subject of regret. It is, however, felt that the semiannual and annual examinations at the Institute, as heretofore held, have been unduly onerous in consequence of the large number of subjects taken, involving a severe strain upon the pupil and also a considerable loss of time. By the new system the number of examinations will be reduced to a point which ought, in the case of any faithful student, to render unnecessary anything like strain upon his faculties or nervous force, and at least a week of the time in each term, heretofore given to examinations, will be saved for study.

For the present, the new system will not be extended upward into the third and fourth years. It is probable that, in future, examinations will be dispensed with in the case of many subjects; but it is not anticipated that the reduction in the number of examinations