Technology Club.

At the first meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association for 1896, it was suggested that steps be taken to organize a club, open to officers and students, and former students, of the Institute, whether graduates or not. After some preliminary work by members of the committee, with a view to securing information in regard to houses available and expenses, and other details of club management, a meeting was called at the Institute February 14th, the following persons being invited: the President of the Institute, the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association, former Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Secretaries of the Association; members of the Committee on the School, Mr. Wigglesworth and Mr. Cabot, representing the Corporation; and Professor Dewey and Professor Sedgwick, representing the Faculty.

A second meeting was held at President Walker's house on Thursday, March 5th. Beside the gentlemen previously invited, Mr. Henry D. Bennett came to present information in regard to real estate, Professor Homer in regard to questions of remodeling, and Messrs. J. A. Rockwell, S. L. Howard, and G. A. Hutchinson, representing the undergraduates. The plans were again discussed in detail, and it was finally voted that a house be secured, if possible, on Newbury Street, facing the Institute, at a rent not far from $2,000.


The object of the club, as stated in the by-laws, is "to provide and maintain a suitable place for reading rooms, libraries, and for social meetings of its members, and to promote the welfare of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the common social interests of its past and present officers and students."

The following statement is quoted from a preliminary circular issued by the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association in connection with a call for the first meeting:

"One of the greatest needs, perhaps the greatest, of the Institute to-day is not pecuniary endowment, not greater strength or wisdom in its Faculty or its Corporation, but the earnest, active, persistent interest of its past students. On them its future must more and more depend, not only for material support, but for all the essentials of vigorous life.

"The absence of dormitories and ‘commons,’ the extreme subdivision of the classes, the difficulties in the way of social life among the undergraduates, and the wide scattering of the men after graduation, all tend to prevent the formation and continuance of that ‘college spirit,’ which has, when rightly applied, a very important influence upon the prosperity and standing of higher institutions for education.

"The Committee believe that this condition is by no means to be accepted, but that it demands a remedy. After serious consideration they are convinced that the most effective remedy, the best means to arouse her students to a sense of their obligations toward the M. I. T., and to inspire them with an interest in the school and a feeling of fellowship toward one another, is to organize a social club which shall be open to past and present students and officers of the Institute with as little restriction as possible, shall be attractive and convenient, though simple, and shall offer a place for social meetings and purposes of all sorts.

"The general plan of the Committee is that a suitable building not far from the Institute be purchased or rented, and fitted for the use of the club as soon as the support of a sufficient number of past and present students is assured."

Since the circular just quoted was issued, the Committee have been so fortunate as to secure a house on Newbury Street, in an exceedingly favorable location, facing the open space between the Rogers Building and the Natural History Building. This will be ready for use as the Club House by October 1st.

This circular will be mailed, so far as practicable, to all persons eligible for membership, with the hope that applications will be returned in such numbers as to insure the immediate success of the club.

For members joining before the first annual meeting the initiation fee is $5, and for those joining later $10,