Technology to be sincerely grateful, and its officers of instruction pledge themselves, through me, here and now, that at the end of this term of years the Commonwealth shall be richer, and not poorer, for the relief so opportunely afforded to this school of industrial science."

"It may be said that an institution like this, after an active life of nearly thirty years, ought not to be in such a case financially; that relief to an amount like that embraced in the act of 1895 should be found important—much more, indispensable. The fact that the needs of the school were so pressing at the time of our petition was wholly due to the resort of students to its halls, directly in consequence of the ever-increasing reputation which had been given to it by the conspicuous success of its graduates in the various industrial professions toward which our training is directed. The petition of Technology was not a cry for compassion from an institution that had outlived its usefulness and was slowly declining from popular neglect, but an appeal for co-operation in a work in which the Commonwealth is itself deeply interested, and which contributes vitally to the support and development of its industries and its trade. Had the Institute of Technology remained a small college of 250 or 300 students, such as it was 15 years ago, its means would not be reasonably sufficient for its wants. With our 1,200 students we ought to have an income-yielding fund of several millions of dollars to render the school independent of temporary fluctuations, to which it is now so painfully subject, and to afford a guarantee that through succeeding generations the Institute shall be found in the forefront of scientific and technical progress. Is it possible that the means will be long withheld which shall suffice to afford security for the future, as well as the power of continuous improvement and advancement, according to our opportunities and to the needs of the great industrial community within which we are placed?"

"In spite of the fact that more than one hundred colleges and universities in the United States are offering instruction more or less like that which we give, the reputation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology still suffices to make its diploma an honored passport into technical employment. I am glad to believe that the reason for this unusual initial success of our graduates is due to the character of our instruction, as described by Mr. William Mather, M.P., President of the Association of Technical Institutions in Great Britain, in his annual address delivered in London in February last.

"The spirit and energy of the students, their conspicuous practical knowledge, the thoroughness with which their scientific knowledge is tested in the course of instruction, step by step, and the power of adaptation and resource they possess on entering workshops and manufactories, railroads or mines, public works and constructive engineering,—all these fruits of the training of this Institute are, so far as I have seen, not equaled on the continent (Europe). The faculty of applying scientific knowledge and principles is the test of scientific attainments in the realm of industry."

Concerning the positions filled by recent graduates President Walker says:—

"On the 28th of May I conferred, on behalf of the Faculty and Corporation, the degree of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering upon thirty-three young engineers. At the time I handed them their diplomas nearly two thirds had secured professional positions. Professor Swain informs me that all his graduates in civil, sanitary, hydraulic, and railroad engineering are in service, and that he has been obliged to decline numerous applications. Professor Richards, in his annual report, states that since the first of September he has had ten applications for men where he has been able to send but two. In the chemical department we have frequently been obliged to call upon other institutions for their graduates, as laboratory assistants, in the failure to keep